

# Gatlinburg Elks Lodge

## BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS NO. 1925

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GATLINBURG, TENNESSEE

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Gatlinburg Elks Lodge  
#1925

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Exalted Ruler

**WILLIAM "MAC"**

**MCDONALD**

Leading Knight

**RICHARD ORPIN**

Loyal Knight

**SUSAN HELMAN**

Lecturing Knight

**JAMIE WALLIS**

Esquire

**KERRY RICHARDSON**

Secretary

**BUD RICE**

Treasurer

**DOUG HARTLEY**

Chaplin

**DIANE KEYS**

Tiler

**DAVID FAIRCHILD**

Inner Guard

**JOHN STOUT**

TRUSTEES

**Bill Duncan, Chairman**

**Leo (Benny) Benson**

**Betsy Cate**

**Chris Davis**

**Robert Skidmore**

### A WORD FROM THE EXALTED RULER

Dear Fellow Elks,

It's August already and we still have a lot to accomplish for this year. Just a little update and a few reminders. We will have our regular meeting on August 11, our only meeting for August. We will have initiation and we will have food being served after the meeting. Please plan on attending, we have several items to discuss.

Our 4th of July float was a success, if you were unable to attend the parade we have several pictures available at the lodge. We will be setting a date soon for our yearly Shoe Fund Dinner later this year. We will announce when tickets will go on sale. We will also be planning a few more events during the year in addition to our Christmas Baskets. We need some volunteers on a few of our upcoming events. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer to help on one or more events. We also have the "Hoop Shoot" program that will fast be coming around. We can always use help with that.

I was happy to take the computer that our lodge purchased for the Mountain Home Veterans Nursing Home to the home last week. Dave Fairchild has been working on this project. They were very grateful for our donation. We will be receiving a letter of appreciation soon. During my visit I was told of the "Wish List" from the nursing home residents. The federal budget has been reduced and money is slim picking for the Veterans residing at the home. They have a game room that is the hub of most activities. It will soon be remodeled. Their wish list includes a big screen television, a bingo machine and a piano. I will be planning some fundraisers along with Dave Fairchild hopefully to purchase the big screen TV for the nursing home and donate it from Elks Lodge 1925. Donations will be appreciated and assistance and ideas for fundraisers will also.

I just returned from the Elks National Convention in July (5th to 10th). Great experience seeing the new Grand Exalted Ruler installed. Over 7500 Elks were in attendance. I had the opportunity to meet with many ER's from around the country. You can be proud to be a member of the Gatlinburg Lodge. Our operating problems are minimal compared to stories I heard from other Lodge ER's that I talked with. Not only are we one of the most visited lodges, if not the most visited lodge in the country, we are solid financially. Let's keep up the good work and I urge more of you to become more active in the lodge. Please attend more meetings; we need everyone's input. I'm available anytime if you have questions or suggestions on how we can improve our already great lodge. Remember that we are more than just a "Bar" we are one of the most active service organizations in the country. Elks Care.....Elks Share....

Please note that our men's and women's rest rooms have new tile floors. Bill Duncan has been overseeing this project and our new maintenance man Chuck has been doing the installation. If you see Chuck around give him a pat on the back, he has been getting our lodge back in shape. I'll see you all next week at the meeting.

Wm. (Mac) McDonald , Exalted Ruler