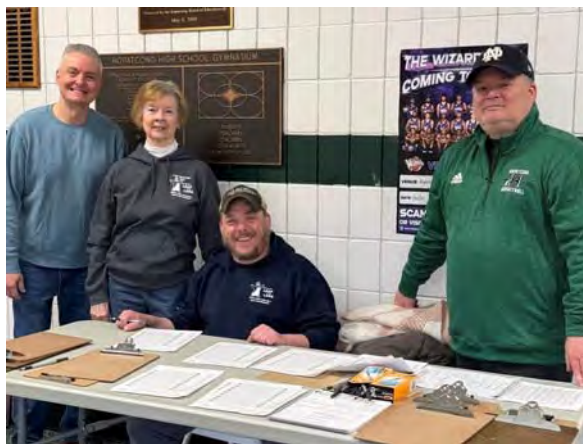




Lake Hopatcong Elks  
Lodge #782  
Meetings  
1st and 3rd Tuesday  
(973) 398-9835



February 2025

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



February is here and with a little luck the Groundhog will bring us an early spring. Our New Years eve party was a success and was attended by many happy revelers ringing in 2025.

January is normally one of our slowest months with most people staying home because of the cold weather. The Lodges wELKcome Wednesdays are a great way to get out and have a good warm meal. With that being said the Motorcycle committee packed the house with music and their famous cheesesteaks great job. Our youth activities committee held it's Hoop Shoot at Hopatcong High school and had a good turnout. The end of January saw 9 new members who were initiated into our order continuing to grow our Lodge.

Our District Deputy held her 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of her year and had great reports from the district. PER night is the first meeting of the month, it is also the night that nomination for officers for the coming year is nominated. PER night is a long tradition where the past officers assume the current officers positions. Come out and see our past officers.

With the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Leap in the lake coming up before you know it, the first meeting was held to plan and to keep everyone informed. If you want to help with the Leap, come out to the next Leap meeting on Feb 5<sup>th</sup>.

The state Path and Peer Leadership is going to be held Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> in Long Branch. This is one of the best Peer Leadership programs in the country. The second meeting will be elections for the officers for the coming year. The Elks will be 157 years old on February 16<sup>th</sup> be sure and celebrate a great milestone. Remember March 1<sup>st</sup> is the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Leap in the Lake make sure you get your team together because this looks like it will be another great event.

Fraternally,

Peter Appaluccio, Exalted Ruler

## 2024-2025 LODGE OFFICERS



|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Exalted Ruler</b>         | <b>Peter Appaluccio, PDD</b><br>973-726-7818 |
| <b>Est. Leading Knight</b>   | <b>Patricia Zdichocki</b><br>973-723-6462    |
| <b>Est. Loyal Knight</b>     | <b>Walter Wurster</b><br>973-420-8165        |
| <b>Est. Lecturing Knight</b> | <b>Samantha Martin, PER</b><br>201-214-6925  |
| <b>Esquire</b>               | <b>Matthew Winnans, PVP</b><br>201-572-8297  |
| <b>Chaplain</b>              | <b>Kimberly Tweed</b><br>862-242-0116        |
| <b>Inner Guard</b>           | <b>Jason Howard</b><br>973-294-6837          |
| <b>Tiler</b>                 | <b>Lisa Rovito, DD</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><br>973-476-1131           |
| <b>1 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Sean MacMillan</b>                        |
| <b>2 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b>                        |
| <b>3 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Wayne McDonell, VP</b>                    |
| <b>4 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Richard Gathen, PSP</b>                   |
| <b>5 Year Trustee</b>        | <b>Richard Ter Linden</b>                    |

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

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

## 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>Samantha Martin, PER</b><br>201-214-6925     |
| <b>Auditing &amp; Accounting</b>                          | <b>Kathleen Caffrey, PDD</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>Samantha Martin, PER</b><br>201-214-6925     |
| <b>Co-Chair</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>Rick Gathen, PSP</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><br>(Reports to the Trustees) | <b>Walter Wurster</b><br>973-420-8165           |
| <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, PER</b><br>973-222-4547 |
| <b>Softball/Cornhole Tournament:</b>                      | <b>Ricky Gathen</b>                             |

