



Lake Hopatcong Elks  
Lodge #782

Meetings  
1st and 3rd Tuesday

(973) 398-9835



# FEBRUARY 2024

CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



## Exalted Ruler's Message

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

2023

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

2024



**HAPPY 156<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY B.P.O.E.**

**FEBRUARY 16 1868**

January was wet and cold with very little snow. I am not sure about you all, but I could really use a few days of sunshine! In addition to the house and chefs putting out some amazing Friday Night Dinners we also had the return of our Thirsty Thursdays with great specials. The Veterans committee ran another top-notch Roast Beef dinner, it was a sold-out event with a packed lodge and delicious food.

As we round the corner of this fraternal year the wheels are in motion for the next. That being said you should have received your dues notices in the mail. Please do your best to return them to our Secretary ASAP, **Barbara Tokar PER** has her work cut out for her with over 700 membership cards to print and envelopes to address for mailing, your timely return helps make this process go much more smoothly.

On January 23<sup>rd</sup> the officers initiated 13 new members, a special thank you to our PSP **Rick Gathen** for running another great Indoctrination session, we are very lucky to have the Grand Lodge Membership & Marketing Manager in our lodge to share all the good work we do with our incoming members. You should all be proud of the growth of our lodge through your sponsorship of new members, keep bringing them in!

If you haven't been by the lodge lately, we have installed our new Sign. Thank you for your patience, after a short learning curve we are back to advertising our great events. We thank **Derek Walsh** for years of hanging off the sign weekly in all sorts of weather to make our updates. Good News is **Derek** is staying on to maintain the sign, but he can now do so safely from his computer. I look forward to all his creations!

As if you thought the lodge couldn't get any busier here comes February to say "Hey, watch out for what we do next!" **Vicki Angle and I** will be traveling with the Antlers to Long Branch on Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup> for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Peer Leadership Conference. The State Chairperson of this amazing conference is our own **Lisa Rovito PER**, she along with her advisor **Robert Ricker PSP/PGLC** and the rest of the committee have worked tirelessly to put together a memorable event for these teens. From speakers, to break outs, to food, to music, and games this event is exceptional and life changing so many of our youth.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> we will continue the great tradition of PER Night, where our PER association will assume the officer chairs and initiate another new class of members. The nominations of new officers for the Fraternal Year of 2024-25 will take place during this meeting and we will also recognize numerous PERs for their milestones of membership to our organization.

On Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> during the Big Game we will be having a buffet at halftime so bring your favorite shareable appetizer or dessert and join us for evening!!!!

Our Fish Fry is on Valentines Day this year, I highly recommend making reservations ASAP for this sell out event! Then on the 24<sup>th</sup> we have the Annual Pre-Leap Pig Roast with great food and live music. All proceeds from this event go towards Leap in the Lake. The actual Leap is March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm. Teams are forming now! You can be a dry leaper or jump on in the cold waters with us! Please reach out if you want to help with the event we are always looking for additional help with our events.

On February 27<sup>th</sup> our Officers will compete in the State Ritual Competition at Long Branch Elks after which there will be a Luncheon and awards ceremony for all the contestants. If you plan to come down to watch and stay for lunch, please let me know.

Lastly don't forget to make your Wildwood reunion weekend reservations!! This is definitely one weekend you don't want to miss, it's full of the camaraderie of great people, great food, and a phenomenal parade!

For additional information about other upcoming events please check the newsletter.

Food for thought as we roll into the next month of the new year. Self-Control is strength. Calmness is mastery. You have to get to a point where your mood doesn't change based on the actions of someone else. Don't allow others to control the direction of your life. Don't allow your emotions to overpower your intelligence. With that said quick question for you all, how are those gratitude jars going?

As always please keep in mind those serving home and aboard who afford us our freedoms. Bless our Vets, special children, our youth who look to bring a brighter tomorrow!

