



Lake Hopatcong Elks
Lodge #782

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



CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



Exalted Ruler's Message

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

2025

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

2026



As December fades into the past and we head into the New Year, we think, where did the year go? Personally? I'm glad this one's over. I had a few bumps in a road but we're coming through. I hope all my friends in Elkdome are having the most Wonderful Time of the Year right now. I hope your Christmas was special and that you have a great New Year ahead.

Our lodge did some great things in December. We stepped up and adopted over 250 kids for our Annual Holiday Appeal. Way to go! You people are so generous. Thank you very much.

We woke up the morning of our Annual Breakfast with Santa Claus to snow that fell overnight but we got through it and had a wonderful time with all the families that attended.

On December 22nd we had Pizza with Santa for our Special Children. God those kids had such a great time. Thank you to all the volunteers that attended to make it go so smoothly!

Great job on the soccer shoot, Tom Brown, PDD. It was so much of fun. I really enjoyed myself.

We had a very well attended New Year's Eve party. The band was great. The food was excellent and it sure looked like everybody had a wonderful time.

Here we go to 2026!! We have a lot of events coming up in January. wELKome Wednesdays and Friday night dinners are back after a well-deserved break for our volunteers. Our Veterans Committee kicks off the first Wednesday on January 7th. Please come out and support this hard-working committee. On January 10th we have a Celebration of Life for Madelyn Walrod, PER. She was a great person! She did some much for our lodge. She is missed greatly. On January 11th we have the Motorcycle Committee along with the Hopatcong Rotary and Mike Smith's famous sauce serving a Spaghetti Dinner with meatballs, and garlic bread with cannoli for dessert. Come on out and have a great Sunday dinner! Our Annual Old Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner will be held on January 17th hosted by the Veterans Committee. Come out and support them.

I want to thank my bartenders, my cooks on Friday night dinners and the antlers that serve the meals and my committees for wELKome Wednesdays. You all do an outstanding job and without you this lodge would not be what it is. So, thank you very much for all the hard work you did all year long!

We head into the New Year and we're all going to make those resolutions of, "I'm going to the gym". "I'm going to lose weight". "I'm going to stop smoking"... well instead of all those resolutions. How about we just take a dollar out of our pocket and help those unfortunate people that can't help themselves because that's what Elks are all about. Have a great month, I hope to see all of you at the lodge!

Fraternaly yours, Walter Wurster, Exalted Ruler

2025-2026 LODGE OFFICERS



Exalted Ruler	Walter Wurster
	973-420-8165
Est. Leading Knight	Eric Sabol
	908-229-9165
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 McDonnell, 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 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
	972-271-1804
Activities	Patsy Schmidt
	973-975-2325
Americanism	Bernadette Delesandro
	201-602-2287
Antlers	Samantha Martin, PER
	201-214-6925
Auditing & Accounting	Kathleen Caffrey, PDD
	973-534-8283
Bar Chair	Nancy Loizou
	973-632-1129
Community Activities	Richard Gathen, PSP
	862-324-2412
Convention	Linda Gathen, PDD
	973-398-2097
Drug Awareness	Samantha Martin, PER
	201-214-6925
Elks National Foundation	Pete Appaluccio, PDD
	973-736-7818
Flag Day	Rick Gathen, PSP
	862-324-2412
Fraternal Committee	Linda Gathen, PDD
	973-398-2097
Government 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
Membership	Samantha Martin, PER
	201-214-6925
Maintenance Committee	Walter Wurster
(Reports to the Trustees)	973-420-8165
Memorial Day	Linda Gathen, PDD
	973-398-2097
Motorcycle	Brian DeVries
	973-934-7347
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
Softball/Cornhole Tournament:	Ricky Gathen

RELIEF COMMITTEE

Walter Wurster, Exalted Ruler	973-420-8165
Eric Sabol, Leading Knight	908-229-9165
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
Army of Hope	Lisa Rovito, DD
	201-978-7218
Youth Activities	Tom Brown, PDD
	973-919-5395

