



Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge #782

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesday

(973) 398-9835



APRIL 2024

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



## STATE OF THE LODGE: Celebrating Success: A Remarkable Year at Our Lodge

With great pride and joy, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Exalted Ruler Samantha Martin and all our outgoing Lodge Officers and Committee Chairpersons for their exemplary leadership throughout the past year. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones and fostered a spirit of community that continues to thrive within our lodge.

One of the most notable accomplishments of the year was the outstanding 9.8% increase in membership, bringing our total number of members to an all-time high of 706. This significant growth not only reflects the strength of our lodge but also speaks volumes about the dedication and passion of our members.

In addition to our flourishing membership, we are delighted to announce several impressive upgrades to our lodge facilities. From new floors to renovated seating and a revamped outdoor sign, these enhancements have elevated the overall experience for our members and guests. We need to mention the extensive renovation of our large bar, which now stands as a testament to our commitment to providing top-notch amenities.

Beyond our physical improvements, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to serving our community. Through various initiatives and fundraising efforts, we proudly donated over \$160,000 towards the betterment of our community and state projects—a testament to the generosity and compassion of our members.

Moreover, our House Committee has set new records across multiple fronts, including beverage, food, hall rentals, and catering sales. This success underscores our dedication to providing unparalleled service and hospitality to all who walk through our doors.

As we reflect on the past year, it is evident that our lodge calendar has never been busier, offering a diverse array of events and activities for our members to enjoy. Despite the challenges posed by the economy and inflation, we have remained committed to offering high-quality food and beverages at affordable prices—a value that resonates deeply with our community.

In tandem with our focus on hospitality, we have prioritized the maintenance of our building grounds and implemented stringent cleaning protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of our members and guests. Our dedicated Trustees and Board of Directors have worked tirelessly to manage our budget, uphold building standards, and create a secure environment for all.

Furthermore, we have taken a firm stance against cannabis use on our property and have zero tolerance for disruptive behaviour, including argumentative or belligerent conduct and the use of inappropriate language. Upholding these standards is paramount to maintaining the integrity and respectability of our lodge.

As we look ahead to the future, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. We remain committed to increasing our charitable donations, enhancing our facilities, and providing exceptional experiences for our members and guests. Together, we will continue to uphold the values of camaraderie, generosity, and service that define our lodge.

In closing, we extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the success of our lodge over the past year. Your dedication and commitment have made all the difference, and we look forward to the continued growth and prosperity of our community.

Congratulations once again on a truly remarkable year. Here's to many more successes in the years to come!

Warm Regards, Rick Gathen, PSP

Let me start off by saying what an honor it will be to serve as your Exalted Ruler for the coming Fraternal Year. After a year where the Lodge has seen tremendous growth in membership, more community involvement and facility improvements. My team of Officers and I will need to keep the Lodge moving in a positive direction. The Strongest Lodges are not only led by good Officers but by knowledgeable advisors and Members who understand what the Elks are all about. The Charitable work we do not only improves the surrounding communities and the people who live there but enrich those who perform the acts. **Samantha, her Officers, Committees and with the help of the Members are to be congratulated on a great year.** I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year as we hit the ground running.

*Hope to see you at the Lodge.*

Fraternally yours,  
Pete Appaluccio ER

## 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, PER 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	TBD
4 Year Trustee	Richard Gathen, PSP
5 Year Trustee	Richard Ter Linden

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

Debi Werner, *Chairperson*  
Victoria Angle  
Alex Banos  
Sue Bruyere  
Dawn Crocetti  
Derya Harquail  
Nancy Loizou  
Christine Redden  
Debbie Sobierajski  
Kimberly Tweed  
Madelyn Walrod