**Fraternally Yours, Samantha P. Martin**

## 2023-2024 LODGE OFFICERS



|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Exalted Ruler</b>         | <b>Samantha Martin</b><br>201-214-6925       |
| <b>Est. Leading Knight</b>   | <b>Peter Appaluccio, PDD</b><br>973-726-7818 |
| <b>Est. Loyal Knight</b>     | <b>Michael Tresca, PER</b>                   |
| <b>Est. Lecturing Knight</b> | <b>Lauren Greed</b><br>973-668-6733          |
| <b>Esquire</b>               | <b>Matthew Winnans, PVP</b><br>201-572-8297  |
| <b>Chaplain</b>              | <b>Walter Wurster</b>                        |
| <b>Inner Guard</b>           | <b>Sheila Speroni</b><br>973-229-8254        |
| <b>Tiler</b>                 | <b>Lisa Rovito, PER</b><br>201-978-7218      |
| <b>Treasurer</b>             | <b>Linda Gathen, PDD</b><br>973-398-2097     |
| <b>Secretary</b>             | <b>Barbara Tokar, PER</b><br>201-207-7545    |
| <b>Lodge Photographer</b>    | <b>Linda Kline</b>                           |
| <b>1 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>John Shaw, PER</b>                        |
| <b>2 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Sean MacMillan</b>                        |
| <b>3 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b>                        |
| <b>4 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Salliema Johnson, PER</b>                 |
| <b>5 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Rick Gathen, PSP</b>                      |

## 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

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Accident &amp; Prevention</b>     | <b>Rick ter Linden</b><br>972-271-1804  |
| <b>Activities</b>                    | <b>Patsy Schmidt</b><br>973-975-2325  |
| <b>Americanism</b>                   | <b>Patricia Carley</b><br>973-534-0168  |
| <b>Antlers</b>                       | <b>Lisa Rovito, PER</b><br>201-978-7218   |
| <b>Auditing &amp; Accounting</b>     | <b>Kathleen Caffrey, DDD</b><br>973-534-8283  |
| <b>Bar Chair</b>                     | <b>Nancy Loizou</b><br>973-632-1129   |
| <b>Community Activities</b>          | <b>Patty Zdichocki</b><br>201-723-6462  |
| <b>Convention</b>                    | <b>Linda Gathen, PPD</b><br>973-398-2097  |
| <b>Drug Awareness</b>                | <b>Dee Krowl</b><br>973-390-0638  |
| <b>Elks National Foundation</b>      | <b>Pete Appaluccio, PDD</b><br>973-736-7818   |
| <b>Flag Day</b>                      | <b>Linda Gathen, PDD</b><br>973-398-2097  |
| <b>Fraternal Committee</b>           | <b>Linda Gathen, PDD</b><br>973-398-2097  |
| <b>Government Relations</b>          | <b>Barbara Tokar, PER</b><br>201-207-7545   |
| <b>Grounds Maintenance</b>           | <b>Trustees</b>   |
| <b>Hall Rental</b>                   | <b>Debi Werner</b><br>973-668-9302  |
| <b>Hoop Shoot</b>                    | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b><br>973-919-5395   |
| <b>Indoctrination</b>                | <b>Rick Gathen, PSP</b><br>973-398-2097   |
| <b>Investigation</b>                 | <b>Cory Schmidt</b><br>973-440-7393   |
| <b>In-House Caterer</b>              | <b>Debi Werner</b><br>973-668-9302  |
| <b>Lapsation</b>                     | <b>Barbara Tokar, PER</b><br>201-207-7545   |
| <b>Lodge Activities</b>              | <b>Patsy Schmidt</b><br>973-975-2325  |
| <b>Membership</b>                    | <b>Barbara Tokar, PER</b><br>201-2077545  |
| <b>Maintenance Committee</b>         | <b>(Reports to the Trustees)</b><br><b>Alex Banos, Chris Loizou &amp; Waler Wurster</b> |
| <b>Memorial Day</b>                  | <b>Linda Gathen, PDD</b><br>973-398-2097  |
| <b>Motorcycle</b>                    | <b>Walter Wurster</b><br>973-420-8165   |
| <b>Parades</b>                       | <b>Linda Gathen, PDD</b><br>973-398-2097  |
| <b>PER Association</b>               | <b>Rick Gathen, PSP</b><br>862-324-2412   |
| <b>Pole Barn</b>                     | <b>Red Curry</b>  |
| <b>Public Relations</b>              | <b>Jennifer Appaluccio, VP</b><br>973-222-4547  |
| <b>Softball/Cornhole Tournament:</b> | <b>Ricky Gathen</b>   |

