

**A MESSAGE
FROM THE**

EXALTED RULER



**JOHN MIJAL
EXALTED RULER**

As we begin the 2017-2018 lodge year, I would be remised to not recall the past year and all of the great deeds and promising virtues which took place that we have accomplished throughout our community. I would like to start off my year as Exalted Ruler by giving a great and heartfelt applause to our newest Past Exalted Ruler, Mr. Scott Waldhart. Scott has given credit where credit was due, and when things needed to get done he not only took the *elk* by the horns, but led his officers in a great and noble direction. Thank you, Scott.

I would like to say first of all that I am very proud to be seated here as your Exalted Ruler. Over the past three years of serving as an officer for the Elks, I have come to feel a passion within me that burns stronger year after year. Along with that very passion brings new founded responsibilities to the Lodge, and to you, the members of #248. My friends, I love this place and everything that the Wausau Elks stand for. This passion, along with help from you, our members, can lead us to accomplish anything. I am beginning this year with the motto, "Share Your Pride." This message will be our focus starting now and through the duration of the coming year. Now, here is the catch. This isn't just about my pride, this is about you and your pride of being an Elk. I want to hear from you. There's passion in each and every one of us and if you're smiling right now while reading this, then you know exactly what I am talking about, and that is the burning ember that I am looking for. It makes you feel wonderful, doesn't it? That's the message I would like for you to share with everyone. What I have found is that pride in Elkdom doesn't come from outside influences, the outside influences are what we create with everyone in our community, by giving back to those in need. That's who we are and this will be our message moving forward. Please, share that pride with everyone and let people know who we are.

This year will be our year to let the message of #248 ring true to those around our community by supporting those in need, our contributions toward our great scholarships, our grants toward great programs such as The Community Warming House, Never Forgotten Honor Flight and others such as The Women's Community and the Neighbor's Place. Also, let us not forget about camp Wawbeek with its camping program for severely disabled children. Let's get this message out to people in our community about who we are and what we do through the Elks. Spread the word about Elkdom and watch what it does to those around you. I will be looking forward to meeting and talking with each and every one of you this year so please stop in at the Lodge and say hello.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mijal".

Exalted Ruler

CONSTITUTION CONTEST HELD

On March 1, 8 high school seniors from 6 area schools competed in the Wausau portion of the Wisconsin Elks Association United States Constitution Contest. Your Lodge-YOU-provide \$1,200.00 in scholarships to the top three scorers and the winner goes on to participate in the State competition. At the Central District portion of the State competition held here at Wausau Lodge #248 on Sunday, March 26, seniors from around the state competed for an additional \$27,350.00 in scholarships from the Wisconsin Elks Association-YOU-again!

Our local winners were:

1st Place - Jay Czerniak from Medford Area Senior High School. Jay is the son of Richard Czerniak of Medford. He plans on attending Michigan Technological University in the fall.

2nd Place - Ian S. McCue from Wausau East High School. Ian is the son of Kristy McCue of Weston. He plans to attend the University Of Nebraska-Lincoln.

3rd Place - Aili Makela, a student at Mosinee High School. Aili is the daughter of Paula and Ken Makela of Mosinee. Her plans for this fall are not yet finalized.

Mike Rebhahn Contest Chairman

THANK YOU

Both Annie and I would like to give many thanks to all the members of the Raffle Party committee who helped make our first ever event of this kind a major success for the lodge. A special thank you to everyone who purchased tickets, volunteered their time, donated prizes, and those who attended the party.

If you are interested in helping next year contact Karl or Annie. Save the date February 18, 2018

Karl & Annie Hanke, Raffle Party Chairs