01	Rose Ann Boyle
01	David Ferrara
01	William G Hirschfeld
01	John McCarthy
01	Glen Roberts
02	James Buckley
02	Gary Moore
02	Mark Vandling
03	Cynthia Ferrigno
03	Josephine D La France
05	Michael A Champa
05	Cindy Lee Weir
06	Brian Falzarano
06	John Matthes
07	Karen Ann Alonge
07	William R Byles
07	Henry J Mason Sr
07	Matthew Winnans
08	Joseph Giambattista
08	Anthony Massari
08	Kenneth Matzek
08	James Perrette
08	Robert Rossi
08	Michael W Thomas
08	Linda S Villamarin
09	Robert Hantak
09	LaRay Peterson
09	Karl Petr
09	Raymond Ricciardi
09	Lori Strom
10	Kenneth M Sterzer
11	Gail Bennett
11	Caroline Glucksmann
11	Timothy McQuaid
12	Thomas Brown Sr
12	Paul Macchia
13	Coley Campbell
14	Veronica A Blewitt-Bellack
14	Shawn Davis
14	John Wilkinson
15	George F Batelli
15	Charles B Bell
15	Walter Bell
15	Paul T Donnarumma
16	Gregory S Dash
16	Joseph T Doyle Jr
16	Virginia Slater
17	Jacqueline C Buckley
17	Karen Porter
18	William R Heiser
18	Eric Keiper
18	Kimberly Tweed
19	Dave Lynch
20	Jennifer Appaluccio
20	John J Stier
21	Rockie Fuller
21	Sandra A Harding
21	Deborah Werner
22	Brian M DeVries
22	Michael J Tresca
22	Cathryn Welter
23	Theresa Lopatosky
23	Miroslav Shikhman
24	Deborah Ambrose
24	William O'Brien
26	Jeanette A Czipo
27	Declan Beere
27	Sharon Kepler
27	James McDevitt
27	Carlos A Rojas
27	Carole Terantino
28	Michaela Knapp
28	James S Miller
29	Edward Barton
29	Bernard Curry
29	Jeremy S Heiskanen
30	James Glicos
30	Elizabeth Mertens
31	Emma G Kline
31	Annette Kouyoumjian
31	Thomas D Sellaro

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS OF JANUARY



"Elks Give from the Heart"

BRYAN KLATT

GRAND EXALTED RULER

2025-2026

"Elkdom's Heart for America"



**DEADLINES APPROACH FOR AWARDS,
FINANCIAL FILINGS**

Happy 2026 to all our Elks family! January starts the last quarter of the Lodge year. Be sure to have your membership retention program working on achieving a +1 membership gain for 2026! Have your membership committee and delinquent Member sponsor reach out to those lapsed Members. This personal contact could very well bring these Members back on to our rolls. Our delinquent Members had a reason for joining and they are worth keeping as active Members. Find out why they are delinquent.

As the Lodge year is nearing the end, there is no better way to recognize those Members and citizens who have gone beyond the call of duty in their service to Elkdom than to award them with "Elk of the Year," "Officer of the Year," and "Citizen of the Year." The awards request form can be accessed in the Members Only section of elks.org and needs to be submitted prior to March 31 so that the certificates can be printed and sent back to the Lodge for Officer installations or year-end award gatherings.

Also, the Legacy Award scholarship is available until February 2, 2026. It provides \$4,000 scholarships to the children and grandchildren of Elks Members. Details of the scholarship can be found on the Elks National Foundation website. The end of the Lodge fraternal year will be here soon. With the Financial Reporting System (FRS), your Lodge needs to ensure all entries are current. A bonus of having the FRS system is that your Lodge no longer needs to have the annual audit completed. However, you still must submit your 990 and 990T for each corporation in your Lodge. Have them completed by a qualified individual (e.g., CPA) and filed with the IRS and uploaded on elks.org. Membership... Membership... Membership: There are three months left in this year. Initiate all your candidates and work on the delinquent list!