## RELIEF COMMITTEE

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Samantha Martin, Exalted Ruler</b>        | <b>201-214-6925</b>  |
| <b>Peter Appaluccio, PDD, Leading Knight</b> | <b>973-736-7818</b>  |
| <b>Michael Tresca, PER, Loyal Knight</b>     |  |
| <b>Lauren Greed, Lecturing Knight</b>        | <b>973-668-6733</b>  |
| <b>Linda Gathen, PDD, Treasurer</b>          | <b>973-398-2097</b>  |
| <b>Barbara Tokar, PER</b>                    | <b>201-207-7545</b>  |
| <b>Ritual</b>                                | <b>Heidi McDonnell, PDD</b><br>973-545-1557  |
| <b>Scholarship</b>                           | <b>Jennifer Appaluccio, VP</b><br>973-222-4547   |
| <b>Sickness &amp; Distress</b>               | <b>Lauren Greed</b><br>973-668-6733  |
| <b>Soccer Shoot</b>                          | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b><br>973-919-5395  |
| <b>Special Children</b>                      | <b>Heidi McDonnell, PDD</b><br>973-545-1557<br><b>Wayne McDonnell, PER</b><br>973-841-9845 |
| <b>Veterans</b>                              | <b>Ed Parrillo</b><br>973-398-6677   |
| <b>Army of Hope</b>                          | <b>Matthew Winnians, PVP</b><br>201-572-8297   |
| <b>Youth Activities</b>                      | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b><br>973-919-5395  |



Community • Friendship • Charity  
 elks.org

|    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 01 | <b>Garrett E Rector</b>     |
| 02 | <b>Robert E Adams</b>       |
| 02 | <b>Carla Endly</b>          |
| 02 | <b>Frank Lepore</b>         |
| 04 | <b>Charles Nappi</b>        |
| 05 | <b>Deborah Ross</b>         |
| 05 | <b>Michelle Sellaro</b>     |
| 06 | <b>Marie Lepre</b>          |
| 06 | <b>John J Moran</b>         |
| 07 | <b>William E McCabe</b>     |
| 08 | <b>Audrey F Thompson</b>    |
| 09 | <b>David S Cruickshank</b>  |
| 09 | <b>Elena Tunstead</b>       |
| 10 | <b>Samantha Martin</b>      |
| 11 | <b>Ryan Thurnes</b>         |
| 12 | <b>Angelo J Colello</b>     |
| 12 | <b>Heather Healy</b>        |
| 14 | <b>Rose Barsanti</b>        |
| 14 | <b>Kenneth Wisher</b>       |
| 15 | <b>Eric Martin</b>          |
| 15 | <b>Ronald Nelson</b>        |
| 17 | <b>Lawrence Bellack</b>     |
| 17 | <b>James R Harding</b>      |
| 17 | <b>David M Lurachy</b>      |
| 17 | <b>Gary Steffen</b>         |
| 18 | <b>Nancy J Yost</b>         |
| 19 | <b>Derya Harquail</b>       |
| 19 | <b>John Maluk Jr</b>        |
| 19 | <b>John Signorelli</b>      |
| 19 | <b>Jennifer Sweeney</b>     |
| 20 | <b>Victoria A Angle</b>     |
| 22 | <b>Christopher Greeley</b>  |
| 23 | <b>Cindy L Banghart</b>     |
| 23 | <b>Garry Carloni</b>        |
| 23 | <b>Colleen Shanahan</b>     |
| 24 | <b>Philip G Grassia</b>     |
| 24 | <b>Lauren M Greed</b>       |
| 24 | <b>Garett W Springer</b>    |
| 25 | <b>Mary Lou Kennedy</b>     |
| 25 | <b>Gregory Martin</b>       |
| 25 | <b>Frank Talty</b>          |
| 27 | <b>Roxanne L Flatt</b>      |
| 27 | <b>Young Neumann</b>        |
| 27 | <b>Lucille Stanziale</b>    |
| 29 | <b>Thomas J Steinmacher</b> |





## ***“Elks Give from the Heart”***

**Randy P. Shook**

GRAND EXALTED RULER

2023-2024

*“We Are The Elks.”*



### **New Officers elected, PERs honored in February**

A small group of actors and entertainers began this great Order on February 16, 1868. Look where we are one hundred and fifty six years later: We are still here to serve those in need, proving that “Elks Care—Elks Share.” What a journey!

