The Elks Reporter



Meetings
1st and 3rd Tuesday

(973) 398-9835



CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



Exalted Ruler's Message

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

2025

Let's make this year one to remember. Together, we can accomplish great things. 2026



I can't believe another summer is behind us and the kids are getting ready to go back to school. Summer was over in a blink. We had many events over the summer – barbecues were outstanding, the Seafood Fest was amazing, and the Miracle Run was a great success as always!

Football season is upon us. Come on down to the lodge to watch the games, have something to eat and spend a little time with your Elk family.

There are so many things you can do, and any involvement is helpful. Fall would be a great time to see some new faces.

I'd like to encourage all members to attend the Lodge meetings held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. It's a great way to get involved and learn about everything we do. Join a committee or just volunteer some time.

Please remember to join us on September 11 at 6:30 PM for a very special service in remembrance of those who lost their lives on this tragic day.

Please come on September 23rd for a new initiation class to bring in a milestone of 782 members for Lodge 782. I continue to encourage everyone to bring a friend to join the Elks. Get involved in whatever way that works for you so join a committee, volunteer to help with dinners, barbecues etc. and get to know your fellow members. Come join our Elk family.

There are many events that are coming up so check our website for more information.

Fraternally yours, Patricia Zdichocki ER

2025-2026 **LODGE OFFICERS**



Exalted Ruler	Patricia Zdichocki
	201-723-6462
Est. Leading Knight	Walter Wurster
	973-420-8165
Est. Loyal Knight	Pete Appaluccio, PDD
	973-736-7818
Est. Lecturing Knight	Kimberly Tweed
	862-242-0116
Esquire	Samantha Martin, PER
	201-214-6925
Chaplain	Jason Howard
	973-294-6837
Inner Guard	Michael Moroney
	862-432-2975
Tiler	Lisa Rovito, DD
	201-978-7218
Treasurer	Linda Gathen, PDD
	973-398-2097
Secretary	Barbara Tokar, PER
	201-207-7545
Lodge Photographer	Jason Howard
	973-294-6837
1 Year Trustee	Tom Brown, PDD
2 Year Trustee	Wayne McDonell, VP
3 Year Trustee	Richard Gathen, PSP
4 Year Trustee	Richard Ter Linden
5 Year Trustee	Mike Tresca, PER
	,

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Debi Werner, Chairperson	973-668-9302
Annette McInerney	973-818-9687
Derya Harquil	862-812-3186
Pat Kerrigan	201-686-0156
Sue Bruyere	973-714-0911
Dawn Crocetti	973-954-0253
Kathy Venier	973-738-3259
Nancy Zotynia Loizou	973-632-1129
Dawn Malanka	973-713-9155
Vicki Angle	201-506-1181
Terry Lopatosky	973-615-9070

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
Activities	972-271-1804 Patsy Schmidt 973-975-2325
Americanism	Bernadette Delesandro 201-602-2287
Antlers	201-002-2287 Samantha Martin, PER 201-214-6925
Auditing & Accounting	201-214-6923 Kathleen Caffrey, PDD 973-534-8283
Bar Chair	973-334-8283 Nancy Loizou 973-632-1129
Community Activities	973-632-1129 Erin Ronchetta 973-219-7624
Convention	973-219-7624 Linda Gathen, PPD 973-398-2097
Drug Awareness	973-396-2097 Samantha Martin, PER 201-214-6925
Elks National Foundation	Pete Appaluccio, PDD 973-736-7818
Flag Day	973-730-7616 Rick Gathen, PSP 973-398-2097
Fraternal Committee	273-336-2097 Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Goverment Relations	Victoria Angle 201-506-1181
Grounds Maintenance Hall Rental	Trustees Debi Werner
Hoop Shoot	973-668-9302 Tom Brown, PDD
Investigation	973-919-5395 Cory Schmidt
In-House Caterer	973-440-7393 Debi Werner
Lapsation	973-668-9302 Barbara Tokar, PER
Lodge Activities	201-207-7545 Patsy Schmidt
Membership	973-975-2325 Samantha Martin, PER
Maintenance Committee	201-214-6925 Walter Wurster
(Reports to the Tustees)	973-420-8165
Memorial Day	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Motorcycle	973-396-2097 Walter Wurster 973-420-8165
Orientation	Rick Gathen, PSP 973-398-2097
Parades	273-336-2097 Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
PER Association	973-396-2097 Rick Gathen, PSP 862-324-2412
Pole Barn	
Public Relations	Red Curry Jennifer Appaluccio, PER 973-222-4547
Softball/Cornhole Tourname	
Reuse Co	