To Be The Difference means searching for ways to improve what we have while looking forward to the future.

"Elks Care - Elks Share."

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Happy 2026, may it be a healthy and Blessed year for all. It also looks like great year of events!! But for now we will start January. Our wELKom Wednesday starts on the 7th with our Veterans doing cheeseburgers and hamburgers with french fries. On January 10th at 6pm we will celebrate our friend, **Madelyn Walrod, PER** please come and join us to share Madelyn stories. She touched many hearts. The 11th our MCs are having a old fashion spaghetti dinner. Finally January 17th is the Veterans Annual Old Fashion Roast Beef Dinner. Get your tickets now, its usually a sold out event, don't procrastinate, or you might loose out on a great event. Dates to look forward to coming up:

February 18th is Ash Wednesday and we will have our **Debbie Hill** and crew doing our FISH FRY. **RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT IN ADVANCE IS A MUST**. It is a very popular night and we need a head count for ordering!!!

February 21st is Smokin' Schmidty's 5th Annual Pig Roast. Advanced tickets are available at members bar, pick up any day after 12noon. Bands, tricky tray and 50/50. So much great food. This event benefits Leap in the Lake, which is held March 7th. Leap in Lake committee has added a new event. Penguin Races which will be held February 22nd. Please see flyer for more details on both events.

THANK YOU HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR ALL YOU DO! DEBI WERNER, HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

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





SICKNESS & DISTRESS

Thoughts and prayers to our members who are ill, injured or home recovering from recent sickness, surgery or procedures: **Michael Tresca PER, Barbara Tokar PER, Ray Ricciardi, Flo Hillyard, Brian Devries, Bill Cullen, Jim Visco, Alice Hebel, Hank Henderson and Al Rennick.** 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 or LGreed83@gmail.com.

Lauren Greed
Chairperson



JANUARY 2ND
NO FRIDAY DINNER

JANUARY 9TH
CHICKEN PARMESAN

JANUARY 16TH
PORK MILANESE

JANUARY 23TH
BBQ CHICKEN

JANUARY 30TH
SHRIMP SCAMPI

Lake Hopatcong Elks — Be the Difference in 2026

2025 will be remembered as a defining year for the Lake Hopatcong Elks—not because of any single achievement, but because of who we proved ourselves to be when it mattered most. We crossed a milestone that speaks volumes about the soul of this Lodge—800 members. Not a statistic. A statement. Eight hundred neighbors, friends, and families bound by shared values and a shared promise to serve. It represents trust earned over decades, friendships forged around tables and service projects, and a community that didn't just join a Lodge—they chose a family.

Across the Lodge, something powerful happened. Committees stepped up. Volunteers showed up. Leaders led. Members leaned in. This Lodge moved with purpose—and with pride. Nothing here happens by accident. Every act of service is powered by Elks who care deeply about the people standing beside them and the community counting on them.

Our commitment to Veterans and Children with Special Needs was never symbolic—it was deeply personal. It was time given, hands held, and doors opened. It was showing up again and again to remind others that they are seen, valued, and never alone. Our Youth Committee invested in tomorrow by supporting local programs, awarding scholarships, and leading drug-prevention efforts—quietly shaping futures long before the rest of the world notices.

This year, our Lodge Antlers earned national recognition for their fundraising efforts supporting the Army of Hope, proving that leadership, compassion, and service have no age limit at Lake Hopatcong. Their example reminds us that the future of this Lodge is strong—because it is being raised the right way.

Another source of pride this year has been our Lodge Motorcycle Committee, whose mission was inspired by one of the purest moments of service—delivering presents to hospitalized children and seeing firsthand what compassion on wheels can do. That inspiration has carried them far beyond a single ride. Today, those wheels roll with purpose—supporting Veterans, the Miracle Run, and answering the call wherever our community needs help. It's a powerful reminder that at Lake Hopatcong, service doesn't stay inside our walls—it rides out into the State, carrying hope with it.

