

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXALTED RULER

I am honored for the opportunity to serve as incoming Exalted Ruler for Wausau Elks Lodge #248. Over the last few years, our Lodge has experienced some significant positive changes and my main goal for this year will be to continue striving forward; all while promoting our virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity.

Over the course of this year, the officer team is looking forward to accomplishing a number of goals for our Lodge, but none more important than ensuring the health and safety of both our Lodge and our Members. We will remain vigilant about our Covid safety protocols: masking when appropriate, keeping social distancing, keeping a clean environment, etc., to make sure we maintain a safe Lodge for everyone to enjoy. Secondly, we will maintain our focus on the fiscal health of our Lodge. We have made amazing strides towards this over the last two years and we will not be letting off the gas this year. So proud of our members that have stepped up to help in a myriad of ways from volunteering at Charlie's Hide Away, donating towards our debt reduction drive, helping during our Elks 248 Raffle, or simply reminding a friend to get those dues in on time.

Maintaining (and improving) our fiscal health sometimes means making difficult choices, but we will ensure to keep our eye towards this goal. A previous manager once told me, "You should always leave your role in a better position than you found it" and I think that makes a great challenge for this year. In following this motto, my pledge to the membership is that I will work diligently to continue the good work of those that came before me to position our Lodge for future success. While we work hard pushing forward, my ask of the membership is to do that same: volunteering, participating, and advocating.

In closing, I want to thank Bruce Conard for his leadership, commitment, and (some how) endless energy that he provided as our Exalted Ruler over this last year. I ask all that when you see Bruce, please ensure to give him a pat on the back for steering our Lodge through 2020!

Fraternally yours, Jonathan Fisher Exalted Ruler



JONATHAN FISHER
EXALTED RULER

Greetings! I am honored to be your first lady and incredibly proud of my husband, the board, and the great works they will all accomplish this year with all of us. I am also privileged to be a member of Lodge #248 since 2016. My roots stem from the border of Iowa and Wisconsin in the small town of McGregor, IA. If you've never visited the Driftless Area, it is not to be missed. I am a pediatric pharmacist by training, and while my direct patient care service was in critical care (PICU), I now work for a healthcare performance improvement organization. We've called the Wausau area home since 2015. I have many passions outside of work including connecting with family, making music, gardening, beekeeping, raising chickens, moving to renewable energy sources, and spending time with our cats & dogs. Looking forward to this next year with all of you!
Warm Regards, Gretchen Brummel

NEWS FROM THE LODGE SECRETARY

As noted in last month's bulletin, April begins our Lodge year. Installation of this year's officers took place on March 13 as we welcomed Jonathan Fisher, Exalted Ruler; Solomon King, Esteemed Leading Knight; Christine Van De Yacht (soon to be Pierce), Esteemed Loyal Knight; Holly Goessl, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Trustees Todd Wunsch, Darcey Westcott, Rick Gesicki, Jim Ludwig, Marcelo Coscio; Secretary Ridgley Schott; Treasurer Steve Lammers; Adam Doede, Chaplain.

Past Exalted Ruler Bruce Conard had quite a year. Because of the pandemic, Lodge operations ground to a halt, yet he somehow managed to get our Lodge indebtedness paid down by some \$60,000. We did not do as well from a membership standpoint. We will end the year with about 520 members, meaning we lost a significant number. On the flip side, we initiated over 20 members and we have 17 presently waiting for initiation. Hopefully we will soon turn the corner and begin to grow. *Ridge*

The Local U.S. Constitution Contest was held at our Lodge Saturday March 6th.
Local winners are; Third Place - Amaris Wiesneski from Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School,
Second Place - Elizabeth Kracht from Northland Lutheran High School and
First Place - Brianna Rohland from Northland Lutheran High School.
Local winners will advance to the State Level contest to be held in Wausau on March 21, 2021

ON THE LODGE FLOOR

Lodge Meetings in April 1st & 15th at 7:00 pm. Board of Directors, 8th at 6:30 PM

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

Thomas Beese, a member 40 Years
Born December 30, 1948
Initiated October 15, 1981
Died February 27, 2021

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"