The Elks Reporter



Lake Hopatrong Clks
Lodge #782
Meetings

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



CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



Exalted Ruler's Message

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

2024

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

2025



As we step into April, I am honored and excited to begin my term as your Exalted Ruler. I want to thank all of you for your continued support of our Lodge and the work we do together to serve our community.

To **Pete Appaluccio**, **our PER**, **his officers**, **committees and members**, congratulations on a great year. In February, our officers competed in Long Branch for the state ritual competition. Three officers were awarded Allstate honors: **Inner Guard Jason Howard**, **Loyal Knight Walter Wurster**, **Leading Knight Patricia Zdichocki**, who was also the recipient of the Jay Liggett award as the highest competing Leading Knight.

Spring is a season of renewal, and it is the perfect time for us to renew our commitment to the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. Over the coming months, we'll be focusing on strengthening our Lodge, growing our membership, and continuing the important programs that make a difference—supporting our veterans, local youth, and community initiatives.

This month, we will also be planning several events and activities to bring our members together. April 13th from 9 AM to 10:30 and from 11 AM to Noon the house committee will be offering the "Elks Easter Breakfast with the Bunny". Please call the lodge for reservations. April 18th the house committee will be offering a Good Friday Fish Fry. You must call for reservations. April 23rd the youth committee will have the "Lazy Susan Sip and Paint". Seats are still available. Please call for reservations. April 27th the motorcycle committee will have a "Bloody and Bubbly" Sunday breakfast from 9 AM till noon. Call the Lodge for reservations. The Lodge phone number is 973-398-9835. I encourage everyone to get involved—whether by volunteering, attending meetings, or simply coming down to the Lodge to connect with fellow Elks. Your participation is what keeps our Lodge strong and thriving.

Let's make this year one to remember. Together, we can accomplish great things. God bless you all, our special children, our veterans, our service members and most importantly, God bless America.

Fraternally yours,
Patricia Zdichocki, Exalted Ruler

2025-2026 LODGE OFFICERS



Patricia Zdichocki

Exalted Ruler

Exalted Ruler	Patricia Zuicilocki
	973-723-6462
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 Maloney
	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	Linda Kline
	973-476-1131
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
Vicki Angle
Jen Brown
Sue Bruyere
Dawn Crocetti
Derya Harquil
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

Rick ter Linden 972-271-1804 Activities **Patsy Schmidt** 973-975-2325 Americanism Patricia Carley 973-534-0168 Antlers Samantha Martin, PER 201-214-6925 **Auditing & Accounting** Kathleen Caffrey, PDD 973-534-8283 **Bar Chair** Nancy Loizou 973-632-1129 **Community Activities Erin Ronchetta** 973-219-7624 Convention Linda Gathen, PPD 973-398-2097 Samantha Martin, PER **Drug Awareness** 201-214-6925 **Elks National Foundation** Pete Appaluccio, PDD 973-736-7818 Rick Gathen, PSP Flag Day 973-398-2097 Fraternal Committee Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 **Goverment Relations** Victoria Angle 201-506-1181 **Grounds Maintenance Trustees Hall Rental Debi Werner** 973-668-9302 **Hoop Shoot** Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395 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 Samantha Martin, PER Membership 201-214-6925 Maintenance Committee **Walter Wurster** (Reports to the Tustees) 973-420-8165 **Memorial Day** Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 Motorcycle **Walter Wurster** 973-420-8165 Orientation Rick Gathen, PSP 973-398-2097 Parades Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097 **PER Association** Rick Gathen, PSP 862-324-2412 Pole Barn **Red Curry** Public Relations Jennifer Appaluccio, PER 973-222-4547

Relief Committee

Ricky Gathen

201-723-6462

Matthew Winnians, PVP

201-572-8297

973-919-5395

Tom Brown, PDD

29

30

30

Dawn M Crocetti

Howard Shimm

Kathleen Williams

Softball/Cornhole Tournament:

Patricia Zdichocki, Exalted Ruler

Army of Hope

Youth Activities

Walter Wurster, Leading Knight 973-420-8165 Pete Appaluccio, PDD, Loyal Knight 973-736-7818 Kim Tweed, Lecturing Knight 201-214-6925 Linda Gathen, PDD, Treasurer 973-398-2097 Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545 Ritual Kathleen Caffrey, PDD 973-534-8283 Scholarship Jennifer Appaluccio, PER 973-222-4547 Sickness & Distress **Lauren Greed** 973-668-6733 Soccer Shoot Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395 Special Children Heidi McDonnell, PDD 973-545-1557 Wayne McDonnell, VPE 973-841-9845 Veterans **Ed Parrillo** 973-398-6677