Relief Committee

201-723-6462

973-919-5395

Rhonda Stewart

Patricia Zdichocki, Exalted Ruler

Walter Wurster, Leading Kn	ight 973-420-8165
Pete Appaluccio, PDD, Loyal	Knight 973-736-7818
Kim Tweed, Lecturing Knight	201-214-6925
Linda Gathen, PDD, Treasure	er 973-398-2097
Barbara Tokar, PER	201-207-7545
Ritual	Kathleen Caffrey, PDD
	973-534-8283
Scholarship	Jennifer Appaluccio, PER
Scholarship	• • • •
	973-222-4547
Sickness & Distress	Lauren Greed
	973-668-6733
Soccer Shoot	Tom Brown, PDD
	973-919-5395
Special Children	Heidi McDonnell, PDD
Special cilitates	973-545-1557
	Wayne McDonnell, VPE
	973-841-9845
Veterans	Ed Parrillo
veterans	
_	973-398-6677
Army of Hope	Matthew Winnians, PVP
	201-572-8297
Youth Activities	Tom Brown, PDD
1	-

04	Danas Calalla	
01 01	Renee Colello William G Holy	H
01	Gordon Laflesh	A
03	Amanda Lear	A
03	John Monteiro	P
04	William McConley	A P P Y
05	James J O'Brien	IP
05	James B Smith	
05	Edward P Smith Jr	Y
07	Michael A Juskus	
07	Linda L Kline	
08	Edward J Jones	B
09	Michael Lake	
09	Patricia Porter	
09	Patricia A Ruccio	
09	Joseph B Sacco	R
09	Stephen Wint	T
10	Andrew Egan	
10	Rebecca Meszaros	H
12	Mark David Jennings	
12	Scott Miller	D
12	Elaine Spath	H D A Y
13	Henry R Henderson	A
13	Marc Larino	V
13	Christine Macknowsky	
14	Carl Juskus	
14	Roy Winfield	
15	Richard Gathen	M
15	Renee Larino	
15	Angela Rojas	E
16	Laurie Ann Betz	M
16	Joseph Komyati	141
18	James M Riccio	B
19	Anthony Appaluccio	
19	Diane A Hodge	E
19	Marilyn Poskitt	
19	Sally A Smethy	R
20	Stephen Albanese	S
20	Michael Svetik	3
22	Patricia Lynn Leonard	
22	Mark Stalgaitis	
23	Diane Karl	O
23	Cameron Walton	_
24	Bret Klingener	Г
24	Graham Paton	
24	Walter A Rossi	
25	Thomas C Losh	S
25	Roseann Schult	
26	Gene Coltelli	E
26	Maria Farris	D
26	John N Lombardi	
26	Eric Sabol	T
27	Joseph Kriscunas	S E P T E
27	Kevin Murphy	E
27	Debra N Nunn	
28	Catherine Chamer	M
28	Todd Cruickshank	M B E
28	Tina G Heller	
29	Scott R Bennett	F
29	Thomas Pantelleria	
30	Joseph Ferrigno	R
30	Phonda Stewart	



"Elks Give from the Heart"

BRYAN KLATT

GRAND EXALTED RULER
2025-2026

"Elkdom's Heart for America"

Elks usa

NEW EVENTS CAN HELP BOOST MEMBERSHIP

Be The Difference by taking the opportunity to offer events that give your Members a place to gather and share in fellowship. You can offer dinners or plan activities that your Members can support and maybe get others to join in.

These events can promote your Lodge to prospective Members as well as help reconnect with your delinquent Members. It is never too early to start planning your future events.

National Patriotism Week is September 8-14. You still have time to download a proclamation for National Patriotism Week and have your city's mayor sign it if you were unable to do so last month.

To all the Exalted Rulers, remember the Grand Exalted Ruler class begins this month and runs through October. Let us make it a good one to continue showing you can Be The Difference.

If you have not done so, visit elks.org. Look under the Grand Lodge Activities Committee, then take advantage of the many forms and certificates you can use to recognize program participants and volunteers.

Also, make sure to reach out to your committee chairpersons to ensure they are recording and submitting the information to the Lodge Secretary. Lodge Secretaries, begin sending your six-month dues and delinquent notices.

If your Lodge has not signed up for the Membership Billing System, check into it on elks.org (Membership Toolkit, Lodge billing) or contact your Grand Lodge Public Relations and Membership Marketing Area committee person for assistance. The cost savings to your Lodge will be significant.