## PLANNING A FUNCTION?

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
Antlers	Lisa Rovito, PER 201-978-7218
Auditing & Accounting	Kathleen Caffrey, DDD 973-534-8283
Bar Chair	Nancy Loizou 973-632-1129
Community Activities	Patty Zdichocki 201-723-6462
Convention	Linda Gathen, PPD 973-398-2097
Drug Awareness	Samantha Martin, PER 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
Government 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
Indoctrination	Rick Gathen, PSP 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
Membership	Barbara Tokar, PER 201-2077545
Maintenance Committee	(Reports to the Trustees) Alex Banos, Chris Loizou & Waler Wurster
Memorial Day	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Motorcycle	Walter Wurster 973-420-8165
Parades	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
PER Association	Rick Gathen, PSP 862-324-2412
Pole Barn	Red Curry
Public Relations	Jennifer Appaluccio, VP 973-222-4547
Softball/Cornhole Tournament:	Ricky Gathen

## RELIEF COMMITTEE

Pete Appaluccio, Exalted Ruler	973-726-7818
Patty Zdichocki, Leading Knight	201-723-6462
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	Jennifer Appaluccio, VP 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, PER 973-841-9845
Veterans	Ed Parrillo 973-398-6677
Army of Hope	Matthew Winnians, PVP 201-572-8297
Youth Activities	Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395

01	Dennis Maine
01	Sean McDonnell
02	Jean Marie Green
04	Jacob DeSombre
04	David W Elliott
04	Christopher Merring
04	Mildred Rennick
04	Margaret Sharpe-Murphy
05	Scott Kearney
09	Tina Kraus
09	Dona Sutton
10	Joseph Clarke
10	Diane LaPreta
11	Robert M Brandon
11	Mary Butt
11	Gregory Serri
11	Dean Strawn
11	David Wood
13	James Dellarena
13	Lisa Dellarena
13	Jeffrey J Wolfanger
14	Mary C Beck
14	Leonard Loughridge
14	Thomas Marotta
14	Manuel Silva
15	Kristina Garv
15	Gerald Gee
15	Joann Orr
15	Al Rossy III
16	Gale Newton
17	Sheldon Levy
18	George Hemenetz
18	Mary Marshall
19	Dolores Krowl
19	William J Marshall
20	Donetta Heins
21	Jennifer Brown
21	Gerald W Sheard
22	Linda Gathen
22	Heather Sabol
23	Samantha Corujo
25	Jeanne Santucci
26	Barbara Clark
26	Barbara Pirro
26	Vincent Reis
26	Kayla Russo
27	Maureen Matteson
28	Debra Sobierajski
29	Dawn M Crocetti
29	Theodore Flatt
30	Howard Shimm

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## ***“Elks Give from the Heart”***

**Randy P. Shook**

GRAND EXALTED RULER

**2023-2024**

*“We Are The Elks.”*



### **Previous Officers can assist the next generation**

We did it. We finished.

The retiring Officers deserve the thanks of all the Members for the successful way in which they have handled their duties in the past year. The work that was accomplished is a tribute to their leadership and effort. It is our hope they will continue to assist the incoming Officers with the work in which our Order is engaged. The fact that each one was a member of the leadership team marks each of them as one of the Lodge’s most valuable Members. The experience and knowledge each of you possess has been, and will always be, invaluable to your Lodge.

Congratulations to the new Officers of every Lodge throughout our great Order. The Members of your Lodge placed their confidence and trust in you and your abilities; you should be very proud. You should consider it an honor to be chosen to be a leader within your Lodge. As the new leader of your Lodge, it is extremely important to put together a dedicated group of people, to create a plan and set the necessary goals for each committee to achieve success. The committee members are the people who work to make your Lodge a success in your community.

Never be afraid to ask questions. Your best source of information is the former Officers whose knowledge and experience is at your disposal, just for the asking. They have been there, done that, and can give you excellent advice.

March is also a time when many Lodges participate in St. Patrick’s Day celebrations such as parties or community parades. Please be safe during these celebrations.

Wanda and I want to wish everyone Happy Easter.

Finally, check your calendar for awards, citations, and contest deadlines.

Remember “Elks Care – Elks Share” and “We Are THE Elks.”

God bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.

## ***“Elks Care - Elks Share.”***



**Lake Hopatcong Elks #782**

# **SOCCER SHOOT**



**A Soccer Goal Kicking Contest**  
for boys and girls ages 15 and younger  
*as of January 1, 2024*

## **JUNE 22, 2024**

*(Rain Date: June 23, 2024)*

Registration Starts 9:30am - Contest Begins At 10:00am

Hotdogs & Beverages will be available at the field  
Awards Ceremony following the contest

All 1st Place winners will continue on to the District Competition and have the chance to compete in the State and Regional Competitions

For more info, call Tom at (973) 919-5395

**INDIAN FIELD • 232 MOUNTAIN LANE • FLANDERS, NJ 07836**

New Jersey State Elks Association

**Miracle Run 2024 Raffle Tickets**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Motorcycle Run**

**WIN A 2023 HARLEY DAVIDSON STREET GLIDE**

RETAIL VALUE \$24,999



**DRAWING SUNDAY JULY 28, 2024 @ 5PM**  
**OLD BRIDGE ELKS LODGE #2229**  
67 Old Amboy Road • Old Bridge, NJ

**DONATION \$20.00**

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**  
**(WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT - MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD)**

All fees, taxes, etc. are the responsibility of the winner. One (1) prize awarded.  
This contest is not endorsed or affiliated with Harley Davidson Motor Company.  
“No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of prize.”

**ASK ANY BARTENDER FOR TICKETS**

## SICKNESS & DISTRESS

It is with great sadness to announce the passing of Diane Gleason, member since 2018. Our condolences to your families and loved ones during this difficult time. To our absent member!

Thoughts and prayers to our members who are ill or home recovering from recent sickness, injury, surgery or procedures: Walter Wurster, Barbara Pirro, Barbara Tokar, Jill Ayers and Laurie Ann Betz. Our best wishes for a complete and successful recovery. Looking forward to seeing you all at the lodge very soon.

Extending well wishes to all our members this Spring season and always. If you know of any member in need of our thoughts and prayers please contact me: Lauren Greed 973-668-6733.

Lauren Greed, *Committee Chairperson*

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The YAC will be doing a Paint and Sip on April 3rd at 7:00pm. It will be a Welcome Sign for your front porch. The cost is \$40. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information. Tickets are limited! Please see your friendly bartender for your tickets today!

We will be doing a fishing tournament on Father's Day! More info to come!! Batter up tournament in the spring TBD.

Our next meeting is March 13th at 6pm all are welcome.

Hope to see you then!

Tom Brown, PDD



## Wednesday Night BBQ IS BACK!!!

**Starting, Wednesday, May 1st - 5pm-7pm**  
(Committees Please Sign Up & Call Debi 973-668-9302)

## LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS

### FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

**April 5, 2024**

**Pork Milanase**

**April 12, 2024**

**BBQ Teriyaki Chicken**

**April 19, 2024**

**Spaghetti & Meatballs**

**April 26, 2024**

**Sausage, Peppers & Onions Over Rice**

I am always looking for a new cook!  
Call Debi To Sign Up 973-668-9302

## SHOTS FROM THE BAR

Happy April Everyone! Hockey Playoffs have started and so has Baseball! Come down to watch your favorite team! Hoping to have to Patio open soon (*If Mother Nature Agrees*). BBQ Wednesdays start May 1<sup>st</sup>, look for drink specials to accompany the BBQ. **We now have a \$20 minimum on all credit card transactions.** We also have an ATM machine for your convenience. We have some new bartenders and a few more are training, so please welcome them when you see them. Have a great month.

Nancy Loizou

*Bar Committee Chairperson*

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

First I would like to congratulate and thank our **Baby-PER, Samantha Martin** for a wonderful year. It was a pleasure to work alongside you. I am very grateful for your attendance at many of our events held throughout the year. I would like to also congratulate our new **Exalted Ruler, Peter Appaluccio**. I know you will do a great job and take our lodge to another level. I look forward to working with you.