February is a very busy month for us as Elks. Only two months remain in the Lodge year. If you still have goals you haven't met, it's not too late. Get to work on them, they can still be accomplished. Use the next two months wisely and you certainly can get a lot done. It would be quite an accomplishment to announce to all of your Members that you have successfully reached the goals you set almost one year ago.

February is when new Officers are nominated and elected for the new Lodge year. All Lodges in our Order should elect leaders who are going to be dedicated to the affairs of your Lodge and community. The success of your Lodge programs will depend upon their leadership. Lodge Secretaries should note that February is when you must upload the Lodge directory into the CLMS2 web page. This information is extremely important so that updates are done in a timely manner.

This month we recognize our Past Exalted Rulers. We must let them know their leadership and experience is invaluable to us. A Past Exalted Rulers Night is a great way to honor them for their contributions to your Lodge. Make them feel proud of their accomplishments.

During February, we recognize American Heart Month. This is when we get our Lodges and communities together in raising awareness to prevent heart disease. Proudly wear red during this month to show Elks care about cardiovascular health.

In addition to Presidents' Day on February 19, we also celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14. We remember the people we love and those who make a difference in our lives. To my wife, Wanda, thank you for being my valentine for the past forty one years. Remember: “We Are THE Elks.”

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

## ***“Elks Care - Elks Share.”***

### **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

#### **WISHING THE BEST OF LUCK TO OUR RITUAL TEAM THIS MONTH!**

Well, February is here, and we are getting closer to Spring. We have a few exciting things happening. Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> is the “BIG GAME”. Come and watch it with your fellow Elks. Drink specials and plenty of food. 14<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday, which is our famous Fish Fry, done by **Debbie Hill** and her crew. Make your reservation early because it is getting booked up fast. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, we have Smokin Schmidty's doing his Annual “LEAP IN THE LAKE” pig roast. Food, bands, 50-50, and so much more. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> we have our Antlers doing their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mootz night. Get your tickets early!!!

Here are a few things to mark in your calendar for March. The 2<sup>nd</sup> is LEAP IN THE LAKE. Get your teams together and see your bartender to pick up your packages. The 9<sup>th</sup> is our St Patty dinner Dance with the Irish Harper's entertaining. The 24<sup>th</sup> is breakfast with the Easter bunny. So mark your calendars. Enjoy your month, and remember spring is getting closer!!

Debi Werner,  
House Committee Chairperson

**MARCH 24TH 9AM-11AM**

**Breakfast**  
with the  
**EASTER BUNNY**

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT**

Easter Egg Hunt  
To Begin At 10am  
With A Special Visit From  
The Easrer Bunny!!

**ADULTS \$8.00**  
**KIDS \$3.00**

**REMINDER FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER WILL ONLY BE SERVED IN THE MAIN HALL & TAKE OUT. THERE WILL NO NO MORE BAR SERVICE FOR FOOD. THE BAR WILL BE OPEN.**

### **SICKNESS & DISTRESS**

Hoping all our members are having a happy and healthy start to the new year. Keeping **Derya and Sean MacMillan** in our thoughts and prayers after the loss of Sean's father, David R. MacMillan. Sending condolences to the family of **Michael Grady** for the loss of his sister, Eileen Margaret McCarrick. Also remembering Daniel Tidridge, son of lifetime member **Ron and Liz Nelson**. We are so sorry for the loss of your loved ones. Continued well wishes to all our members who are recovering from sickness, surgery and procedures.

For all our members who are experiencing sickness or grief during this time we are here for you. Please contact me at 973-668-6733 if you know of any members who are in need of our support. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year.  
Lauren Greed, *Committee Chairperson*

### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

Please note that we have a meeting on February 12th at 6:30 all are welcome to join!  
Hope to see you then! Tom Brown, PDD

## **thirsty THURSDAY**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

Dismantled Taco  
(New England Clam Chowder)

**FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

Wing Night  
(Stuffed Pepper Soup)

**FEBRUARY 15, 2024**

VETERANS SURPRISE

**FEBRUARY 22, 2023**

Cheesesteaks & Tater Tots  
(Cream of Mushroom Soup)

**FEBRUARY 29, 2023**

HOUSE COMMITTEE SURPRISE

### **A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY**

Every effort is made to keep our members up to date on what is happening at the Lodge. In order to do this, we must have your current email address (and street address) on file. If you have moved, changed email providers, or phone numbers, please advise me by email (bct17@optonline.net) or text 201-207-7545, so that we can keep your file current.