## RELIEF COMMITTEE

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Pete Appaluccio, Exalted Ruler</b>         | <b>973-726-7818</b>  |
| <b>Patty Zdichocki, Leading Knight</b>        | <b>201-723-6462</b>  |
| <b>Walter Wurster, Loyal Knight</b>           | <b>973-420-8165</b>  |
| <b>Samantha Martin, PER, Lecturing Knight</b> | <b>201-214-6925</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, PER</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, VPE</b><br>973-841-9845<br><b>Ed Parrillo</b><br>973-398-6677 |
| <b>Veterans</b>                               | <b>Matthew Winnans, PVP</b><br>201-572-8297  |
| <b>Army of Hope</b>                           | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b><br>973-919-5395  |
| <b>Youth Activities</b>                       | <b>Tom Brown, PDD</b><br>973-919-5395  |



|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 01 | Garrett E Rector     |
| 02 | Robert E Adams       |
| 02 | Frank Lepore         |
| 05 | John Otto            |
| 05 | Michelle Sellaro     |
| 06 | John J Moran         |
| 06 | Regina Zayas         |
| 07 | William E McCabe     |
| 09 | Elizabeth McDonald   |
| 09 | Elena Tunstead       |
| 10 | Samantha Martin      |
| 11 | Edward Kelly         |
| 11 | Ryan Thurnes         |
| 12 | Angelo J Colello     |
| 14 | Rose Barsanti        |
| 14 | Kenneth Wisher       |
| 15 | Myles Chiarello      |
| 15 | Eric Martin          |
| 15 | Ronald Nelson        |
| 17 | Lawrence Bellack     |
| 17 | James R Harding      |
| 17 | David M Lurachy      |
| 17 | Gary Steffen         |
| 18 | Nancy J Yost         |
| 19 | Derya Harquail       |
| 19 | John Maluk Jr        |
| 19 | John Signorelli      |
| 19 | Jennifer Sweeney     |
| 20 | Victoria A Angle     |
| 21 | Kermit P Ward        |
| 22 | Christopher Greeley  |
| 23 | Cindy L Banghart     |
| 23 | Frances Tierney      |
| 24 | Philip G Grassia     |
| 24 | Lauren M Greed       |
| 24 | JoAnn Kierney        |
| 24 | Jim Kunzmann         |
| 25 | Mary Lou Kennedy     |
| 25 | Gregory Martin       |
| 27 | Young Neumann        |
| 27 | Lucille Stanziale    |
| 29 | Thomas J Steinmacher |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS OF FEBRUARY



# ***“Elks Give from the Heart”***

## **Douglas A. Schiefer**

GRAND EXALTED RULER  
**2024-2025**

### ***“Elkdom’s Heart for America”***



## **Positive emergy helps new Officers get settled**

Happy birthday to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks! On February 16, we celebrate 157 years of our great organization. On a personal note, my birthday is February 14. I wish everyone a happy Valentine’s Day, especially my beautiful and amazing wife, Julia.

This month is extremely important for Elkdom. First, new Officer elections should be held at your last monthly meeting. Second, you need to make sure those who are nominated and elected for the new Lodge year will be supported.

The new Officers must be encouraged by others. Everyone should be dedicated to making the Lodge an active and effective Lodge internally and externally in the community.

It would be a good time for the current Exalted Ruler to recognize any Member who sponsored or reinstated three Members by awarding them with the Grand Exalted Ruler pin. Please check out the activities program supported by the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee on other awards that Exalted Rulers can submit. It’s time to recognize and encourage those who have shown a great deal of effort and dedication to what we do as Elks.

February is an important month for Past Exalted Rulers to perform the ritual during their Lodges’ Past Exalted Rulers Night. PERs deserve to be thanked for all they have done and for what they continue to do for your Lodge.

The Contest ‘A’ - All American Lodge Contest certification forms are due soon, so it’s a good time to get prepared to show the efforts you have made during the last year. It takes teamwork to achieve this very prestigious award. Honestly, most Lodges would qualify but don’t fill out the form properly. It is important to score your efforts on the form provided. It’s a great way for your Lodge to keep track of what you need to be doing. If you need assistance, contact your local area Fraternal Committee member. There are three winners named in each of the six membership divisions. Why not take the time to plan now and submit your form before the deadline. Be sure to include supporting documentation.