Н

Kathleen Hlavacek 01 01 Dennis Maine 01 Sean McDonnell Jacob DeSombre 04 В David W Elliott 04 04 Christopher Merring Mildred Rennick 04 R Margaret Sharpe-Murphy 04 05 Scott Kearney T Carlos Rosario 05 09 Tina Kraus 09 Dona Sutton Joseph Clarke 10 10 Diane LaPreta Robert M Brandon 11 Mary Butt 11 Gregory Serri 11 11 Dean Strawn David Wood 11 13 James Deliarena М 13 Lisa Dellarena E 13 Jeffrey J Wolfanger Mary C Beck 14 Leonard Loughridge 14 Manuel Silva 14 B Kristina Garv 15 15 Gerald Gee E Joann Orr 15 Al Rossy III R 15 16 Gale Newton 17 Sheldon Levy 18 George Hemenetz 18 Mary Marshall Dolores Krowl 19 O 19 William J Marshall Donetta Heins 20 Jennifer Brown 21 Gerald W Sheard 21 22 Linda Gathen 22 Heather Sabol А 23 Samantha Corujo P 25 Jeanne Santucci 26 Barbara Pirro R 26 Kayla Russo 27 Maureen Matteson Debra Sobierajski 28



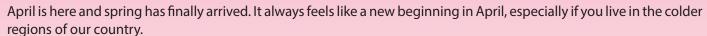
"Elks Give from the Heart"

Douglas A. Schiefer

GRAND EXALTED RULER **2024-2025**

"Elkdom's Heart for America"

Incoming leaders start year with proactive mindset



A new fraternal Lodge year begins. I want to congratulate all the newly installed Exalted Rulers and Lodge Officers. It is a proud moment to be installed and take on the challenge of providing leadership within your Lodge. Be sure to review and implement the programs of the 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Program booklet so you can continue showing "Elkdom's Heart For America." Make sure that you have all your committees prepared and that committee members know their responsibilities. Communication is the key.

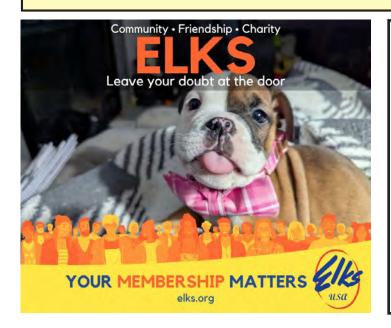
Financially, it is the Trustees and Officers who need to submit a budget to the Lodge for adoption no later than the last regular meeting in April or the following regular meeting. Your Lodge should be ready to present a sound budget to your Members. The annual report for the previous year is also due May 1 so make sure that your FRS financial reporting system is up to date.

On a housekeeping note, you should review any by-laws or house rules and regulations that need to be updated. It's for the good of the Lodge to make everything orderly and that you always prioritize the integrity and safety of the Lodge.

On a festive note, it's time to make a calendar of social events for your Lodge. Create reasonable, achievable monthly events that will excite and attract your membership. Outside of your Lodge you are encouraged to establish a community project that emphasizes charitable work. Your Lodge life should always have a balance of what you do inside your Lodge and outside in the community you serve. Don't forget to set aside May 1-7 as Elks National Youth Week. All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs dedicated to the youth of our country.

Julia and I wish you a blessed Easter season. It is a celebratory time for our family. God bless you and God bless America!

"Elks Care - Elks Share."





MEMBERSHIP CARDS 2025-2026

Thank you to all the members that have paid their annual dues! Most of you have already received your 2025/2026 Membership cards by now. Please be sure to carry your card with you as bartenders will be asking for them.

If you have not received your cards please contact me at 201-207-7545 or via email at bct17@opton-line.net.

Barbara Tokar, PER, Lodge Secretary

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

We are saddened to announce the passing of Frank Trosky, long time member and Vietnam Veteran. Condolences to member and brother, Joe and all of your family and loved ones during this difficult time. To our absent members. Also sending condolences to Mark Bishop of our Motorcycle Committee on the passing of his Godmother, Millie.

Thoughts and prayers to our members who are ill or home recovering from recent sickness, injury, surgery or procedures: David Moran, Marge Curry, Wayne McDonnell, Colleen Erickson, Diane Hodge and Jennifer Appaluccio, PER.