If you have not received email notifications from us, please check your junk files first. We have all been surprised to learn what our email providers consider junk.

Many Thanks, Barbara Tokar, PER, Lodge Secretary



### **FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS**

**February 2, 2024**

Beef Tater-Tot Casserole

**February 9, 2024**

Marry-Me Chicken

**February 16, 2024**

Coconut Shrimp

**February 23, 2024**

Chef's Surprise By Pat Esposito!



### **NEW LODGE IMPROVEMENT**

Each month you will get an update on what improvements are happening at our lodge. This month we start off with our new sign. It looks great and all committees can get their upcoming event put on it. See Derek Walsh or our ER Samantha. We also had part of our roof replaced so we will be dry. I want to thank Walter and our hard working Maintenance for all you're doing. See you all next month!

Tom Brown, PDD, Chairman of Trustees



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



## SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

We are looking forward to the 14th Annual Leap in the Lake sponsored by the PER association to support our special children and our youth programs. We are just 1 month away! We have our upcoming art day (date and location TBD) and our project is all planned out. We can't wait to reveal the final masterpiece our special kids will present at the leap for auction. We will let our volunteers who are signed up on TeamReach more info as it becomes available. Until then...

**"Have a Great, Big Beautiful Tomorrow!"**

Heidi McDonnell, ST, PDD & Wayne McDonnell, PER  
*Co-Chair Special Children's Committee*

## THE VETERANS COMMITTEE

The Veterans Committee held a Thirsty Thursday Dinner this past month. The weather tends to hinder our turnouts this time of year. The food was delicious as usual. Thank you to all who worked hard and volunteered from our committee.

Our Annual Roast Beef Dinner was hectic as usual but the dinner experience went great!! We've had approximately 127 dinners. Everyone said it was delicious. Next year we were going to be cooking more to ensure our volunteers who work so hard this day and night from the veterans committee get to sit and enjoy a nice meal!

We will be providing pizza and soda for the Valley Brook Veterans on February 11th. The Veterans Committee will be assisting Debbie Hill in the preparation of desserts for the Fish Fry on February 14th. Including myself we currently have about 6-8 volunteers to help with this successful sell out dinner!!

Ed Parrillo, *Veterans Committee Chairperson*



## wELKome

*To our new members  
who joined January 23, 2024*

### New Member

Kenneth Branch  
James Dellarena  
Lisa Dellarena  
Robert Fletcher  
Christopher Greeley  
Michael Leonardi  
James Leonardi  
Donna Macalle-Holly  
Bruce Holly  
Michael Pollio  
PJ Simonis  
Charlotte Thom  
Kurt Waterbury

### Proposed By

Walter Rossi  
Tom Sellaro  
Walter Rossi  
Lauren Greed  
Sheila Speroni  
Walter Wurster  
Heidi McDonnell  
Rick Gathen  
Rick Gathen  
Walter Rossi  
Wendy Maler  
JoAnn Matthias  
Walter Wurster

Barbara Tokar, *Lodge Secretary*

## ANTLERS CORNER

The Antlers are so excited to once again attend the Path and Peer Leadership Conferences. Our Middle School Antlers will be attending the one day Path Conference on February 1st and the High School students will be traveling to Long Branch for the weekend long Peer Leadership Conference. Thank you to all that have supported our fundraising efforts throughout the year that enable them to attend.

We will be holding a Make your own Mozzarella event on Wednesday February 28th from 7pm to 9pm at the lodge, see the newsletter for details. Tickets are available in the Members Bar but they are going fast. We are also planning to hold bake sales and a Make your own Pizza event. We will be selling sourdough Valentine's Day ornaments during the month of February.