And when the holidays arrived, our Lodge did what Elks have always done—we stepped forward: Nearly 250 local children adopted. Over 100 food baskets delivered. Extensive support provided to local food banks. Snow may settle on rooftops and lights may line our streets, but inside our Lodge is where the real warmth lives. It's found in the quiet moments no one sees. A knock on a door. A bag of groceries left behind. A child's smile on Christmas morning. The steady presence of Lake Hopatcong Elks who refuse to let anyone feel forgotten.

Now, we look ahead. As we enter 2026, we do so with confidence, purpose, and pride—proud of what we've built, grateful for those who came before us, and energized by the work still ahead. Being a Lake Hopatcong Elk means more than holding a membership card. It means stepping forward when others step back. It means answering the call without being asked. It means setting a standard that says, this is what service looks like. Together, we will Be the Difference in 2026—for our Lodge, for our community, and for every life that will be touched because a Lake Hopatcong Elk chose to stand up and serve.

Happy New Year, Rick Gathen, PSP

A NEW YEARS MESSAGE FROM THE ADVISORS



As we step into 2026, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and commitment to the Antlers program. Your involvement has a lasting impact on our community and helps shape future leaders. Let's continue working together to inspire service, fellowship, and growth throughout the year ahead. Wishing you and your families a year filled with health, happiness, and success!

As we welcome a new year the Antlers continue to exemplify service and community spirit. While December was a quieter month, members remained actively engaged in supporting lodge events.

On December 3rd, the Antlers hosted our annual Wreath & Sip fundraiser. Attendance may have been light, but the evening was filled with fun and creativity as members crafted wreaths from scratch. Special thanks to **Jen Markesteyn and Christian** for guiding us through the process, and to **Santa Mike Mahoney** for helping us kick off the holiday season!

Throughout December, the Antlers contributed to several meaningful initiatives. They assisted at the Lodge's Breakfast with Santa on December 14th, helped load cars for the Holiday Appeal Program on December 21st, and joined the Special Children's Pizza with Santa event on December 22nd, a truly memorable night.

This month, in addition to their regular involvement in lodge activities such as Friday Night Dinners and wELKome Wednesdays, the Antlers are serving at the Motorcycle Committee's Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner and the Veterans' Roast Beef Dinner. Their dedication despite busy school schedules reflects a strong commitment to fellowship and community service. Please join us in thanking them for their hard work and enthusiasm.

The Antlers are always looking for a way to engage and bring more Antlers into the program. Look out for some exciting new activities and fundraisers they are planning. Membership is open to individuals ages 12–20 who are U.S. Citizens of good character and believe in the existence of God. Applications and brochures are available in the lodge lobby—this is a wonderful time to join! Thank you for your continued donations to the clothing bins, which help us support local charities each month. Together, we make a difference.

Antlers today, Elks tomorrow!

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin PER,  Antler Chairperson




As we greet 2026 with a few light snowfalls and a fresh outlook on the world, we begin a new year, a new chapter, and 365 more days to spread the kindness of Elkdom throughout our communities.

Did you know that the Elks National Drug Awareness Program (DAP) is the largest volunteer-driven drug prevention initiative in the U.S., empowering communities since 1982? Through our lodge, we play a vital role in educating youth and families about the dangers of illegal, prescription, and over-the-counter drug misuse.

We do this by building a drug-free future through awareness and leadership. The Elks believe that protecting our youth and empowering them to lead is at the heart of what we stand for. Through the Drug Awareness Program and the NJ Elks Peer Leadership Conference, we are making a lasting impact on families, schools, and communities.

If you have ever asked yourself why we do this or why it matters, just think about what these programs really offer. Helping kids learn about risks early reduces substance use and fosters healthier lives. Our programs provide prevention education and leadership training so youth can make informed choices and share these lessons with their peers. Elks members serve as role models, partnering with parents, schools, and youth organizations. Students gain life-changing leadership skills that help them lead by example and create positive change in their communities. Our involvement strengthens the lodge's presence and shows how "Elks Care," while peer leaders build connections with like-minded youth across New Jersey, forming a strong support network for wellness and prevention initiatives. Through these programs, we uphold the Elks tradition of guiding and protecting our youth while strengthening the fabric of our community. Together, we can build a brighter, drug-free future, one caring act, one conversation, and one empowered leader at a time.