Also sending well wishes to Walter Wurster's daughter. 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 973-668-6733 LGreed83@gmail.com

Lauren Greed, Chairperson



HOUSE COMMITTEE

I'd like to start off by wishing our new **ER, Patty Zdichocki** and her Ritual Team, a great year ahead. Knowing what a honor it is to receive The Rick Gathen Award of Excellence, I would like to congratulate **Patsy and Cory Schmidt** for receiving it this year and being well deserved. To **Nancy Loizou** who received Elk of The Year, great job, well done. Of course to **Linda Gathen, PDD** who goes above and beyond allt he time in taking the honor of Officer of the Year! Congratulations!

April is here and our committees are taking the month off from cooking. They will be back in May with our Wednesday BBQ'S ... Due to the cost of food going up as well all know we had to increase our price. The new cost will be \$14. We hope you will come out and support our committees and their delicious specials, along with burgers, dogs and variety of salads!!

April 13th is our breakfast with the Bunny. This year we are doing two seatings. The first one will be at 9am with a visit w/the bunny and egg hunt. Our second seating is at 11am. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**. You will pay at door. So call now and get your reservations in. 11am sitting is almost full.

April 18th is our Good Friday Fish Fry. **RESERVATIONS ARE BEING TAKEN NOW.**

On April 23rd our Youth Activities Committee will be doing their Paint-N-Sip, come in and get your tickets!

On April 27th from 9am-11am our Motorcycle Committee will be doing breakfast and the bar will having bloody mary and mimosas specials.

Before you know it, it will be May!! Mark your calendar, May 11th for our Mothers Day Brunch. More details soon. Have a great April!! Thank you to my house committee for all you do!

Debi Werner, House Committee Chairperson



SHOTS FROM THE BAR

Come on down to the lodge! Baseball is back!! Enjoy a game with friends and fellow members!! Always a great time. The weather is teetering with us towards patio weather. BBQ start back up next month - Let the good times roll!

SAVE THE DATES

More Information In This Newsletter Motorcycle Committee Events

> BLOODY MARY BREAKFAST APRIL 27TH FROM 9AM-11AM FILL THE LODGE MAY 1ST FROM 6PM-9PM



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

Lazy Susan SIP & PAINT April 23rd

LIMITED TICKETS

7PM-**9**PM

Guided Class Done Together

Bring Your Own Shareable Snacks

\$50.00 PER PERSON

(Includes 1 Free Beverage)

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



WE HAD BIG NEWS!!

ELIZA CASSAR WON YOUTH-14 GIRLS!

Our winner of the National Championship in the Soccer Shoot. We very proud of her!! She also advanced to the Mid-Atlantic Soccer Shoot once again to defend her National Championship and and her winning the Youth 14 girls Division. This will happened the 2nd weekend of March! We wish her good luck in her defense.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 14th at 6pm.

We will be having a PAINT & SIP LAZY SUSAN event on April 23rd. Please see the newsletter for more details. Tickets are now on sale and limited! Get yours today!

We will be hosting our 1st Wedneday BBQ on May 21st.

Tom Brown, PDD
Youth Activities Committee Chairperson



SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Happy Spring All,

As we head into the month of April we begin a new Fraternal year. A fresh new start to write the next chapter of amazing experiences for our special children and their families.

As we look forward in the month ahead we are preparing for our Special Children's events for Easter. The NW District Easter Party will be held on Saturday, April 12 at the Parsippany PAL building located at 33 Baldwin Rd., Parsippany. The event will be from 12 noon to 2 pm. The district committee has arranged for lunch, Easter baskets for all the kids, a photo booth, and a visit from the Easter bunny. This annual event is sure to be another great experience for all attending and involved.

Then on Saturday, April 19, Lake Hopatcong SCC will be hosting on the lawn an Easter Egg Hunt for our special children and their families from 9:30am - 11:30am. We usually hold a bunny breakfast for our special friends, but this year we are going in a different direction and will hold an egg hunt and offer pictures with the Easter bunny, and possibly along with another bunny pal, and we will be giving out Easter baskets as well. Along with a few surprises yet to be announced! Bags will be provided for all the kids participating and refreshments too. We are looking for volunteers for this event to assist starting at 8am with "hiding" the eggs on the lawn and patio, as well as those who can assist with being 1:1 family/child escorts to assist them in finding the eggs during the hunt. We also need a Bunny handler to assist in escorting them around, and then we would need those who can assist with handing out the refreshments. Anyone who is interested and available please contact Wayne or I to sign up. There is also a Team Reach group (phone app) as well where we are sharing information. We are looking forward to all the events in the month of April and look forward to the year ahead!