On January 20th the Antlers served at the Veteran's Annual Roast Beef Dinner and did a wonderful job. They will also be serving at the Ash Wednesday Fish Fry on February 14th. They continue to serve Friday Night Dinners and Thirsty Thursdays and are doing an amazing job. They are hardworking and enthusiastic so please continue to show your appreciation when you see them.

Thank all of you for your continued donations to the clothing bins. The Antlers make donations to their favorite charities with the monies raised from the bins.

We continue to try to grow our numbers and if you have any friends or family members between the ages of 12 and 21 encourage them to join the Antlers. We have a great time serving the community and the lodge. Applications and brochures can be found in the front lobby of the lodge.

Fraternally,  
Lisa Rovito PER

**The Antlers Will  
Be Selling These  
Salt Dough Ornaments  
At The Fish Fry  
On Valentine's Day!**



## PAST EXALTED RULERS' NIGHT

As we eagerly approach PER Night on the regular scheduled Lodge meeting held on February 6th, this special annual event has a cherished place in our Lodge traditions. For this momentous night, ceremonial roles have been assigned with great care. **DDGER Kathleen Caffrey** will preside over the Lodge meeting, including the nominations of new (elected) Officers. **Lodge Secretary Barbara** has sent invitations to candidates eagerly awaiting initiation. Their presence at 6:15 PM for Orientation not only qualifies us for All-American contest points but also upholds our cherished Lodge traditions spanning decades.



Exalted Ruler: DDGER Kathleen Caffrey  
Leading Knight: Pete Appaluccio, PDD  
Loyal Knight: VP Jen Appaluccio  
Lecturing Knight: Wayne McDonnell, PER  
Esquire: Linda Gathen, PDD  
Chaplain: Tom Brown, PDD  
Inner Guard: Bridgett Wisher, PER  
Tiler: John Shaw, PER



During PER Night, we will take great pleasure in honoring the following PERs for their remarkable membership milestones. They will be presented with well-deserved award plaques:

Tom Brown PDD: 20 Years • Madelyn Walrod PER: 20 Years  
Sally Johnson PER: 15 Years • Squire Osborne PER: 25 Years

Let's come together for a memorable PER Night filled with camaraderie, tradition, and celebration. Your presence will make this evening truly special.

I am looking forward to seeing all of our members at the Lodge Meeting on Tuesday, February 6th.

Rick Gathen, PSP, *PER Association President*



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR APRIL 28TH @ 1:00PM

(Further Details To Be Announced)

Marty Kane, President of the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum Presents

### A PHOTO-FILLED PRESENTATION ON THE HISTORY OF MOUNT ARLINGTON (To Include *The start of Our Very Own Lake Hopatcong Elks!*)

*In an age before jets, air conditioning and super highways, Lake Hopatcong was a major northeast resort. Within easy reach of large cities to the east, the lake's size and setting at over 900 feet above sea level made it a perfect summer destination. Boasting over 40 hotels, two amusement parks, and all types of entertainment, Lake Hopatcong welcomed thousands each year, including leaders in government, industry and entertainment. In the heart of this summer destination was Mount Arlington, formed as a result of the tourist boom to be the governing body for the lake's largest hotel. The new Borough hosted a wide assortment of hotels, entertainment venues, a golf course and in the early 1900's became the home of Bertrand Island Park.*



# PRE-LEAP IN THE LAKE 2024 FUNDRAISER



**BURGERS • HOT DOGS • BBQ CHICKEN  
BAKED BEANS • MAC-N-CHEESE • PASTA SALAD**

**\$25.00 ADVANCE • \$30.00 DAY OF EVENT**

**LIVE MUSIC • 50/50**

**BEER • WINE • SODA PACKAGE AVAILABLE**

~ CASH BAR ALSO AVAILABLE ~

**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
→ 2PM-6PM 2024**



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

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE**

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

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

SAVE THE DATE!

SCAN ME! & SIGN UP!



