

**A MESSAGE
FROM THE**

EXALTED RULER



**JOHN MIJAL
EXALTED RULER**

Greetings everyone,

Well, here we are into the holiday season and I have to ask, where does the time go? This year has been full of festivities, events and dances that will be everlasting to us forever. The US means ELKS. We have had a joyous and fun companionship with all of you who have partaken in such events such as the 400 block, Art Fest and of course our 125 year celebration. This has been quite a unique year with all of you who have made these festivities become reality. I do want to say thank you to all who helped with all of the events and made this year a great year to remember. But guess what? We are not over yet. I expect that the remainder of our Lodge year will be just as eventful. Our committees have some wonderful things planned that are coming soon such as our Good Fellowship and also our 248 Raffle party in February and we are looking for your help in making these events become a huge success. How do you help? Participate! This Lodge has gone through some challenges throughout its time and everything that made this Lodge what it is today is because of how we see how our role plays in its success. In the past it was not how far you could reach, but how many you could reach out to. Each and every day since I had stepped into the position of officer of our lodge, I can reflect on just how much I have grown. This was not by telling myself that I have had a very important role within the Elks, it was because of the person who your First Lady Renee and I have become. You see, it's not about who we are or where we've been that made us who we are today. It's because of the relationships and the course we have taken to find out what true Elkdom is all about. As they say, it's not the places you have been to, or how you got there, but it is the things in between such as the journey along the way and the people you meet that counts. We have been through 8 months of our year and I have to say that those of you I have had the moments of talking to and sharing stories with are some of the most memorable times of our lives. Cherish something from that. Friends, family and relationships are most cherish when shared. I want to ask you a favor. Give me something to be proud of in the next couple of months and help us rekindle what used to be. Charity is the most gracious gift of all and we will be approaching our most gracious and giving time of the year. Become a part of something that will touch your heart forever and be a part of our Good Fellowship this Christmas. You can contact any one of our officers for more information and I hope to hear from you.

Let the star of fidelity burn forever.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Mijal".

Exalted Ruler

Recipe for a Good Elk

1 Tongue that does not slander
1 mind, full of tolerance
1 dash of wit

1 Heart, generous & kind
2 eyes, overlooking other's faults
1 dash of cheerfulness

2 ears, closed to gossip
2 hands extended to others
Sweeten 3574 with a smile

Blend carefully, form into one Great Elk and serve daily.

Please keep in mind that the Elks have a beautiful Lodge of Sorrows Memorial Service that the Officers are always willing to perform as part of any member's funeral services. If you wish to include the Lodge of Sorrows in services for your family's Elk member, contact the Lodge Office at 715.845.5602 or Rick Gesicki at rgesicki@yahoo.com to make the request.

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