Fraternally,

Samantha P. Martin PER, 
Drug Awareness Chairperson

VETERANS COMMITTEE

wELKome to the year 2026! We hope for this year to be healthy and safe you all! **Walter and Lisa** did a great job for the New Year's Party. The band was excellent and the food was exceptionally exceptional and we had plenty of it.

wELKcome Wednesday returns with the us hosting! The menu consist of either a hamburger or cheeseburger, french fries and pickles. We have a hardy escarole and bean soup for this cold weather.

We will be having Our Annual Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, January 17th. Tickets are available for purchase at the member's bar for \$15 per person. The Veterans Committee will be serving a roast beef dinner with mashed potatoes and vegetable and of course salad along with **Karen's and Donna's** homemade dessert. We will be having a DJ with dinner music!!

Happy New Year from the Committee. Please Be Safe!

Yours Truly, Ed Parrillo, Veteran ~ Committee Chairperson

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES: RICK GATHEN, PSP- RICKGATHEN8760@GMAIL.COM • LINDA GATHEN, PDD - LGATHEN422@GMAIL.COM

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

As we welcome a new year, we can't help but reflect on the joy and magic of the holiday season, filled with love, kindness, and the spirit of giving. Our Northwest district Holiday party on December 6th kicked off the Christmas season, held at Parsippany lodge, and was a resounding success. Our lodge along with the other 8 Lodges came together to spread cheer. Our lodge committee was delighted to donate \$30 Walmart gift cards to each special child in attendance, adding to the festive atmosphere of lunch, cookies, and a professional Photo Booth, not to mention a visit from Santa, Mrs Claus, and one of their elves. It was a truly unforgettable start to the holiday season.

Our highly anticipated event, Pizza with Santa, was held on December 22nd from 5:30-7:30pm at our lodge, exceeded expectations. Despite some last-minute challenges with children unable to attend due to illness and other issues, we ended up having 23 wonderful children attend with their families, and we ensured that all the children received their gifts. The evening was filled with laughter and excitement as we served pizza, cookies, and specialty hot cocoa, accompanied by candy bingo and blind bag giveaways. Each child also went home with a \$30 gift card and specialty chocolate dipped Christmas cookies and each sibling in attendance received a special gift as well. Our characters, including our resident Elf Barb Pirro, Frosty Patty Zdichocki, the Grinch Jason Howard, Mrs. Claus Kaitlyn Erickson, and Santa Mike Maroney, truly made the evening unforgettable. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these individuals for their tireless efforts and generosity. A huge thank you to our volunteers, whose dedication and hard work made the event possible: **Heidi McDonnell for her exceptional organization, ER Walter Wurster, Samantha Martin, Lisa Rovito, Ronnie Blewitt, Veronica Bellack, Sheila Speroni, Joyce O'Donnell, Pat Kerrigan, Cindy Weir, Donna Holly, Lucy Barber, Colleen and Billy Erickson, Roy Jackson, Kayla Russo, Tina Kraus, Linda Klein, Erik & Caden Sable, Ruth Ann Lutz, Marie Maroney, and Vicki Angle for their invaluable contributions. We also appreciate Debi Werner and Nancy Loizou for their assistance. To everyone who contributed, please know that your efforts are truly appreciated.**

With all the great interest, we will start having in person committee meetings beginning in the new year. In the meantime, while we establish a schedule and work out the particulars, please let us know if you are interested in being a regular member of our committee by emailing Heidi or Wayne at hgmcdonnell72@gmail.com or waynemcd8198@gmail.com. Once we have everything worked out we will share the schedule of meetings with those who respond.