# TEXAS HOLD'EM

**MARCH 16 @ 7PM**



**Check In Begins At 6PM**

~ Run By Mike's Poker Tables ~

**[www.MikesPokerTables.com](http://www.MikesPokerTables.com)**

Over \$5,000 Prize Pool (Based on 75+ Players)

\$100 Buy-In (5,000 Chips)

Re-Buys & Add-Ons During The Game

500 Chip Bonus For Early Registration

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT ERIC SABOL**

**908-229-9165 or ERSABOL1@GMAIL.COM**

(Additional Information To Be Announced, Stay Tuned)

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782

# FISH FRY

**February 14th  
ASH WEDNESDAY**

**\$14.00 PER PERSON**

Serving From  
**4:30 PM - 7:00 PM**



IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED & APPRECIATED TO CALL IN ADVANCE TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS AS THIS DINNER ALWAYS SELLS OUT!

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS • 201 HOWARD BOULEVARD • MT. ARLINGTON • 973-398-9835



**LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN  
FRESH HOMEMADE MOZZARELLA**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2024 @ 7:00pm-9:00pm**

**\$40/PERSON INCLUDES:**

- HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS
- GLASS OF WINE OR DRINK OF YOUR CHOICE
- TAKE HOME YOUR MOZZARELLA BALLS

\*\*BRING YOUR OWN BOWL & WOODEN SPOON



**SEE THE BARTENDER FOR TICKETS  
OR CALL SAMANTHA AT 201-214-6925**

**TO BENEFIT LAKE HOPATCONG ANTLERS**

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual**



**LEAP  
IN THE  
LAKE**

**For Our Special Kids**

Sponsored by Lake Hopatcong Elks #782

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**

**Hopatcong State Park - 1:00 pm**

Thaw out at our

**Post Leap Party**

at Lake Hopatcong Elks #782

2 pm to 5 pm

Food, Raffles, Giveaways,

Music & More!

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**[www.lakehopatcongelks.com](http://www.lakehopatcongelks.com)**

All plungers will receive a complimentary ticket to the Post Leap Party,  
a "Leap in the Lake" sweatshirt and event souvenir items.

Additional Post Leap Party tickets are available for \$20 per person

All proceeds to benefit Special Children, Youth Programs & Building Renovation



# St. Patrick's Day



## DANCE

The Lake Hopatcong Elks

6:00pm MARCH 9th 11:00pm

Presents

The Irish Harpers & Bagpipers

Limited  
Tickets  
Available



**ADVANCE TICKETS \$30 • DAY OF EVENT \$35**

**DINNER 6PM-7PM | MUSIC/DANCING: 7PM-11PM**

**CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER • CASH BAR AVAILABLE**

Lake Hopatcong Elks • 201 Howard Boulevard • Mt. Arlington • 973-398-9835

# WILDWOOD 2024



## June 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>

Are you ready to be a part of an amazing 3-day experience at our Wildwood State Convention that's filled with fun in the sun, laughter, incredible food & drinks, bonding with your fellow Elks, families and friends and a huge amount of **Lake Hopatcong Elk Pride**? This year is sure to be an exciting one as we are once again defending our **1<sup>st</sup> Place Governors Trophy** and looking to bring it home for the 4th year in a row! If you want to be a part of this incredible weekend, **please get your \$140 deposit in TODAY.**

Our Wildwood 2024 package will include a 2-night hotel stay (check in Friday; check out Sunday), hospitality room all weekend with unlimited draft beer, wine, soda, water & liquor, BBQ on Friday night, continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and a Pig Roast on Saturday night. We will once again be staying at the Royal Canadian Motel located on Atlantic Ave, just a half a block from the boardwalk and directly on the parade route. The cost of the entire package for two people is only \$440 per room. Additional people (more than two per room) will be \$50 per person.

Once again, we are able to keep the cost of this incredible experience down through various fundraising which will be held prior to May. It is our hope that everyone will support our fundraisers so that we will be able to continue to offer our members a great Wildwood package at a reasonable cost. **Our first fundraiser is a Wheelbarrow of Cheer, and we are asking everyone who signs up for a room and pays a deposit to please consider donating one bottle of liquor of your choice.** Please drop off your liquor donation to Nancy at the lodge. You can pay your Deposit of \$140 by check, cash, or credit card at the lodge or go to the Wildwood 2024 page at [LakeHopatcongElks.com](http://LakeHopatcongElks.com) to pay online by credit card. **We cannot guarantee any rooms without a deposit.**