Further, once the notices have been sent, have your Membership and Lapsation Committee contact these individuals. You would be surprised what a little personal contact can accomplish.

The Elks Legacy scholarships also open this month. Legacy Awards are available to children and grandchildren of Elks' Members. Check online for eligibility requirements.

"Elks Care - Elks Share."





After over 40 years of standing tall our virtually unreadable and weather faded BPOE Elk's located at the edge of the parking lot of Davy's Hot Dogs & Grill has been replaced. Rick Gathen obtained a new sign. Rockie Fuller and fellow Elk member Mark Keller installed it on Sunday, August 3rd. Hopefully this one will last another us 40 years!! Rockie would like to extend a special thanks to the owner of Davy's and fellow Elks member, Dave Ferrara for allowing our sign to be displayed there for our lodge.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

We are saddened to announce the passing of **Martin Janowski**; 33 year member and veteran. Our condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult time. To our absent members.



Thoughts and prayers to our members who have recently lost their Mothers: Chris Hayden, Greg O'Brien and Charlotte Thompson. Also to Captain Lee and Leon Moreau on the loss of your Sister/Aunt. May you and your families find peace and comfort in the memories you shared.

Sending well wishes to our members who are ill or home recovering from recent sickness, injury, surgery or procedures: Marge Curry, Debbie Sobierajski, Ralph Elpin and Hank Henderson. Also keeping Lisa Rovito PDD's Mother in our thoughts and prayers. Our best wishes for a complete and successful recovery to all.

If you know of any member in need of our thoughts and prayers please contact me: Lauren Greed 973-668-6733 or LGreed83@gmail.com

Lauren Greed, Chairperson

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Happy Labor Day. Hard to believe it is September! **Remember there is no BBQ's this month.** Our committees are taking the month off. They will be back in October with their special and their soup of the evening.

Our Youth Activities Committee isnt going to make you wait till October!! They will be having "Taco Nite" Wednesday, September 10th & then again on Thursday, September 25th. Both hard and soft shells will be available. Check it out!!

This month Special Friday Night Dinner on September 12th is HALF WAY TO ST. PATTY. Our chefs will be once again **Mary and Linda and their crew!!** RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST. The dinner will be \$15. Sign up early!

Saturday, September 13th is our Fall Flea Market. We have over 30 tables rented out already! Remember one persons trash is someone else treasure! So come on out and you just might find your little treasure!

Our Veterans will be having their annual "Music Fest" on September 20th from 5pm to 9pm. There is doo-whop, country rock n roll and more. Check out their flyer for full details!

DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER:

Wednesdays: wELKome Pub Night October 11th ENF BEEFSTEAK October 17th FND FISH FRY

October 18TH YOUTH ACTIVITIES CATHERINE McCALL October 19th YOUTH ACTIVITIES CASINO BUS TRIP October 24th FND OKTOBERFEST SAUERBRATEN

Octone 25th: DISTRICT DRUG AWARENESS RED RIBBON DINNER

DANCE, ALL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND COME SUPPORT THESE COMMITTEES AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO THEIR CAUSE.

Thank you House for always showing up when needed.

Debi Werner, House Committee Chairperson







YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

We will be having Taco Wednesday on September 10th and the 25 for 3 dollars each! See flyer in this newsletter for more information. Come out and enjoy a few!

On the September 27th we will have our Soccer Shoot from 4pm to 8pm at Hopatcong Senior Field. We be giving out shirts to all the kids who participate.

We also be selling tickets for our next 2 events. The Casino trip on October 19th and a Medium on October 18th. All tickets are aso on sale with any Bartender on duty.

As summer comes to a close, please remember to allow extra time during your morning and afternoon commutes, school buses are back on the roads, and safety is a priority.



Back by popular demand, **Matt Martin's** Apple Cider BBQ pork was a huge hit again at last months Wed night BBQ! Thank you to everyone who cooked, donated, helped and supported our events. They don't happen without you.

We also extend our appreciation to Ridgeview Seniors for allowing us to host their summer picnic and for their continued support of the Antlers. It was great to see them back again this year and have such a wonderful time.

The Antlers chose to host a bake sale as their latest fundraising initiative. The event was a great success and featured a variety of Antler homemade treats. Special thanks to **Debi Werner** for clearing the kitchen for us and **Tina Kraus, Shelia Speroni, and Lisa Rovito** for their generous contributions.