Tickets are on sale and going quickly for the Photo-Filled Presentation History Event of Mt. Arlington Fundraiser event being hosted by Marty Kane and held on April 28, 2024. Please see the newsletter for more information on this event.

We had a busy month of March and ended our Thirsty Thursdays. Thank you to the Committees that continuously upheld their weeks throughout the season. Our Veterans Committee, Youth Activities, and our Motorcycle Committee! We will resume Thirsty Thursday in the fall.

We kick off our BBQ Season on Wednesday, May 1st. I encourage committees to please take a Wednesday date to fund your committees. Please contact me directly at 973-668-9302 so I can get you on the calendar!

We will be repeating the Mother's Day Brunch again this year. Reservations are now being taken. Please be sure to make yours before we reach capacity and sell out!

Finally, I would like to once again thank my committee for all your hard work. It is greatly appreciated and without the many helping hands our success would not be possible.

**THANK YOU SAMANTHA MARTIN, PER & MY BEST TO PETE APPALUCCIO, ER !!**

Debi Werner, House Committee Chairperson



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED US IN MARCH, 2024

### New Member

Myles Chiarello  
 Maria J De Pinho  
 Michael Del Vecchio  
 Erin Dobkin  
 Kathleen Ellis  
 Cynthia Ferrigno  
 Joseph Ferrigno  
 Tina Heller  
 Michael Juskus  
 Patricia Kerrigan  
 John Loscalzo  
 Theresa Laposky  
 Ann McInerney  
 John Manno  
 John Ott  
 Mike Pizzulli  
 Wayne Shaw  
 Dawn Renee Scott  
 Laura Townes

### Proposed By

Mario Marcano  
 Lisa Rovito  
 Rick Gathen  
 Mary Butt  
 Robyn Kesselmeier  
 Mary Butt  
 Mary Butt  
 JoAnn Matthias  
 Linda Bianculli  
 Gail Delaney  
 Anthony Lambiasi  
 Gail Delaney  
 Lisa Rovito  
 Al Rennick  
 Rick Gathen  
 Rick Gathen  
 Lisa Rovito  
 Rick Gathen  
 Rick Gathen  
 Nancy Loizou

Barbara Tokar, PER, Lodge Secretary

## NEW LODGE IMPROVEMENT

We will introducing the Budget for this coming Elk year the first meeting of April.

The Lodge Trustees Tom Brown, PDD  
*Chairman of Trustees*



After a day running the Northwest District Elks Special Children Easter party, both, Rick and Linda Gathen then delivered Easter baskets to Goryeb Childrens Hospital in Morristown and of course candy for the nurses as well.



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

## Youth Activities

Lots to announce for our committee. We have a Porch Making Welcome Sign Event on April 3rd at 7pm. Going to be another great event with Meg!

The Soccer Shoot will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> registration starts at 10am at Indian field see flyer for details.

On Father's Day we will be doing a fishing tournament 8-11am all ages. More details to come next month!

Our Batter-Up Program will be held June 15th with more details also announced next month.

We are also planning a casino trip for for July 14th. Stay tuned!

Finally our next meeting will be April 17th 7pm all are welcome!!

Tom Brown, PDD, Youth Activities Chairman



**The Lake Hopatcong Elks 782**  
**Hard at work!!**  
**Making 32 lasagnas**  
**for the food pantry**  
**families in need for**  
**Easter dinners.**



## Come Join Us

Marty Kane, President of the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum  
 Presents

## A PHOTO-FILLED PRESENTATION HISTORY OF MOUNT ARLINGTON

(To Include The Beginning of Our Very Own, Lake Hopatcong Elks!)

