

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXALTED RULER

The holidays are upon us and I want to take the time to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The season will not be the same this year, but if 2020 has shown us anything, it has proven our strength as a community and as one of the foremost Elks Lodges in the State.

I am very proud of our Good Fellowship Foundation and the incredible job Ray & Laurie Dabler have done over the last few years. Everyone's efforts to uplift those in need in our community have not gone unnoticed; this bright star is truly a great example of "Elks Care, Elks Share." Do not be afraid to reach out if you are in need.

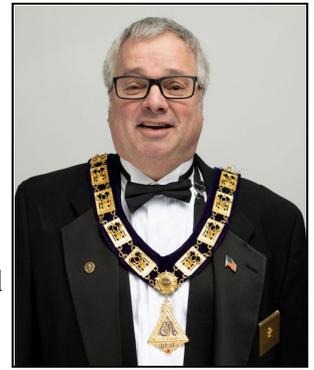
On December 6th we are having a great memorial service that will honor our departed members. This beautiful ceremony will be held upstairs in the ballroom beginning at 11am. Please join us if you can. Your attendance at all events truly makes a difference!

Breakfast with Santa is tentatively scheduled for December 13th; please look for more details on Facebook or by text message from the Lodge. Reservations are necessary; please call (715) 845-5602.

Due to Covid-19 and all of the social distancing guidelines, the Board has decided not to hold our annual New Year's party. As your Board we continue to make hard and difficult decisions, these choices are made to be in the best interest of good health and safety for our Elks members and staff. Lodge 248 must continue to forge ahead as one.

I hope you all can celebrate the season safely, and I am beyond grateful for the continued support that I have seen throughout the Lodge in the most challenging year.

I pledge to you my fidelity, *Bruce Conard*, Exalted Ruler



BRUCE CONARD
EXALTED RULER

ON THE LODGE FLOOR

Lodge Meeting in December: 3rd at 7:00 pm. Board of Directors Meeting: 10th at 6:30 PM

NEWS FROM THE LODGE SECRETARY

As I was writing in recent issues of the newsletter about efforts to use grant money to improve the Wausau area, it struck me that, like me, since members do not deal regularly with grants, you may or may not know what I am talking about. Here is a brief primer on grants offered through ENF, and how we have used them.

Spotlight Grant: in past years, this grant focused on family literacy and Veteran homelessness. However, this year, these \$2000 grants focus on relief from the impact of COVID 19 on the community. Typically, this money cannot be donated, but these are not typical times. In addition, this year this grant can be combined with the Beacon Grant – a \$3500 grant normally used for projects regularly conducted by the Lodge – thus making \$5500 available. We used this money to assist the Feed the Needy program and for food assistance for veterans.

Gratitude Grant: these grants range from \$2000 to \$3000 and are available to Lodges who meet the national per member giving goal to the Elks National Foundation. This year we divided our \$2000 between the Adaptive Community program and Shared Blessings.

Promise Grant: this grant offers Lodges a chance to host an event that builds the character and competence of local youth. Because of the pandemic, this grant is not offered this year.

Impact Grant: Impact Grants are offered to allow Lodges to make a meaningful difference in the community through a charitable project. This \$10,000.00 grant is competitive among all the Lodges nationally and we have won them a number of times in the past but do not have a project this year.

Hopefully this offers some idea of the grants available and how they have impacted our Lodge and community.

Ridge



Packer Sundays are back & the Super Bowl is coming too! Sign up in the lounge \$10.00 per person for the 3699 regular Season games noon or 3:25.

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

Phillip Postelnick
Born October 1, 1944
Initiated May 16, 2013

Died November 7, 2020 a member 8 Years

Robert H. Koehler, PER
Born September 27, 1931
Initiated January 19, 1956

Died November 14, 2020 a member 66 Years

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



*New Homes *Remodeling
*Additions *Light Commer-

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"WE STRIVE TO BUILD THEM BETTER"