The Antlers continue to demonstrate exceptional dedication, teamwork, and community spirit. This month, they are proud to support the Army of Hope and the Vets through their fundraising efforts.

The Antlers always have exciting activities in the pipeline, so stay tuned for updates or spontaneous events. We are looking to grow our membership, which is open to individuals aged 12 to 20 who are U.S. citizens of good character and believe in the existence of God. It is a fantastic time to be an Antler, and we encourage more youth to join. Applications and brochures are available in the front lobby of the lodge.

The Antlers do amazing work and have a great time serving both the community and the lodge. Lastly, thank you for your continued donations to the clothing bins, which enable monthly contributions to their favorite charities.

Remember: Antlers today, Elks tomorrow!

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER & Antler Chairperson

LOOKING FOR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER COOKS!

Interesed in learning more? Call Debi at 973-668-9302

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Our first event will be our 16th Annual Trunk or Treat. This event will take place on Saturday, Oct 25th from 10am-12pm. We are looking for volunteers to decorate their cars in an appropriate Halloween/kid friendly theme of your choice and hand out candy. Members may work individually or as a group. We would like everyone to arrive by 9am to set up and be ready by 10am when the kids start arriving. Please when you sign up include the names and number of car spaces needed for your display (limited to 2 spots per person/team). Please contact Wayne directly if you need more than two spots to make special arrangements. Please text Heidi (973) 545-1557 to RSVP and for any other special arrangements please contact Wayne at (973) 841-9845.

Our next event is something we are excited to bring back and still in the process of getting it together - our Thanksgiving Charlie Brown Brunch. Tentatively scheduled for Black Friday, 11/28 from 10am-12pm. We are looking for those who are available and interested in volunteering. We need help in the kitchen cooking, servers, and clean up. We will start at 8:30am cooking and setting up to be ready when the kids and families start arriving. Please again, text Heidi or Wayne to RSVP and what you would like to assist with - cook/kitchen, server, and / or Set up/ clean up. We will need to ensure that we have everything all cleaned and ready for the Vets committee to have their Friday night Spaghetti Dinner. So, any and all help is greatly appreciated.

Last but not least we will have a Christmas event, with more details to come later, as we are still working on this, so more to come.

As a reminder to all - these events are by invitation only to our special children and their immediate families. If you know of a local family with a special need child, please let Wayne or I know and we will add them to our list and send invites directly. We appreciate your assistance in helping us to keep this as organized as possible.

Until then have a great big beautiful tomorrow!Fraternally, Heidi & Wayne McDonnell, SCC Lodge Co-Chairs

FAX: (773) 755-4905



Email: RickG@elks.org

MEMBERSHIP/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Rick Gathen

Chicago, IL 60614-1889

MEDIA ALERT -NOTICE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elks Lead Nation in Honoring 9/11 Heroes on 24th Anniversary

Chicago, IL – September 11, 2025 – The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will lead the nation in remembering the heroes and victims of September 11, 2001, with *Patriots Day* ceremonies held across the United States, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and the Panama Canal. Local Elks Lodges invite the public to come together in unity, reflection, and gratitude—paying tribute to the firefighters, police officers, first responders, military members, and ordinary citizens whose courage and sacrifice continue to inspire America.

As one of the nation's foremost patriotic and charitable organizations for more than 157 years, the Elks are proud to honor the spirit of service that rose out of tragedy. In 2024 alone, the Elks contributed over \$520 million in cash, goods, and volunteer time—supporting veterans, empowering young leaders through scholarships, and strengthening local communities nationwide. With nearly 1,800 Lodges and 800,000 members, the Elks remain committed to ensuring that the values of service, patriotism, and remembrance are passed on to future generations.

The Elks will never forget September 11th. Each year, we gather not only to mourn those we lost, but to honor the resilience of a nation that came together in its darkest hour. Through our acts of charity and service, we strive to keep that spirit of unity alive.

From small towns to major cities, Elks Lodges will pause to remember, reflect, and recommit to building stronger communities in honor of those who gave everything.

For more information or to find a ceremony near you, visit www.elks.org. For membership details, visit Join.Elks.org.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks • Grand Lodge





VETERANS COMMITTEE

Summer is unofficially over and the start of college and professional football season starts!

Congratulations to the motorcycle committee for a sell out barbecue. The ribs and chicken were very good! That was that was the final barbecue Wednesday barbecue of 2025.

