The Elks Reporter



Lake Hopatcong Clks
Lodge #782

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesday (973) 398-9835







CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



Exalted Ruler's Message

A Fraternal Organization Join Elkdom's Action Team Make Your Friend a Member

2024

Your next best moment is just waiting for you to discover it.

2025



December may be the last month in the year, but it is by no means the end of the Elk year, that ends March 31st. This is one of the busiest months for the Lodge. After coming off a month when the NSJEA held its annual Fall Conference and Veterans Day where we recognize the Sacrifices, Valor and Courage of our Veterans from all the branches of the military. The Lodge also had a few very successful events such as Tricky Tray, which had a record turnout congratulations to Nancy and Dawn for their hard work and new creative ideas and Marge for putting the Baskets together. Then there was the Medium Night that brought in crowds of people great job Tom Brown and the Youth Activities Committee. In November the Lodge also dedicated the Pole Barn to PSP Gerry "Poppy" Cook and Bernard "Red" Curry for their years of service to the Lodge. The wELKcome Wednesdays continued and the motorcycle committee had music which helped to bring out the crowd. Ed and the Veterans committee held their annual spaghetti dinner on the Friday after Thanksgiving. At the time of the writing of this letter the Lodge held its Memorial Service on Sunday December 1st. It was a very beautiful and moving ceremony to remember and honor our departed Members. A special thanks goes out to Linda Gathen, PDD for all her hard work in putting the ceremony together. Congratulations to PSP PGLC Bob Ricker for being appointed as the Grand Lecturing Knight of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. December begins with the homecoming of the Northwest DDGER Lisa Rovito. The Antlers are holding a fundraising wreath making event at Nesters. The Month has many holiday events over the next few weeks such as the House Committee Christmas party on December 14th followed by the SCC Christmas party on December 15th. The Lodge will be having its breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 22nd. If that's not enough the Annual Christmas appeal for families in the community and food baskets will be gathered at the Lodge. Thursday December 12th the Lodge will be putting together the baskets of food at 6:30pm. All are welcome to help. A great big thank you to all the Members who took families from the appeal list who are in need during this holiday season. Finally, don't forget the Lodge is having a New Years Eve party so get your tickets before they are sold out. I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday and a Wonderful New Year.

"Charity is the greatest of all the virtues and it should ever rule us in our hearts and our lives"

Fraternally,

Peter Appaluccio, Exalted Ruler

2024-2025 **LODGE OFFICERS**



Exalted Ruler	Peter Appaluccio, PDD
	973-726-7818
Est. Leading Knight	Patricia Zdichocki
	973-723-6462
Est. Loyal Knight	Walter Wurster
	973-420-8165
Est. Lecturing Knight	Samantha Martin, PER
	201-214-6925
Esquire	Matthew Winnans, PVP
	201-572-8297
Chaplain	Kimberly Tweed
	862-242-0116
Inner Guard	Jason Howard
	973-294-6837
Tiler	Lisa Rovito, DD
	201-978-7218
Treasurer	Linda Gathen, PDD
	973-398-2097
Secretary	Barbara Tokar, PER
	201-207-7545
Lodge Photographer	Linda Kline
	973-476-1131
1 Year Trustee	Sean MacMillan
2 Year Trustee	Tom Brown, PDD
3 Year Trustee	Wayne McDonell, VP
4 Year Trustee	Richard Gathen, PSP
5 Year Trustee	Richard Ter Linden

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Debi Werner, Chairperson Vicki Angle Jen Brown Sue Bruyere Dawn Crocetta Derya Harquil Diane LaPreta Nancy Loizou Dawn Malanka Annette McInerney Debbie Sobierajski Kim Tweed

PLANNING A FUNCTION?