Until next time, have a great big beautiful tomorrow!

Wayne & Heidi McDonnell, SCC Lodge Co-Chairs Heidi McDonnell, PDD, 973-545-1557 Wayne McDonnell, VP, 973-841-9845

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS

TAKE OUT • DINE IN • OUTDOOR PATIO SEATING ALSO AVAILABLE

Lake Hopatcong Elks · 201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington



BBQ IS BACK MAY 7TH

BBQ Chicken • Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers • Hot Dogs Baked Beans • Assorted Salads • Potato Salad • Coleslaw • Dessert

ONLY \$14.00 PER PERSON!!

SERVING FROM 5:00-7:00PM Take Out - Dine In - Patio Seating

~ All Proceeds To Benefit The Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge 782 ~

PLEASE CALL 973-398-9835 FOR TAKE OUT ORDERS



wELK@ me

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED MARCH 24, 2025

New Member Proposed By
John V Caldera Barbara Tokar
Alisa Camacho Lori Catalano
Marybeth Foran Tom Brown
Marie Galate Rick Gathen
Glen Hopler Bruce Roberts

Anna Ilaria Barbra Ilaria, Lodge 2534

Patricia J Johnson Wesly Phelan Gizelle <u>Shakkour</u> Lori Catalano Roy A <u>Soit</u> Ruthann Lutz Matthew Zuccaro Jake Zamorski

> Barbara Tokar, PER Lodge Secretary







PLEASE CIRCLE (1) SPORT

New Jersey State Elks Association Youth Sports Tournament

Open to all Boy and Girls Ages 13-18

Division 1 Senior Division Ages 16-18 Birthdates 08/01/05-07/31/08
Division II Junior Division Ages 13-15 Birthdates 08/01/08-07/31/11

Tennis players are required to provide 1 can of new tennis balls

MONDAY JUNE 23, 2025

Registration Deadline: June 07, 2025
Applications are accepted on a first received basis.
**Tournament is chaperoned by NJ State Elks **
E-mail Registration to DKT141@comcast.net

Name:	Birthdate:	Birthdate:							
Female:	Male:	USTA/YABA #:	Bowling Ave	rage:					
Street:		City:	State:	Zip:					
Phone Number:		E-mail:							
Division:	_ High School:		Location:						
Participant Consent Forms									

Participant Consent Form:

I/We hereby give my/our consent for My/Our Child, to engage in the following Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.O.P.E.) area activity (Bowling, Golf, Tennis) CIRCLE ONE on June 23, 2025.

I/We have been advised that a local B.P.O.E. Lodge, its respective State Association, and the Grand Lodge of the B.P.O.E. Lodge has and will maintain liability insurance on My/Our Child while participating in the Tournament.

I/We do further give My/Our Child consent for the rendering of any emergency medical and/or surgical treatment to My/Our Child as the result

or any accident while participating in the above activity.

I/We do further release and agree to indemnity and hold the local B.P.O.E. Lodge, its respective State Association. Tournament Officials, and the







A BIG CONGRATS TO ADRIANNA FOR A GREAT YEAR and Welcome to our new **President Ms. London Long** along with the rest of the newly installed officers, we know you will have a terrific year! A special Thank you to our **GER Pete Appaluccio PDD**, **and his installation team (Lisa Rovito DD**, **Heidi McDonnell PDD**, **Kathleen Caffrey PDD**, **Wayne McDonnell VP**, **Jen Appaluccio PVP**, **Mike Tresca PER**, **Eric Martin PER**, **Samantha Martin PER**, **Walter Wurster and Lauren Greed**) After installation the Antlers jumped into action and helped with Elk's cocktail hour before running off to their other obligations. The Antlers would also like to extend well wishes to Patty and her team for a successful year! These kids don't stop, (neither do their parents) lets continue to show our appreciation when we see them.



March was another busy month for the Antlers we had Leap in the Lake, St Patty's Day, Fish Fry, Lodge and Antler installation, helped at wELKome Wednesday's and of course Friday Night Dinners. You will be seeing a few new faces around the lodge, welcome to our new members Kevin Powers and Audrey Evans. You will find them and the rest of Antlers helping around the lodge with different events.