The Veterans Committee will be helping with the Northwest District Committees Music Fest on Saturday, September 20th. I hope to see our brother and sister Elks supporting us. The music will be from Duop to hard rock. Please come out and enjoy the day! Burgers, hotdogs and drinks will be sold throughout the event. We will be donating to the Tunnel to Towers Organization

On Septembe 28th at Vasa Park The Hackettstown Lodge will have a motorcycle run and breakfast from 11 to 5. We will be attending the function and our lodge will be making a \$1000 donation to Operation Chillout.

Sunday football schedule will be starting soon come and see and have a few drinks with us at the member's bar! Support your favorite teams!

Thank you Leon Moreau donating his winning raffle gift certificate to the Veterans Committee to The Stone Water Restaurant. You are a great elk and a good person! Thank you from the Elks 782 veterans committee!

Respectfully Submitted, Ed Parrillo, Committee Chairperson

VETERANS COMMITTEE 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

2ND TUESDAY EVERY MONTH @ 6:30PM



LODGE IMPROVEMENT CORNER

On September 13th we will be cleaning up the Pool Barn. All Committees please have some people there to help from 8am to 12pm. Let's all roll up our shelves and give a hand.

Tom Brown, PDD, Chairman of Trustees



wELK@me

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED AUGUST 18, 2025

New Member

William Barkewicz Jeanne Dodge Megan Moroney Kara Puco Natalie Tamayo Edward Torres

Cathryn Welter

Proposed By

Michael Moroney
Donald Potter
Michael Moroney
Bernadette Dalesandro
Michael Moroney
Michael Moroney
Patricia Dennehy

Special Thank You To DDGER, Todd Christensen for being a part of our Initiation of new members!

Babara Tokar, PER, Lodge Secretary



1/2 Way To St. Datty's Oay



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 9-12 5pm-7pm \$15

Corned Beef, Cabbage, Carrots & Colcannon Potatoes & Irish Soda Bread

RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED

Lake Hopatcong Elks · 201 Howard Blvd. · Mt. Arlington · 973-398-9835







The Lake Hopatcong Elks #782 Motorcycle Committee Presents

Bourbon, Cigars & Prime Rib

All Proceeds to Benefit
ELKS CAMP MOORE

@ The Jefferson House 139 Nolans Point Road, Lake Hopatcong, NI



ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY



Friday, October 24, 2025, 6pm to 10pm

\$125 Per Person

Each Tickets Includes: Cocktail "Appy" Hour from 6pm to 7pm, Bourbon Tasting, Dinner, 4 Hours of Complimentary Beer, Wine & Sangria

Cash Bar Available for Additonal Spirits, Cigar Gift Bags, 50/50, Tricky Tray Items

For tickets see bartender at LH Elks #782 or call 973-398-9835 to purchase over the phone.

BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY WITH US

RESERVE YOUR DATE TODAY CALL: 973.668.9302



Offering An Affordable Catering Menu & Beverage Packages Available!!



Newly Renovated

(Perfect location & price for parties up to 170 people)



Our event planner will work with you to make sure every detail is right!!

PACKAGES CAN INCLUDE

- Choice of plated, buffet, or reception style meal.
- Ballroom set with tables, chairs, linen, holiday centerpieces, china, silverware & dance floor.
- Professional, affordable & friendly bartender service.



- Decorated ballroom for the holiday season, complete with holiday trees, wreaths & garland throughout the property.
- Large parking lot with a covered fover for dropping people off by the door.

Lake Hopatcong Elks | 201 Howard Boulevard | Mount Arlington,NJ 07856









TRICKY TRAY

SAVE THE DATE NOVEMBER 1ST



AMAZON WISH LIST (Lake Hopatcong Elks Trick Tray 2025)

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

(New Items Only - All Values Appreciated)

201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington, NJ • 973-398-9835



OCTOBER 11TH, 2025

Lake Hopatcong Elks

BEEFSTEAK DINNER







Tickets \$50.00 PP Soda & Water Included

Cash Bar Available

Advanced Tickets only

Doors open at 5:30 Dinner at 6:30

For tickets, see the bartender or call Pete at 973-726-7818

Hosted By The Lake Hopatcong Elks ENF Committee

The Lake Hopatcong Elks Presents

AN AFTERNOON WITH



SPIRITUAL MEDIUM

Gather with family and friends for a spiritual afternoon with an opportunity to connect with your loved ones from the other side







SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 12:00 NOON CATHERINE WILL START 1:00 PM

TICKETS \$40 PER PERSON • FULL TABLE OF 8 @ \$280

(Tickets Are NON-Refundable - Must Be 21)