Kathy Venier

OUR HALL IS AVAILABLE TO RENT FOR ANY FUNCTION FOR MORE INFORMATION **CALL DEBI AT 973-668-9302**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS Accident & Prevention Rick ter Linden 972-271-1804 Activities **Patsy Schmidt** 973-975-2325 Americanism **Patricia Carley** 973-534-0168 Samantha Martin, PER Antlers 201-214-6925 **Auditing & Accounting** Kathleen Caffrey, PDD 973-534-8283 **Bar Chair Nancy Loizou** 973-632-1129 **Community Activities** Patty Zdichocki 201-723-6462 Convention Linda Gathen, PPD 973-398-2097 Samantha Martin, PER **Drug Awareness** 201-214-6925 Co-Chair Dee Krowl 973-390-0638 **Elks National Foundation** Pete Appaluccio, PDD 973-736-7818 Flag Day Rick Gathen, PSP 973-398-2097 **Fraternal Committee** Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 **Goverment Relations** Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545 **Grounds Maintenance** Trustees **Hall Rental Debi Werner** 973-668-9302 **Hoop Shoot** Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395 Rick Gathen, PSP Indoctrination 973-398-2097 Investigation **Cory Schmidt** 973-440-7393 In-House Caterer Debi Werner 973-668-9302 Lapsation Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545 **Lodge Activities** Patsy Schmidt 973-975-2325 Barbara Tokar, PER Membership 201-2077545 Maintenance Committee (Reports to the Tustees) Alex Banos, Chris Loizou & Waler Wurster Memorial Day Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 **Walter Wurster** Motorcycle 973-420-8165 **Parades** Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 Rick Gathen, PSP **PER Association** 862-324-2412

Relief Committee

Softball/Cornhole Tournament:

Pete Appaluccio, Exalted Ruler Patty Zdichocki, Leading Knight

Youth Activities

Pole Barn Public Relations Red Curry

Ricky Gathen

973-726-7818

201-723-6462

201-572-8297

973-919-5395

Tom Brown, PDD

Jennifer Appaluccio, PEŔ 973-222-4547

' ' ' '	
Walter Wurster, Loyal Knight	973-420-8165
Samantha Martin, PER, Lecturing	Knight 201-214-6925
Linda Gathen, PDD, Treasurer	973-398-2097
Barbara Tokar, PER	201-207-7545
Ritual	Heidi McDonnell, PDD
	973-545-1557
Scholarship Jei	nnifer Appaluccio, PER
-	973-222-4547
Sickness & Distress	Lauren Greed
	973-668-6733
Soccer Shoot	Tom Brown, PDD
	973-919-5395
Special Children	Heidi McDonnell, PDD
	973-545-1557
	Wayne McDonnell, VPE
	973-841-9845
Veterans	Ed Parrillo
	973-398-6677
Army of Hope M.	atthew Winnians, PVP

	5 51	
01	Donna Falzarano	H
01	Heidi Mc Donnell William Cullen	
02 03		A
03	Richard Byrd Douglas Smith	n
03	Robert M Edwards	
04	Dave Schneider	A P P
05	Marvin Heiskanen	r
05	William A Wall	Y
06	Erin De La Cruz	ı.
06	John R Merlino	
06	Leon J Moreau	a
06	Erin Ronchetta	B
07	Robert Corcoran	
08	Carol A Boyle	'
08	Marylyn DeLancey	R
08	Gregory O'Brien	
08	Franklin J Quimby	T
08	Frank J Spano	ш
09	Marty Kane	Н
09	Kathryn Venier	D
10	Sophia Bonadeo	
10	Donald Ellis	Α
10	Patricia Seipp	
10	Kathie Leanne Taft	Y
11	Joann Grady	
11	Laura Schroeder	
11	Thomas Stokes	M
12	Mary Azagra-Monteiro	
12	James S Siuzdak	E
13	Bruce Holly	
13	Wayne Mc Donnell	M
14	Yvonne Ioffredo	В
14	Shirlley Cooper Losak	
15	Stephen J Leonard	E
15	Gina Lind	
15	Christine Malloy	R
15 15	Robert Rogalsky Karl H Then	S
16	Elizabeth Nelson	3
18	Christopher Garcia	
18	John Nadzeika	
20	David G Moran Jr	0
20	John Reynolds	<i>O</i> F
21	Elizabeth Jackson	
21 21	Marilyn Miller Pamela Ricker	
21	Lester E Wright	
22	Nicholas Pignatello	D
22	Thomas Whelan	
23	Howard Liebmann	Ŀ
23	Carol Pezzicara	E C E
24	Hollie Buff	
24	Robert A Deiorio	F
24 24	James Meyer Catherine Paluzzi	
24 24	Charlotte Thom	M
25	Dawn Renee Scott	M B
26	Louis P Pettinato	
26	Joseph S Rutkoski III	E
26	Michelle S Terpstra	
28	Dominick D'Altilio	R
29	Donna Rose Kupper	
31	Lisa Adams	



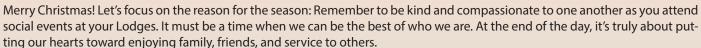
"Elks Give from the Heart"

Douglas A. Schiefer

GRAND EXALTED RULER **2024-2025**

"Elkdom's Heart for America"

Share Charity and Compassion This Holiday Season



The Elks Memorial Service is to be held on the first Sunday of December. It is an occasion to honor those Elks who have passed away. It's a time to remember the honorable way these Elks have served our Order. The great heart of Elkdom in our Eleven O'Clock Toast symbolizes how we feel about our departed Members.