**APRIL 28, 2024**  
**1:00PM**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!**  
**\$25.00 PER PERSON**

*Includes: Buffet Lunch: Sausage, Peppers & Onions,  
 Pork Roast with an Apricot Balsamic Glaze, Roasted Baby Potatoes,  
 Mixed Green Salad With Zesty Italian Dressing, Dessert & Coffee*

Lake Hopatcong Elks - 201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington  
 Tickets Are Available At The Elks. For Information Call Debi: 973-668-9302

## SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Happy Spring Members,

We are out of the bleak winter and looking forward to sunshine, blue skies, and of course, warmer weather. With that said, we have had some great moments with our kids and look forward to more in the near future.

First, we held our Northwest District Special Children's Easter Party on Saturday, March 30. Thank you to the committee for all you do. Special thanks to District Chairperson Linda Gathen for organizing and setting forth this great event. To member Barbara Pirro for once again playing the part of our Easter Bunny, and last but not least Parsippany Lodge who allowed us to host this event at their lodge. It was a great day for all involved. Each child received an Easter basket filled with goodies, along with them and their families enjoying lunch, photo-booth, and other fun festivities. Also, 3 very lucky kids each won a golden egg raffle – the egg filled with goodies galore. It was truly a wonderful afternoon.

Our next event will be the Special Children's Day at Sussex Miners. More information to come, so please be on the lookout for that.

In other news, our Northwest District committee is bringing back the District Charity Ball. This year we are celebrating with the theme Cinco De Mayo. For those veteran members it is going to be different than any other charity ball you may have attended in the past, and for those new to this, you won't want to miss this event. This will be held on Sunday, May 5 at Boonton Elks Lodge. A great menu as well as games are being planned. Yours truly and Wayne McDonnell will be setting up the sombrero ring toss. Come out and enjoy yourself and support our special children. More information to come!

That is all for now, but again, we will be updating everyone as we plan our events.

Until then, have a great big, beautiful tomorrow!

Fraternally,

Heidi & Wayne McDonnell, Co-chairs

Heidi McDonnell, PDD & Wayne McDonnell, VP-elect



## ANTLERS CORNER

Welcome to the new fraternal year. The Antlers would like to extend well wishes to Pete and his team for a successful year! March was another busy month for the Antlers we had Leap in the Lake, St Patty's Day, Bunny Breakfast, Fish Fry, and of course Thirsty Thursdays and Friday Night Dinners. You can always find them helping around the lodge, we should continue to show our appreciation when we see them. We will be having a Spring Wreath and Sip at the lodge on May 8th from 7-9, tickets are \$40 and we hope you will bring a shareable snack! We also have a few salt dough hanging ornaments left for only \$10, please see me if you would like to purchase one.



The Antler installation of officers will be at 12:30 on Saturday April 6th prior to the Elks cocktail hour, please come out and support them as they take on their new positions. Thank you for your continued donations to the clothing bins as it helps them make monthly donations to their charities. This month they will be donating to the Rock Steady Parkinson's program at the West Morris Area YMCA in Randolph.

It's a great time to be an ANTLER! Help us spread the word as we continue to look for ways to grow our numbers. If you have any friends or family members between the ages of 12 and 21 encourage them to join the Antlers. 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

**WILDWOOD FINAL PAYMENTS ARE DUE ON MAY 1ST**

## WILDWOOD IS SOLD OUT!



We have reservations for all 85 rooms in the Royal Canadian hotel and 18 rooms in our overflow hotels, The Bolero and The Brittany. Both overflow hotels are next to the Royal Canadian. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come basis based on when your deposit was received. Next week I will be sending out emails telling you what room number and hotel you've been assigned to. If you would like to arrive earlier than Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> or stay later than Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, you will need to call the hotel directly to pay for those days.

For those who paid a \$140 deposit, your 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of \$150 was due on March 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have not made this payment, please do so today. You can drop off a check to the lodge or pay online at [LakeHopatcongElks.com](http://LakeHopatcongElks.com) on the Wildwood 2024 page and scroll down to the bottom.

