



Youth Activities

by Jackie Norris, Youth Activities Chair

Once again we come to the end of another school year and most of the Youth Activities are coming to an end as well. We will be hosting a rather large Banquet for all of the students who participated and excelled in our programs as well as outside of our lodge. There will be 18 students honored as Students of the Month, and out of those 18, one boy and one girl will be chosen as "Students of the Year". We also have 5 scholarship winners, one of which won 1st place in State! Their names will be revealed in the next newsletter.

We also have several Eagle Scouts who will be receiving an award from our State Capital. We are so pleased that they will be presented this award by Senator Les Seiler, who will also be our Key note speaker for the Banquet!

There will be three 5th grade students from Hastings, Sutton and Harvard who won our Americanism Essay Contest, The topic this year was "What our National Anthem means to me" This contest promotes patriotism, and we really enjoy reading the essays every year and these three students will be awarded at the banquet.

At this time need to acknowledge some people who have been a tremendous help with our Youth Programs. Thank you to Rich Gion, our Soccer Shoot Chairman, and Shane Eckhardt, and Neal Rusher our Hoop Shoot Chairman, These are very successful programs that we as Elks are proud of.

Randy Rippen works very hard informing and encouraging the counselors at our schools about our "Student of the Month" program and Scholarships we have available.

He is our Scholarship chairman and also judges at the State level, Nancy Henke is invaluable to us and we rely heavily on her. She writes the letters to the students and does a truly wonderful job writing the "Student of the Month" articles for the newspaper and our Bulletin. She graciously agreed to write and print up all of the invitations to the Youth Banquet and mailed them. As well as making up the programs. Thanks to both of you!

I would also like to thank Dick Freeling for not only stepping up as Eagle Scout Chairman, but embracing it and taking charge, The scouts love him and he puts in 100% of himself. Don Runcie makes the beautiful Eagle Scout awards that we present, and all of the Scouts make sure we are invited to their ceremonies because they want one too.

Of course I cannot forget all of the officers who are there supporting the chairman as well as Elks and their wives, They are always there to lend a hand and to all of you...

THANK YOU!


2013 Scout Camporee at the Elks



Thanks to your generosity in helping the Lodge reach our ENF goal last year, we received a grant from Grand Lodge to once again sponsor an early Spring Camporee at the Elks Lodge and Golf Course. More than 70 Scouts and adult leaders spent the first weekend in April camping out at the west end of our driving range.

The Scouts not only practiced skills like primitive fire-starting techniques (above) and making bows and arrows (below, right); they were also treated to a breakfast in the Clubhouse Sunday morning. The Hastings Elks work closely with local Scout Troops to honor Eagle Scouts and to sponsor special events like this one.



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