



John Mijal

Hello everyone,

As I sit here writing my August bulletin message to you, your First Lady Renee and I are packing our bags and heading over to Reno, NV. for the Grand Lodge Convention. With everything that has developed over the past four years of my experience on being one of your officers, the one thing that I am looking forward to is seeing firsthand how this wonderful organization grew to what it is today. I am looking to learn a lot from those who lead us into the future, with Elkdom ringing true throughout this conference. We will have much to share with all of you when we return.

So, August is now here and much has developed over the month of July with our shut down of the lodge over the 4th of July week as we tackled some of our concerns that needed our attention. The lodge is looking in great shape with the cleaning of the carpets and shine on the dining room floor. Sean and the gang had reupholstered the arm rails in the lower lounge and our wall paneling took on a great shine which looks fantastic.

I am hoping everyone had themselves a great holiday over the 4th. Celebrating the birth of our country with all the firework displays throughout town makes me proud to be an American. Also, proud to be an Elk! Our constitution gave us the rights to be who we are today and as I think of the freedom we have to express our thoughts and ideas freely, it reminds me that nothing is more important to me than just how we as Elks can enhance those ideas into something greater. And that is giving back to those who need our help the most. The greatest feeling I have within this organization is the feeling I get when seeing the love and kindness that is spread throughout our community with the generous programs we have to offer. I am sure you have that feeling also.

Don't forget that August is the month of our summer picnic which will be held at Riverside Park on August 19th, 2017. Stay tuned to the bulletin for further updates. We'll be having great food, music, raffles and don't forget to get your raffle ticket for a chance to win some great money prizes. I hope to see you all there. Also, our Elks camping weekend will be coming up August 25th – 27th at Blue Top campground just on the other side of Waupaca off Hwy 10. Festival of Arts is another event we will be selling food at. Help is always needed so if you can spare some time come down and spend an hour or so with your fellow elks.

I hope to see you all soon.

Exalted Ruler

NEWS FROM THE LODGE SECRETARY

I bring you greetings from the Marshfield Lodge. Yup, Marshfield. On July 14, Jim Maas and I, after several aborted attempts due to the incessant rain this summer (I am very poor at dodging raindrops on my cycle so I tend to avoid downpours), were finally able to get hit the road on our motorcycles and ride to the Marshfield Lodge. We received a warm reception and managed to extract a promise that they will in turn visit our Lodge in the near future. Yet this summer, we hope to ride 4668 to Wisconsin Rapids and Stevens Point. Summer is the perfect time for getting away for short trips like this. Although the weather has been very uncooperative, summer is still summer (even in Wisconsin) and I hope you are enjoying yours immensely.

In terms of my Secretary's report, our membership stands at 668 with the recent loss of long time member Jon Larson. We have 6 candidates awaiting initiation, and we will vote on 4 proposed members during the July 20th meeting. The next initiation will propel us into the 670's. Of course, we have the constant dark shadow cast by those who have yet to pay dues this year. That mark stands at 79. Considering that we have paid \$22 to Grand Lodge and the Wisconsin Elks for each of these 79, the Lodge is out \$1738.

Ridge

IN MEMORIAM

“What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us, what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.” Albert Pike

Jon Larson

Born September 5, 1938 - Initiated December 10, 1966 - Died July 9, 2017 - A Member 52 Years

~ In vain we call, they have passed into the light which is beyond the valley of the shadow of death ~