**Final payments will be due May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

We have been busy finalizing our Wildwood weekend plans and are convinced it will once again be a great event filled with friends, families, food and drinks! It will be catered by our very own Smokin' Schmidty's BBQ so be sure to come hungry! And of course, on Saturday, we will be **marching to win** our 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive Governor's Trophy! **ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO MARCH IN THE PARADE OR RIDE IN A CAR.** The State Parade Committee has revised the rules to allow children in strollers, which gives our young members with children the opportunity to participate in the parade as well. If you are not able to march or ride in a car for the parade, please let me know. Otherwise, there will be no exceptions. **This is an ELKS Convention, and we are there proudly representing LAKE HOPATCONG #782!** There is plenty of time during the weekend for kicking back, socializing, relaxing by the pool and walking the boardwalk...all we expect is to dedicate two hours on Saturday to participate in the parade and show your Lake Hopatcong Pride!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at [LGathen@optonline.net](mailto:LGathen@optonline.net).

**Linda Gathen, PDD, Convention Chairperson**



Welcome to the new Fraternal Year! The weather is improving as we all can agree it has been rather wild lately! I would like to thank **Samantha Martin, PER** for a great year and to congratulate, Pete Appaluccio, ER and his team of leaders. May they continue to bring our lodge success.

We recently sent a donation to the Stanhope American Legion Post 278. for the Pets For Vets Organization. Thank you **Patty Zdichocki** for presenting them with our lodge donation.

Thank you **Mary Butt** for briefing us on this subject at the meeting. in regards to the Lake Hopatcong Block Party being held on May 18th at the State Park. I will meet with our trustees, **Rick Gathen , PSP** and be working with **Lee Moreau** on the workings of this event

With the new members joining the lodge our Veterans Committee is growing all the time! We look forward to another great year!

**God Bless Our County,  
Veterans & Their Families.**



**Patty Zdichocki** had the honor and pleasure to present the American Legion Post 278 and the Pets For Vets Foundation a donation from our lodge Veterans Committee. They were so very grateful.



[www.petsforvets.com](http://www.petsforvets.com)

## VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

*(All meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays @ 6:30pm)*

April 10th  
May 8th  
June 18th  
July 10th  
August 14th



September 11th  
October 9th  
November 13th  
December 11th

## **Title: Making Waves of Change**

### **How the Funds from the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Leap in the Lake Transform Lives**

As the ripples of generosity from the 14th Annual Leap in the Lake continue to spread, it's essential to shine a spotlight on how these funds are making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need within the Lake Hopatcong community and beyond. Beyond the record-breaking numbers, the true impact lies in the transformative programs and initiatives that these funds support.

One of the primary beneficiaries of the Leap's proceeds is the 16 area Public School Special Children's Classrooms. These classrooms serve as sanctuaries of learning and growth for children with special needs. Thanks to the generosity of the Lake Hopatcong Elks and their supporters, these classrooms receive sizable donations that enable them to enhance their educational resources, provide specialized equipment, and create a nurturing environment where every child can thrive.

In addition to supporting education, the funds from the Leap also extend a helping hand to organizations like Smiles in Hopatcong, dedicated to serving special needs adults. Through financial contributions, the Lake Hopatcong Elks empower these organizations to continue their invaluable work, providing essential services, fostering independence, and promoting inclusivity within the community.

One of the most anticipated events made possible by the Leap's funds is the Lake Hopatcong Elks Special Needs Day. This day of joy and celebration welcomes 200 children and their families to the Sussex Miners ballpark for a day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and unforgettable memories on July 21st. From a full BBQ picnic to coach buses providing transportation to and from the ballpark, every detail is carefully being planned to ensure that these families experience a day of pure happiness and belonging.

But the impact doesn't end there. Throughout the year, the Lake Hopatcong Elks sponsor a variety of seasonal events tailored to special children, including Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Trunk or Treat, Trick or Suites at Embassy Suites, and Breakfast with Santa. These events provide not only moments of joy but also opportunities for families to connect, share experiences, and build lasting friendships within the community.