With any hopes April will bring a few showers and no more sinkholes! The Antlers will be helping with the Lodge Bunny Breakfast. We are firming up dates for a Bake Sale and our Make your own Mozz night. We have so much in store for this year so stay tuned for updates and our upcoming events. Just watch you will be amazed at what we do next!!

Help us spread the word as we 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. It's a great time to be an ANTLER, and 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.

Remember: Antlers today, Elks tomorrow!
Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER, Antler Chairperson



As we head into DAPs quiet time of the year (where all the planning happens) it's a great time to highlight the Program. Did you know? The Elks National

Drug Awareness Program has been partnering with federal agencies like the DEA and national organizations such as Pride Youth Programs since 1982 to tackle drug abuse issues. It is the largest volunteer drug awareness initiative in the United States, engaging communities in drug prevention efforts. The program distributes over seven million pieces of anti-drug literature annually to parents, teachers, and kids. Additionally, it operates 90 Drug Education Trailers that travel to community events like fairs and sporting events to provide educational materials.

So, keep an eye out for our summer BBQ schedule and other events that help us raise money for such a worthy cause. Like all our committees in the lodge this one never stops, always striving to keep our kids safe and engaged. Let's make this year even more unforgettable!

Fraternally,
Samantha P. Martin PER &

New Jersey State Elks Youth Sports Tournament

Monday June 23, 2025

Open to all Boys & Girls ages 13-18

 Junior Division
 ages 13-15
 08/01/09-08/31/13

 Senior Division
 ages 16-18
 08/01/06-07/31/08

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - JUNE 7, 2025

NO COST to Student/Athlete or School!

<u>SCHOLARSHIPS</u> are awarded to the best competitors in each Sport and Division.

You can take a picture of your application and send it to me or mail it to YOUTH TOURNAMENT: 720 Colgate Avenue, Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734

For more information, please contact Don Tonachio at 732-904-2477 or via email DKT141@comcast.net

LODGE IMPROVEMENT CORNER

We will be doing our budget in the next month. We look forward to announcing a few projects for the final 2025-2026. We would like to also seek congratulations to everybody for making the Leap in the Lake such a big success!!



VETERANS COMMITTEE

The Veterans Committee has not much to report on the immediate adjenda but things are in the works. We look forward to our first Wednesday BBQ of the Season! Stay tuned for our date and special.

We are in the midst of planning the Music Fest for Vets which is scheduled for September 20th. Mark your calendars. If you know someone who plays in a band and would be willing to donate some time for a set please contact me at 973-479-7696. Please remember to keep our Veterans in your thoughts and prayers. May God bless America!

> Ed Parrillo Committee Chairperson

VETERANS COMMITTEE 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE 2ND TUESDAY EVERY MONTH @ 6:30PM

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18, 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

WANT TO FILL YOUR CART? DRAWING MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025



SEE ANY BARTENDERFOR TICKETS TODAY!





BREAKFAST

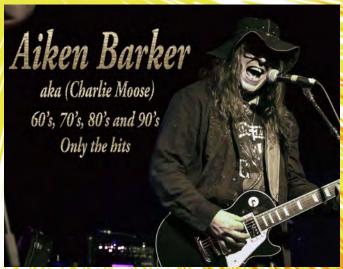


APRIL 27TH - 9AM-11AM

LIVE MUSIC -

EGGS · PANCAKES · HASH BROWNS SAUSAGE · BACON · COFFEE · JUICE





BREAKFAST: ADULTS \$15 • KIDS 5-17 \$10 (5 + UNDER FREE)
BLOODY MARY & MIMOSA BAR AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASE

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS • 201 HOWARD BLVD., MT. ARLINGTON

(Lake Hopatcong Elks Motorcyce Commitee - All Proceeds Benefit Elks Camp Moore)

April 2025 🕹 🏅 🕹



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
la t		1	2	3	Friday Night Dinner 4	5	
6	Ritual Practice 7	LODGE MEETING 8	9	10	Friday Night Dinner 11	12	
13 Breakfast With Bunny	Ritual Practice 14	HOUSE COMMITTEE 15 MEETING	16	17	Friday Night Dinner 18	Special Children's Breakfast With Bunny	
20 EASTER	Ritual Practice 21	LODGE MEETING 22	23	24	Friday Night Dinner 25	26	-
Ploody 27 May BREAKFAST	Ritual Practice 28	HOUSE COMMITTEE 29 MEETING	30	0			6

JOIN THE CLUB!

Start a monthly gift to the Elks National Foundation at secure.elks.org/FC or learn more by



scanning the



















LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard Mount Arlington, NJ 07856