You deserve to be recognized. Continue to 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.”***

### **WELCOME WEDNESDAY**

#### **FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> - VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Chicken Bacon Ranch Sandwich / Tater Tots  
Potato Leek Soup

DJ Music By Mr. “J” - Mike Juskus

#### **FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> - YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

Wing Night With Fries  
Chicken Tortellini Soup By Pat Espo  
DJ Music By “Mikey D”

#### **FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> - HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Chef’s Surprise

#### **FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> - MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE**

Cheesesteaks With Tater Tots  
Cream of Mushroom Soup  
DJ Music By Special Child “Darin”



Community • Friendship • Charity

# **ELKS**

LET’S SOAR WITH 4 IN 2024!



Don’t keep your **CANDIDATES** waiting!

Let’s **INITIATE** Our New Members Promptly





## SICKNESS & DISTRESS



In deep sorrow we announce the passing of **Gus Dulio**, member for over 30 years, veteran and friend to all. Condolences to his brother and member **Ken Dulio** and all of their family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Our extended prayers also to a life long member, John "Jack" Barber who recently passed away. We will keep his family and friends in our prayers 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: Mary Butt and Dona Sutton. Also sending well wishes to **Linda Gathen's** Mother and **Nancy Loizou'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:

Lauren Greed, *Chairperson*  
973-668-6733 • LGreed83@gmail.com

## ♥ HOUSE COMMITTEE ♥

Happy February! One more month closer to Spring! We are starting to gear up for a busy March ... but first we are having a Special Valentine Friday Night Dinner. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

The House Committee will soon be selling tickets for your chance to win \$500 in Shoprite Gift Certificates. Stay tune! All tickets that were sold previously with original drawing date of 2-14-25 will be honored for our new date. Tickets will be available soon!

Smokin' Schmidty's will be kicking off Leap in the Lake with the 3rd Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser on February 22nd. Get your tickets early and save. Tickets available at members bar!

March 1st is our 15<sup>th</sup> annual LEAP IN THE LAKE. Looks like this year we might be needing the ice chopped. So come and Leap for our Special Children.

The following Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> is our St Patricks Corn Beef Dinner Dance. We have live music by the Irish Harper's. Tickets are going very fast so get them now before we are sold out!! They are available at our members bar.

This year our installation of new Officers will be held on March 22nd. So save the date! Open to all our members and guests. Come and enjoy the beautiful ceremony...

Thank you to House Committee for all you do.  
Everybody stay warm!

Debi Werner  
*House Committee Chairperson*



## FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

**FEBRUARY 7, 2025**  
CHICKEN FAJITA SERVED OVER RICE

**FEBRUARY 14, 2025**  
SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DAY MENU  
(SEE FLYER IN THIS NEWSLETTER)

**FEBRUARY 21, 2025**  
CHEF SURPRISE!

**FEBRUARY 28, 2025**  
CHEF SURPRISE!

CHECK FACEBOOK & OUR SIGN OUT FRONT FOR  
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHEF SURPRISE DINNERS!

LOOKING FOR NEW COOKS FOR 2025!!  
PLEASE CALL DEBI WERNER @ 973-668-9302

## THE BIG GAME SUNDAY FEB. 9

★★★  
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES **VS** KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

**Drink Specials**  
**Halftime Buffet**



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



## VETERANS COMMITTEE

The weather has been very cold, please everyone stay warm safe and healthy!!

We sadly lost a member that was not only a great friend but on numerous occasions would help me out with the Veterans Committee. He was a huge part in us getting American Flags that we need for the display out front. May **Gus Dulio**, rest in peace. Our condolences to his family and our family of Elks. This is a tremendous loss. The Annual Roast Beef Dinner was a HUGE success!! The time was enjoyed by all, the food, the music by **DJ Al** and the delicious desserts by **Karen!** I will be setting up the date for January 2026 Roast Beef Dinner.

There are lots of upcoming fundraisers in our lodge in the coming months! Wishing much success to all committees! Our wELKome Wednesday Italian hotdog special could be of been a better hit if the weather had cooperated with us. Thank you to all who came and to our volunteers.

### HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Ed Parrillo, Committee Chairperson



## SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Members,

As we head into February we have a virtual and an in person event planned for our special kids.

First will be our virtual Valentine's day. We will be giving each kid a gift card along with a nice goody bag full of treats and more for them to enjoy with love from our lodge to them.