Moreover, the funds raised from the Leap enable the Lake Hopatcong Elks to directly address the practical needs of special children. Whether it's purchasing motorized wheelchairs, adaptive equipment, or other essential resources, these investments ensure that every child has access to the tools they need to live life to the fullest.

Lastly, the generosity of the Lake Hopatcong Elks extends beyond our immediate community. Through donations to Elks Camp Moore and families with hospitalized special children, they offer support and solace to those facing challenging circumstances, spreading hope and compassion far and wide.

As the community eagerly anticipates next year's Leap in the Lake, they can do so with the knowledge that every leap, every splash, and every dollar raised has the power to transform lives and create a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

Looking ahead, the Lake Hopatcong Elks have already set their sights on the future, with next year's Leap scheduled for Saturday, March 1st, 2025. It's a date that embodies not just a tradition, but a promise to continue making waves of difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Many Heartfelt Thanks, Rick Gathen, *Leap in the Lake Chairman*



Join Us For  
**ELKS DAY**  
Synday, July 21, 2024  
12:00 Noon -6:00pm  
**\$45 Per Person**

*Includes: Transportation, Ticket, Private Pavilion BBQ & Beverages*  
**FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: PATTY 201-723-6462**

**TICKETS ON SALE APRIL 15, 2024**  
~ Proceeds To Benefit Our Special Needs Children ~



### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Our Youth Activities Committee and New Jersey Is Hooked On Fishing is partnership together and having a Father/Child Fishing Tournament on Father's Day June 16 from 8:00am to 11:00am followed by a Father's Day Pig Roast at the the lodge. There will be some fishing gear available for use for the morning, but please bring your own if you have it. Prizes will be awarded. More details to be announced!

## **CALLING ALL HISTORY BUFFS**

**MEMBERS ... DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION &/OR PICTURES ON THE HISTORY OF THE LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782?**

**If So, Please Contact Pete Appaluccio, ER  
[petejenapp@hotmail.com](mailto:petejenapp@hotmail.com)**





**LAKE HOPATCONG, NEW JERSEY**  
#782

# Casino BUS TRIP

**Sunday, July 14th**

8:00AM Coffee & Bagels  
8:45AM DEPART FROM LODGE  
6:00PM RETURN TO LODGE

**WIND CREEK | BETHLEHEM**  
**COST: \$40 PER PERSON**  
**SEATING IS LIMITED**

All passengers must be 21 years or older.  
You will receive a \$25 Voucher to be used at casino  
Please bring valid drivers license or I.D.

**BUS BINGO**  
With Light Refreshments

**TICKET INFORMATION CALL:**  
**Patty Zdichocki | 201-723-6462**

**WIND CREEK®**  
BETHLEHEM

📍 Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge • 201 Howard Boulevard • Mount Arlington, NJ

## Make & Take Your Own **PORCH SIGN**

With Meg

### CRAFT & SIP

## THURSDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>

**7:00PM-9:00PM**  
**ONLY \$40.00**

All Supplies Provided  
Brushes. Paint. Stencils Etc

Included  
**1 BEVERAGE**  
*(Wine or Beer)*

**Hot Pretzels & Nachos**  
**For Purchase**

Tickets Are Available At The  
Lake Hopatcong Elks  
201 Howard Boulevard  
Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856  
973-398-9835

*All Proceeds To Benefit  
The Youth Activities Committee*

## EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR DUES!

### We've Got You Covered!

At Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge, we offer convenient payment options to make your dues process hassle-free. Choose the method that suits you best:

- ✓ **Cash-N-Dash:** Swing by our lodge and pay your dues in cash. Quick, easy, and friendly!
- ✓ **Write a Check, Rex:** Write a check payable to Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge. Drop it off or mail, Dale! Sent it to the lodge at: Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge 201 Howard Blvd, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856
- ✓ **You can pay on the web, Deb:** Visit our website: lakehopatcongelks.com  
Click on the "Pay Dues" tab.  
Follow the simple instructions to pay securely online.  
Or Use this direct link: <https://search.revopay.com/elkslodge>  
Enter your membership details and make a secure payment.