Finally, due to the fact we have made our Wildwood package affordable because of our lodge fundraisers, and anticipating that we will be needing more rooms than in the past due to our membership continually growing (we brought in almost 80 new members this year to date!), **this Wildwood package is ONLY available to Lake Hopatcong Elks members and Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni members** (who work hard all year to represent our lodge and help us win the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Governors Trophy). If you have any questions, please call me at 973-668-3975 or email me at [Lgathen@optonline.net](mailto:Lgathen@optonline.net)

Linda Gathen, PDD, Convention Chairperson





# FEBRUARY 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY   | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY |    |   |
|--------|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|----|---|
|        |  |         |  | <b>DARTS</b> 1<br> | 2  | 3        |    |   |
| 4      | Ritual Practice<br>Motorcycle Committee Meeting 6pm  | 5       | 6  | 7  | <b>DARTS</b> 8<br>   | 9        | 10 |   |
| 11     | Ritual Practice  | 12      | HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING  | 13   | <b>DARTS</b> 15<br>  | 16       | 17 |   |
|        |  |         | <b>Fish Fry</b> 14<br><i>Happy Valentine's Day</i><br>Veterans Committee Meeting   |  |  |          |    |   |
| 18     | Ritual Practice<br> | 19      | LODGE MEETING  | 20   | 21   | 22       | 23 | 24<br><b>PRE-LEAP FUNDRAISER</b><br> |
| 25     | Ritual Practice  | 26      | HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING  | 27   | 28   | 29       |    |   |
|        |  |         |  |  | <b>DARTS</b> 29<br> |          |    |   |

## VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

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

|               |   |                |
|---------------|---|----------------|
| January 10th  |  | July 10th      |
| February 14th |   | August 14th    |
| March 13th    |   | September 11th |
| April 10th    |   | October 9th    |
| May 8th       |   | November 13th  |
| June 18th     |   | December 11th  |



## ROCKAWAY FOOD CLOSET UPDATE

Thank you all for filling up the food donation bin at the lodge! My son, Matt and I were able to drop off 8 bags of food, along with a \$1,000 donation check from the lodge, and a member donation made to me through Venmo. Linda Kirby showed us their Food Closet and she said "The donations coming in are wonderful and people getting the word out on social media is a blessing." They had just finished stocking the shelves with donations from a food drive held at Stony Brook Elementary School in Rockaway. I was however very surprised to hear that the full shelves we saw currently would only last a couple weeks and then they would be bare again. They were extremely grateful for our donations and the help we provided to them and to the community.

Samantha Martin  
Exalted Ruler

## SHOT FROM THE BAR

Good Luck To Our Ritual Team This Month!







Hello Members & Friends,  
We are having a Big Game Party on February 11th. There will be a buffet at halftime. Please feel free to bring appetizers or dessert to share. Don't forget to get your Pig Roast tickets! FOOD AND MUSIC FOR ONLY \$25! All goes to the Leap in the Lake! There are also 2 additional raggles going on so stop by the members bar for your chance to win!

Nancy Loizou, Bar Chairperson



Meetings The 1st Monday  
Every Month At 6PM  
Walter Wurster 973-420-8165  
Email: ElksMC782@gmail.com

# 2024 MARCH

| SUNDAY | MONDAY                             | TUESDAY                    | WEDNESDAY                     | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                 | SATURDAY   |
|--------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
|        |                                    |                            |                               |   | 1 Friday Night Dinner  | 2  Leap In The Lake                         |
| 3      | 4 Motorcycle Committee Meeting 6pm | 5 LODGE MEETING            | 6                             | 7 <b>DARTS</b><br>  | 8 Friday Night Dinner  | 9 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i><br> DINNER DANCE |
| 10     | 11 Ritual Practice                 | 12 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING | 13 Veterans Committee Meeting | 14 <b>DARTS</b><br> | 15 Friday Night Dinner | 16   |
| 17     | 18 Ritual Practice                 | 19 LODGE MEETING           | 20                            | 21 <b>DARTS</b><br> | 22 Friday Night Dinner | 23   |
| 24     | 25 Ritual Practice                 | 26 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING | 27                            | 28 <b>DARTS</b><br> | 29                     | 30   |
| 31     |                                    |                            |                               |   |                        |  |



## LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard  
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



*Elks* Care – *Elks* Share