

# 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

Fellow Elks:

As your newly elected Exalted Ruler I would first like to say that I consider it a privilege and honor to be chosen for this position. I have been a member of BPOE Gatlinburg Lodge 1925 for a little over 21 years and I have witnessed many changes. I have been asked what my goals are as ER. I will be keeping all of our members up to date on what I hope to accomplish during my term as the Exalted Ruler.

We have one of the finest Elks Lodges in the nation and everyone should be proud to be a member of BPOE 1925. Our lodge does much for the community. Many of our accomplishments go unrecognized and one of my efforts will be to bring positive attention to the many charitable projects that we sponsor. I hope to encourage current members (active and inactive) to take time this year to support our projects. I'm asking that some of our less active members start attending more meetings. Come back, your input is needed and important. I'm asking that all members extend an invitation for others to attend one or more of our functions (excluding regular meeting nights). I would also like to see us all extend an invitation for new members. There are good people out there who would like to participate in community projects and have never been asked to join the Elks. It won't hurt to say "I'm an Elk, do you know what we do"? I would like to suggest an open house in the near future and invite a group of prospective members for a dinner or cookout and tell them more about our lodge. We need to let people know that we have more than just a bar (our most popular meeting place).

My success as your new Exalted Ruler not only depends on my personal efforts, but the support of all of our members, officers, trustees and committees. I look forward to everyone's support and guidance. The success of our lodge is not a one person effort. My cell number is 1-865-924-2416 and I welcome calls from anyone who wants to discuss anything for the betterment of the lodge. No calls during UT Football games please.

Fellow Elks, let's make 2008 a great year for BPOE 1925. Let's achieve the goals that we set and more. I want to see our lodge featured in the Elks National Magazine more than once during my term as ER. We deserve more recognition locally and nationally. I also have a plan to promote our lodge to encourage more visitors from around the country, especially within a 500 mile radius. I will be asking everyone to help make this plan successful. In addition to our yearly functions and fund raisers, I hope to raise awareness and encourage a program to benefit and recognize our Veterans of all wars. This will include programs to show our support of the brave men and women currently serving around the world.

I think I have said all that I can for now. They say the "proof is within the pudding". So I guess a lot is up to me. I have filled my Chair Person list and we have all of our new Officers and Trustees installed. It's time to get to work. Again Thank You for your support. Don't let your lodge down, be a working member of the finest Elks club in the nation, I remain,

Wm. (Mac) McDonald

Exalted Ruler

BPOE, Gatlinburg Elks Lodge 1925