Think of ways to serve your community by donating presents to underprivileged children and families and giving veterans a gift or holiday card. Giving is always better than receiving. Be sure to spread the word of your charitable works through your membership. I'm confident you'll receive a positive response and many helping hands.

In 2019 GER Michael T. Luhr issued a challenge to Elks Members to raise funds for the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawaii. There is no better way to honor the service and dedication of Americans, whose profound contributions to our nation should never be forgotten, so that generations to come will know and appreciate the enormous sacrifice of the "Greatest Generation." Julia and I want to wish you a happy, joyous Christmas season. We wish your loved ones a heartfelt safe and enjoyable holiday season as you demonstrate "Elks Care—Elks Share" and show "Elkdom's Heart For America."

God bless our great Order and our troops, and God bless America!

"Elks Care - Elks Share."

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Hi members,

Our kids and the committee have had a pretty good fall and we plan to wrap up the year with our annual holiday festivities.

We held a virtual gift card raffle for Black Friday. Everyone enjoyed this event and we look forward to providing more like this. Families expressed how awesome it is that we are always thinking of the kids.

Our next event will be the District Christmas party at Parsippany lodge on Saturday, December 14th and then our Annual Breakfast with Santa at our lodge on Sunday, December 15th. We are looking at wrapping up the year with a virtual New Year's Celebration, but more to come on that.

Please watch for the January newsletter for all the pictures from this month. Wishing everyone a very happy holiday season.

Until next year- have a great big beautiful tomorrow, Heidi & Wayne McDonnell SCC Co-Chairs



SCAN HERE TO JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE & VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS!!!



SICKNESS & DISTRESS

We are saddened to announce the passing of **Kimberly Douglas** who was a very active member of our Veteran's Committee. Also in sympathy we remember **Walter Michalski**, life member. Condolences to all of their family and loved ones during this difficult time. To our absent members.

Thoughts and prayers to our members who are ill or home recovering from recent sickness, injury, surgery or procedures: Bob Venier, Dave Van Duyne, Laurie Betz, Jerry Shear, Jacob Desombre, Sonya Joseph and Howie Shimm.

Also sending well wishes to **Michael Stockstill**'s Son, **PER John Shaw's** Mother and also **Chris Hayden'**s Mother. Our best wishes for a complete and successful recovery to all.

Extending well wishes to all our members. If you know of any member in need of our thoughts and prayers please contact me. Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Lauren Greed, Chairperson

973-668-6733 · LGreed83@gmail.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Happy November Members!

Wow December is here and a busy end of year. Please note that wElkcome Wednesdays are not availabel for the month of December. Our committees will be back in January 8th with our Youth Activities Wing Night! Then our Veterans Committee will be bringing back their famous Italian Hotdogs. The House Committee will follow with our much loved grilled chicken topped with roasted peppers, mozzarella with a splash of balsamic glaze. We will close out the month of January with our Motorcycle Committee's famous cheesesteaks and live music by Joe Biglin.

December the 14th is our Christmas party, which is almost sold out. If you want to go, get your tickets soon. We are almost to our limit!!

The House Committee will be starting a raffle of \$500.00 in ShopRite gift certificates. The donation is \$5.00 per chance. With the cost of food, this will be a great raffle to win. Can't win if your not in it.

December 15th is our Breakfast with Santa for our special children. We will also be distributing our Holiday Appeal gifts. This is a great event to attend and help load the vehicles with presents and gift baskets for our families.

December 22nd is our famous breakfast with Santa. Come enjoy a buffet breakfast with a special visit from Santa. Please see the flyer in this bulletin for more information.

We will NOT be having Friday Night Dinner on December 27th. We will be prepping and decorating for our New Years Eve Party. The Four Man Trio will be back this year! Tickets are \$65 which includes a selection of hors'doeuvres, followed by a buffet dinner and Champagne toast at midnight to bring in a happy, healthy New Year to all.

Wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Debi Werner, House Committee Chairperson

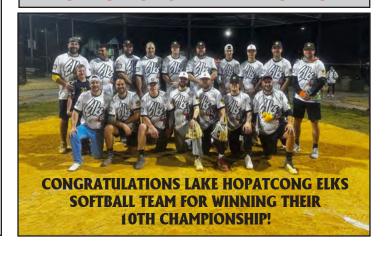


Friday Night Grill Menu

Hamburger\$5.00	Hot Dog\$3.00
With Fries\$8.00	With Fries\$6.00
With Onion Rings\$9.00	With Onion Rings\$7.00
Cheeseburger\$6.00	Chicken Fingers (5 Pieces) \$7.00
With Fries\$9.00	Basket of Fries\$5.00
With Onion Rings\$10.00	Basket of Onion Rings \$6.00

WELKome

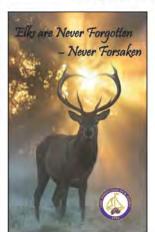
RETURNS 1-8-25 WITH WING NIGHT!



Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge #782 MEMORIAL SERVICE

December 1, 2024

The 1st Sunday of December is dedicated to the memory of all Elks we have lost in the preceding 12 months.



Please Join Us As We Remember Your Loved Ones & Ours!!

GATHERING BEGINS 10:00 AM BAGELS, ASSORTED MUFFINS & COFFEE/TEA

MEMORIAL SERVICE 11:00AM











Veterans Committee

Welcome to the cold weather as I'm writing this it's snowing in our area. We held our annual Black Friday Spaghetti Diner with a nice turn out. Thank you

to my committee for all your hard work, to all those who attended and to **Al** for providing us with music..

If you are able to donate t-shirts, socks and alcohol free toiletries for Veterans please bring to the lodge. We have a lot of knitted scarfs, throw blankets and hats from the women organizations and the ladies of the Mountain seniors and other knitting groups in the area. We will be distributing our collection at the Northwest District Birchwood Manor Roast Beef Dinner. Please bring it to the lodge by December 15.

Thank you to all who purchased a flag that we displayed at the flagpole memorial garden in the front of the lodge. Please come to the lodge to take your flags home. Thank you to our lodge officers for a very moving and well attended Veterans Day Service.

I would like to extend my well wishes to and get well **Howie Shim** on his recent hip surgery.

Lastly on a sad note I would like to express my deepest sympathy to all those who knew **Kim Douglas**. She was a very active member of our committee and will be greatly missed. Rest in peace.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Ed Parrillo, Committee Chairperson



Wow the Months literally flew off the calendar, how are we in December? The Antlers are keeping busy serving wELKcome Wednesdays and our Friday Night dinners. Please continue to thank them for their hard work and dedication. Last month they helped with the lodge tricky tray, the Veterans Annual Spaghetti Dinner. The Antlers adopted a family of five this year from our Holiday Appeal Program and spent the afternoon shopping on November 27th. They had a great time shopping, and we stopped for lunch before we went back to the Lodge to wrap gifts.

Tickets Wreath & Sip at Nesters are on sale so join us on December 4th at this amazing event full of holiday spirit, you won't be sorry!!



As we turn to colder days and flurries the Antlers are selling snowmen and penguins in the members bar, it's an easy and fun way to support the Antlers.

We are planning another Make your own Mozzarella event soon and we are looking to hold bake sale so check your bulletin for updates. These fundraising events are to help send our Antlers to the Path and Peer Leadership Conferences. I am also working on getting ornaments in again for the holidays, keep an eye out.



Thank you for your continued donations to the clothing bins as it helps them make monthly donations to their charities. So, keep our bins in mind as you clean out your closets preparing for the holiday season. Reminder for parents we usually donate our children's less played with toys after the holidays to make way for their new gifts. If you could find your way to donate them prior to the holidays, you could be making a parent who might not have the money to hit the store and their child very happy this holiday season.



Please help us spread the word as we continue to look for ways to grow our numbers. Membership in the Antlers is open to any individual who has passed their twelfth and not yet reached their twenty-first birthday, who is a citizen of the United States of America, of good character and who believes in the existence of God. As you can see it's a great time to be an ANTLER, we should all encourage the youth to join us. Applications and brochures can be found in the front lobby of the lodge. The Antlers do amazing things and have a great time serving our community as well as the lodge! We have so much in store for this year stay tuned for other upcoming events and watch to see what we do next!! Remember Antlers today, Elks tomorrow!

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER, Antler Chairperson







YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Thank You To All Who Attended Our Fundraising Event!

Thank You To Our Committee For All Your Hard Work To Make This A Great Success!!