Next, we will be preparing for the 15th Annual Leap in the Lake by getting the kids together to create the annual art project that we will auction off. This year we will be honoring the 15th anniversary with something a little special. We will Share our project with everyone the day of the leap so please be sure to join a team (We have "dry" leapers too!) so you are there to take part in the auction.

If anyone would like to know more about the leap please reach out to us or Rick & Linda Gathen.

**Until next time, have a great big beautiful tomorrow!**

Wayne & Heidi McDonnell  
SCC Lodge Co-Chairs



## wELKome

| New Member            | Proposed By      |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Christopher R Bizzari | Walter Wurtzer   |
| Donald Forst          | Michael Juskus   |
| Drew Ludeking         | Kim O'Brien      |
| Ruthann Lutz          | Nancy Loizou     |
| Patricia Ann Randazzo | Debi Sobierajski |
| Richard J. Riha       | Pat Porter       |
| Carlos Rosario        | Walter Wurtzer   |
| Joseph Stark          | Debi Sobierajski |
| Robert Wood           | Mike Gallego     |

Barbara Tokar, PER  
Lodge Secretary



### Path & PEER Leadership Conference Dates

- Pathway - February 6, 2025
- Peer Leadership - February 7-9, 2025



The Lake Hopatcong Elks donated \$1,000 to the Hopatcong "Save the People Food Pantry." The event was attended by representatives from West Side United Methodist Church and Hopatcong Mayor Marie Galate, highlighting the community's collective commitment to supporting families in need.



# EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR DUES!

## CASH-N-DASH

Swing by our lodge and pay your dues in cash!! We even have an ATM on site!!

*Quick, Easy & Friendly!*



## WRITE A CHECK, REX!!

WRITE A CHECK PAYABLE TO:  
Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge

DROP IT OFF  
OR PUT IT IN THE  
MAIL, DALE!



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS  
201 HOWARD BLVD · MT. ARLINGTON, NJ 07856

## PAY ON THE WEB, DEB!

[www.lakehopatcongelks.com](http://www.lakehopatcongelks.com)  
(Click on the "Pay Dues" tab)



JUST SCAN  
HERE DEER!

# Valentines Day Menu

Come Join Us

**Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**

**APPETIZER:**  
Shrimp Cocktail

**SALAD:**  
Spring Mix With Sliced Strawberries, Feta Cheese  
With A Creamy Balsamic Vinaigrette

**ENTREE:**  
Marry-Me-Chicken

**DESSERT:**  
Chocolate Covered Strawberries With Cupcakes

**DRINK SPECIALS:**  
Chocolate Covered Strawberry Shot  
Raspberry White Russian  
(RESERVATIONS ONLY BY 2-10-25 - \$15.00 PER PERSON)

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

Serving From  
5:00pm-7:00pm



Lake Hopatcong Elks · 201 Howard Boulevard · Mt. Arlington, NJ · 973-398-9835

# PRE-LEAP IN THE LAKE 2025 FUNDRAISER



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

\$25.00 ADVANCE • \$30.00 DAY OF EVENT

**LIVE MUSIC • 50/50**

~ CASH BAR ALSO AVAILABLE ~

VINYL TAP • BOX OF PIRANHAS • OLD BONES  
MEMBERS OF DUCK FACE



SATURDAY **22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**FEBRUARY** 2025  
→ 2PM-6PM

TICKETS ARE  
AVAILABLE NOW!

PLEASE SEE ANY BARTENDER  
FOR TICKETS

Cory Schmidt at 973-440-7393  
smokinschmidts@yahoo.com  
(ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS LAKE HOPATCONG  
ELKS LEAP IN THE LAKE GRAND TOTAL)



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

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**LEAP  
IN THE  
LAKE  
FOR LOVE**



**For Our Special Kids**

**Leap for love - Leap for change - Leap for 15 years of impact!**

**Sponsored by Lake Hopatcong Elks #782**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

**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" long sleeve t-shirt, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual commemorative beach towel and other souvenir items.

Additional Post Leap Party tickets are available for \$20 per person  
All proceeds to benefit Special Children, Youth Programs & Building Renovation



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782

# FISH FRY

*DINE IN OR TAKE OUT*

**Ash Wednesday  
March 5, 2025**

**\$15.00 PER PERSON**

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



***(THIS IS A RESERVATION ONLY DINNER)***

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



# St. Patrick's Day



## DANCE

The Lake Hopatcong Elks

6:00pm **MARCH** 8<sup>th</sup> 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

## RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW FOR WILDWOOD 2025

Join us for the NJ State Elks Convention in Wildwood, June 6–8, 2025!