(Bring Snacks For Yourself Or For Your Table)
- Cash Bar Available - No Outside Beverages Permitted SEE ANY BARTENDER FOR TICKETS

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

Proceeds To Benefit The Lake Hopatcona Elks Youth Activities Committee





eptember 2025 THURSDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY LODGE MEETING 2 3 Friday Night Dinner 1 MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00PM 7 HOUSE COMMITTEE BEEF 10 11 Friday Night Dinner 12 Pole Barn 13 MEETING Clean Up 1/2 Way To 7 VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM St. Datty's Oay! Friday Night Dinner 19 LODGE MEETING 15 18 14 16 17 HOUSE COMMITTEE 23 Friday Night Dinner 26 21 22 24 BEEF 25 MEETING 28 29 30

ENRIQUE S. CAMARENA AWARD - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks proudly presents the Enrique S. Camarena Award to a distinguished member of law enforcement who exemplifies the values and principles for which Agent Camarena gave his life. This honor recognizes individuals who are actively engaged in their communities and dedicated to creating a drug-free environment.

Nomination Guidelines:

- The award is intended for an individual, not an organization.
- Nominees must be actively involved in law enforcement.
- Candidates should serve as positive role models and lead a healthy lifestyle.
- Nominees must demonstrate outstanding contributions to drug awareness and prevention.
- Ideal candidates go "above and beyond" their regular duties and have made a meaningful impact.
- Nominees must have the support of their agency and be respected within their community.
- If selected, the nominee must be willing to attend the awards ceremony.
- Nominations should be submitted in narrative form and include endorsements from relevant sources such as government officials, educators, and community members.

HUG AWAREVERS PROGR

- Leadership and organizational skills should be evident.
- Please include a list of previous awards and accomplishments.
- Nominees should embody the belief that "one person can make a difference."

Local nominations must be submitted to our Lodge Drug Awareness Chairperson by October 17th to be considered for district and state-level recognition. The state winner will be honored at our Wildwood Reunion in June.

2025–2026 Drug Awareness Program (DAP) Contest Theme: "Drugs Are a Grave Mistake"

We invite students to participate in this year's DAP contests. Please refer to the links below for contest rules and guidelines. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me or our **District Chair**, **Lisa Rovito**.

Submission Deadline: All entries must be received by November 24th for local judging. Winners will advance to district, state, and potentially national levels. National winners may be featured on www.elkskidszone.org and in ENF or DAP publications. Please note that all entries become the property of the BPO Elks and will not be returned. https://www.elks.org/dap/resources/contests.cfm

• Poster Contest (Grades 3–5) • Essay Contest (Grades 6–8) • Video Contest (High School Students)

Upcoming Important Dates and Drug Awareness Events

- Walk Out on Drugs October 5th, Parsippany: Registration begins at 9:00 AM, walk starts at 10:00 AM. If you're unable to participate, please consider sponsoring one of our Antlers or Advisors. Each Lodge has been challenged to raise \$1,000 this year.
- Sneaker Sale: Our annual sneaker fundraiser is underway! Sneakers are available in the members bar for just \$1.
- Drug Awareness Golf Outing October 9th, Farmstead Country Club. This event is sold out! Thank you for your incredible support!
- · Camarena Award Nominations Due October 17th
- Red Ribbon Week October 23rd–31st https://www.dea.gov/red-ribbon/kiki-red-ribbon-history. Learn more about the history and impact of Red Ribbon Week.
- Red Ribbon Dance October 25th: Join us for our first District Red Ribbon Dance! This year's theme is the 1980s ... come dressed in your best retro gear and enjoy a night of music, food, and fun. Let's make this an annual tradition!
- DAP Contest Entries Dué November 24th

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER, & Drug Awareness Chairperson

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			WELKOME 1	2	Friday Night Dinner 3	
Walk Out On Drugs	MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING 6 6:00PM	LODGE MEETING 7	WELKOME 8	9	Friday Night Dinner 10	BEEFSTEAK DINNER
12	13	HOUSE COMMITTEE 14 MEETING VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM	welkome WEDNESDAY	16	Friday Night Dinner 17	Catherine McCall
19	20	LODGE MEETING 21	22 WELKOME WEDNESDAY	23	Friday Night Dinner 24 Oktoberfest Sauerbraten	80'S pance party
26	27	HOUSE COMMITTEE 28 MEETING	29 WELKome	30	Friday Night Dinner 31	Dance Parts



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard Mount Arlington, NJ 07856