MEDIA

ALERT

A Fraternal Organization 2750 N. Lakeview Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614-1889

Contact: Rick Gathen Phone: (862) 324-2412 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELKDOM'S HEART FOR AMERICA THIS DECEMBER

Chicago, IL — This December, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is spreading hope and holiday cheer across the nation and beyond. From small towns to major cities, Elks Lodges in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and the Panama Canal Zone are stepping up to serve their communities. Elk volunteers will deliver food baskets and gifts to thousands of struggling families, while hospitalized Veterans—our nation's heroes—will be honored with visits, gifts, and festive celebrations. The Elks' unwavering promise remains: "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." This year alone, the Elks have provided over \$55 million in support to Veterans and active-duty service members, aiding more than 300 VA medical centers, clinics, and care facilities with food, comfort packages, and recreational activities.

Investing in Futures and Communities

The Elks will also review thousands of scholarship applications this month, contributing \$5 million annually to help students achieve their dreams. Their Community Investment Program will deliver \$16 million to local projects that enrich and uplift neighborhoods. In 2024, the Elks' commitment to service has totaled over \$505 million, embodying their motto: "Elks Care – Elks Share."

Join the Elks in Service

With nearly 1,800 Lodges and 800,000 members, the Elks welcome American citizens aged 21 and older who believe in God to join their mission. Learn more at www.elks.org or explore membership opportunities at word. Together, let's make this holiday season brighter for all. For over 156 years, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has been a cornerstone of community support and patriotism. From aiding Veterans to empowering youth and strengthening neighborhoods, the Elks are dedicated to building a stronger, more compassionate future.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks • Grand Lodge







DOO WOP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Featuring The Jersey Tones

DECEMBER 14, 2024 2:00PM-6:00PM

Lake Hopatcong Elks · 201 Howard Boulevard · Mt. Arlington

\$30.00 PER PERSON

~ CASH BAR AVAILABLE ~

Light Snacks • Cheese/Pepperoni Platters
Sausage Peppers & Onions • Pork Loin With Apricot Balsamic Glaze
Blackened Chicken Over Smoked Gouda Penne Pasta
Salad With Zesty Italian Dressing • Cofffee • Dessert

LIMITED TICKET SALES

For Reservations Please Call Debi Werner at 973-668-9302



EAKFAST WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 22, 2024 9:00AM-11:00AM

A Special Visit From Santa ... Don't Forget To Bring Your (amera For A Picture To Remember!"

201 Howard Boulevard • Mount Arlington, NJ 07856 • 973-398-9835

ADULTS \$10.00 • KIDS \$5.00

All Children 2 & Under Will Receive A Free Gift From Santa



Decemb TUESDAY SUNDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY SATURDAY MONDAY **7RADAY** Absent Member Service Absent Member Service 3 LODGE MEETING Friday Night Dinner Ritual Practice **Darts** POOL LEAGUE MOTOCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING 6PM Ritual Practice 13 Friday Night Dinner 10 HOUSE COMMITTEE **Darts** MEETING **POOL LEAGUE** Christmas PARTY Veterans Committee Meeting Special Children's Breakfast With Santa 17 LODGE MEETING 19 Darts 16 Ritual Practice 20 Friday Night Dinner POOL LEAGUE 22 23 Ritual Practice 24 HOUSE COMMITTEE 25 26 Darts 27 Friday Night Dinner 28 MEETING Christmas 29 30 Ritual Practice 31 YEAR'S EVE



RGERS • HOT DOGS • BBO CHICKEN

\$25.00 ADVANCE • \$30.00 DAY OF EVENT

~ CASH BAR ALSO AVAILABLE ~



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE #782 201 HOWARD BOULEVARD OUNT ARLINGTON, NJ 07856

TICKETS ON SALE SOON!

PLEASE SEE ANY BARTENDER FOR TICKETS OR CONTACT: Cory Schmidt at 973-440-7393 • smokinschmidtys@yahoo.com

(ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LEAP IN THE LAKE GRAND TOTAL)







CLUS SERVICES OLD-FASHIONED ROAST BEEF DINNER A Hosted By The Veterans Committee ~ TAKE-OUT OR DINE-IN Reservations For Inside Dining Recommended & Appreciated SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025 6:30PM-8:30PM ONLY \$15.00 A PLATE! INCLUDES: ROAST BEEF, MASHED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS, SALAD & HOMEMADE DESSERTS BY KAREN DANCE TO THE MUSIC WITH DJ AL TO PLACE OR ORDER OR MAKE A RESERVATION CALLED 973-479-7696 Lake Hopatcong Elks: 201 Howard Boulevard - Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 ~ ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE VETERANS COMMITTEE ~





LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard Mount Arlington, NJ 07856