**Your Package Includes:**

- 2-night hotel stay: Friday check-in, Sunday check-out
  - Hospitality Room: Beer, wine, soda, liquor, and more
  - Meals: Breakfast (Saturday & Sunday), Lunch (Saturday), Dinner (Friday) & Pig Roast (Saturday)
- Package Price: \$460 (reflecting increased hotel and food costs)  
Deposit: \$160 required to secure your reservation

**The Parade is The Heart of the Weekend.** The primary purpose of this cherished annual tradition is to represent our Lodge with pride in the NJ Elks Parade. Judging is based on Marcher participation, Float and musical unit quality and key elements like the Honor Guard and banner carriers.

To uphold our mission and strengthen our presence, we are focused on maximizing parade participation and reducing those who choose not to participate in the parade. Non-marchers increase food and beverage costs, which are subsidized through Lodge fundraising, and detract from our primary purpose: proudly participating in the parade.

**NEW Benefits for Members who participate in the parade by marching or riding in a car:**

- Priority room assignments at The Royal Canadian (Non-marchers will be assigned higher-floor rooms or rooms at nearby motels, with exceptions for two reserved first-floor House Committee rooms).
- Free Lodge shirt to display your pride.
- Reduced walking with bus transportation to and from the parade route.
- Custom vest sizing provided with your deposit.

**Reserve Your Room Now!** Please list all people staying in your room and whether they are Members and if they are marching or riding in a car on the reservation form. Those members who are participating in the parade also should indicate their t-shirt size. Let's make 2025 an unforgettable year for our Lodge as we proudly represent ourselves in the NJ Elks Parade!

**Linda Gathen, PDD**

**Wildwood Convention Chair**



### WILDWOOD 2025 RESERVATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

List all people staying in your room over 15 yrs old:

|  |                |                  |                       |            |
|--|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------|
|  | Member? Yes/No | Marching? Yes/No | Riding in Car? Yes/No | Size _____ |
|  | Member? Yes/No | Marching? Yes/No | Riding in Car? Yes/No | Size _____ |
|  | Member? Yes/No | Marching? Yes/No | Riding in Car? Yes/No | Size _____ |
|  | Member? Yes/No | Marching? Yes/No | Riding in Car? Yes/No | Size _____ |

Deposits of \$160 can be made by cash, check (payable to Lake Hopatcong Elks) or PayPal (LakeHopatcongElks.com)  
If mailing a check, send to Lake Hopatcong Elks, 201 Howard Blvd, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856





**HAVE YOU JOINED A LEAP TEAM OR SPONSORED A LEAPER??**

BRRRRRR!!!! Wow I don't think any of us expected January to be that cold. I know it's winter but those were some cold negative temps, we hope everyone stayed warm. Despite the cold temps and mini snow event we were able to get out to lunch for a planning meeting with the Antler's on January 20th. Lots of great conversations around the different fundraisers they are planning for this year. A sneak peak into some of our plans are a bake sale, plant sale, make your own Mozzarella night. Trying to get all the kids together for events is difficult as we are competing with school, sports, and jobs these kids are amazing they do it all. They are also committed to another chilly Leap in the Lake next month, please consider sponsoring them when next see them at the lodge.



They are looking forward to attending the Path and Peer Leadership Conferences in Long Branch again this year. Our Middle School Antlers will be attending the one-day Path Conference on February 6th and the High School students will attend the weekend long Peer Leadership Conference the 7th – 9th. Thank you to all that have supported our fundraising efforts throughout the year that afforded them to attend.

On January 4th the Antlers helped at the Veteran's Annual Roast Beef Dinner, they want to thank everyone for their generosity and patience. They continue to serve Friday Night Dinners and wELKcome Wednesdays. We grateful for their hardwork and enthusiasm, please continue to show your appreciation when you see them.

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!

Lastly, thank you for your continued donations to the clothing bins as it helps them make monthly donations to their favorite charities.

*Congratulations On Making The Dean's List!*

**Ava Lurachy & Adrianna Martin**

**Remember Antlers today, Elks tomorrow!**

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER, Antler Chairperson



**LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE**

**No. 782**

201 Howard Boulevard  
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



**Elks Care – Elks Share**