**Remember, your dues support our community initiatives, events, and programs.**  
**Thank you for being a valued member of Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge!**



JOIN US FOR

*Mother's Day*  
**BRUNCH**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024**

**FROM 11:00AM - 2:00PM**

**MOTHERS COMPLIMENTARY**

**10 YEARS & OLDER \$15 • 6-9 YEARS \$8 • 5 & UNDER FREE**

*(MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL SERVICE AT 12:30PM PERFORMED BY THE OFFICERS)*

*Omelette Station • Carving Station  
Pasta Station • Waffle Station  
Breakfast Pastries & Fruit Station • Coffee/Tea*

**~ RESERVATIONS REQUIRED ~**

*Lake Hopatcong Elks • 201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington • 973-398-9835*

# APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Motorcycle Committee Meeting 6pm Ritual Practice	2 LODGE MEETING	3	4 DARTS	5 Friday Night Dinner	6  Installation
7	8 Ritual Practice	9 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	10 SENIORS MEETING Veterans Committee Meeting	11 DARTS	12 Friday Night Dinner	13
14	15 Ritual Practice	16 LODGE MEETING	17 SHONGUM	18 DARTS	19 Friday Night Dinner	20
21	22 Ritual Practice DD Clinic 7pm	23 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	24 Army Of Hope Meeting	25 DARTS	26 Friday Night Dinner	27 
28	29 Ritual Practice	30	1	2	3	4

**NW DISTRICT SPECIAL CHILDRENS COMMITTEE**



**BOONTON ELKS LODGE**  
125 CORNELIA ST, BOONTON, NJ

**SUNDAY MAY 5TH, 2024**  
2PM TO 6PM    \$30 PER PERSON

**MEXICAN FOOD & SPECIALTY DRINKS**  
**FUN & GAMES    CASH BAR    TRICKY TRAY**

**SEE YOUR SCC CHAIR FOR TICKETS**

**LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS**



**POKER RUN**

Registration Begins At 9:00AM

ALL ARE WELCOME

ANTIQUE CARS ARE WELCOMED!

**APRIL 27, 2024**  
(Rain Date: 4/28/24)

**\$25 PER RIDER • \$10 PER PASSENGER • \$15 BBQ ONLY**

**STOPS**  
Knotty Pine • Charley's Tavern • Patrick's Pub  
McKenna's Pub • Mason Street






**BBQ**

**INFORMATION**  
REGISTRATION: 9:00AM-10:30AM  
KICK STANDS UP: 10:45AM • RUN: 11:00AM • BBQ: 3:00PM

Lake Hopatcon Elks #782 • 201 Howard Boulevard • Mt. Arlington, NJ

**QUESTIONS: CALL WALTER WURSTER 973-420-8165**  
(All Proceeds Towards The Miracle Run)

# MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Loyalty Day Law Day 	2 National Day of Prayer <i>DARTS</i>	3 Friday Night Dinner	4
5 Cinco De Mayo Celebration	6 Ritual Practice Motorcycle Committee Meeting 6pm	7 LODGE MEETING	8 Veterans Committee Meeting 	9 <i>DARTS</i>	10 Military Spouse Day Friday Night Dinner	11
12 Mothers Day Mother's Day Brunch	13 Ritual Practice	14 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	15 	16 <i>DARTS</i>	17 National Defense Transportation Day Friday Night Dinner	18 Armed Forces Day
19 Malcolm X Day	20 Ritual Practice	21 LODGE MEETING	22 	23 <i>DARTS</i>	24 Friday Night Dinner	25 National Missing Childrens Day
26	27 Memorial Day 	28 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	29 	30  <i>Porch Sign Craft</i>	31 Friday Night Dinner	

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## LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard  
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



*Elks* Care – *Elks* Share