THANK YOU'S RECEIVED:

"Huge thank you to Heidi, Wayne, and all the volunteers for making tonight's pizza party with Santa a wonderful event. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and happy new year." - The Aragona Family

"It was a great evening. Thank you so much. As always you guys did a fantastic job! I love that you keep coming up with new and creative ways to make our kids happy! Wishing you both a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year!" - The Gaita / Murphy Family

"Amazing night!! Thank you to all who made it happen!! Happy Holidays!!" - The Rosenthal / Laffey Family

"Thank you so much Heidi, Wayne, and all the volunteers! We always have a great time!" - The Heskeyahu Family

"We had a wonderful time at the holiday party. Thank you to Wayne, Heidi and everyone at the Elks who made the party so fun for the kids! A special thanks to Frosty and Grinch for making Sarah feel so comfortable! It was nice to see everyone. Merry Christmas to all and a healthy and happy year ahead! - The Webber Family

"It was an awesome night filled with so much love! Many thanks Heidi and team! May God bless you more!!"- The Santocildes Family

Until then, have a great big beautiful tomorrow and... Wishing you a blessed, happy, and healthy new year!

Wayne and Heidi McDonnell, Lodge SCC Chairpersons



2025 HOLIDAY APPEAL - A GREAT SUCCESS!



Once again, the spirit of volunteerism and compassion shined brightly this Christmas at Lake Hopatcong Elks #782, with so many of our lodge members finding it in their hearts to adopt a total of 257 children from 104 area financially needy families and buying them gifts to put under the tree. On behalf of these children and families whose lives you have made a difference, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. This incredible feat would not be possible without the support from our members. Imagine the faces on those children, waking up Christmas morning, to find so many more gifts under their tree than they thought was possible. To some children, and even to some parents, our benevolence was looked upon as a miracle, as these parents struggled wondering where they could possibly find the money to give their children a Christmas every child deserves. We all should feel a sense of pride and joy knowing we made a difference in these families' lives. Thank you again for making this possible.

Special thanks to **Nancy Loizou** for all her help in organizing, wrapping and checking in all the gifts to make sure none were missed. Thank you also to all the members who helped wrap the gifts and assemble the food baskets.

We also donated toys to Morristown Goryeb Children's Hospital and Morristown Pediatric Cardiology Clinic. A special thanks to Santa (**Mike Moroney**) and **Nancy Loizou** for dropping off these toys to these children who were confined to the hospital during the Holidays.



Thank you ALL for choosing
to make a difference!

Linda Gathen, PDD
Holiday Appeal Chairperson





OLD-FASHIONED ROAST BEEF DINNER

Lake Hopatcong Elks • 201 Howard Boulevard • Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856

**TAKE-OUT OR DINE-IN
ADVANCED SALES ONLY
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026
6:30PM-8:30PM**

ONLY \$15.00 A PLATE!

*INCLUDES: ROAST BEEF, MASHED POTATOES,
GREEN BEANS, SALAD & HOMEMADE DESSERTS BY KAREN*

DANCE TO THE MUSIC WITH DJ AL

~ ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE VETERANS COMMITTEE ~

Motorcycle Committee Presents

Old Fashioned SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DINNER



1/11 - \$15 • 3PM - 7PM

Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge
201 Howard Blvd, Mt Arlington

Reservations Appreciated: 973-398-9835

LIVE MUSIC BY **AIKEN BARKER**



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782

FISH FRY

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT
ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 18TH

\$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

PRE-LEAP IN THE LAKE 2026 FUNDRAISER



BURGERS • HOT DOGS • BBQ CHICKEN
BAKED BEANS • MAC-N-CHEESE • PASTA SALAD
\$25.00 ADVANCE • \$30.00 DAY OF EVENT • KIDS \$15.00

**VINYL TAP &
THE WANNABEES & MORE!**

SATURDAY **21ST** FEBRUARY 2026
→ 2PM-6PM



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

TICKETS ON SALE 1-4-26

OPEN EVERY DAY AFTER 12 NOON
Lake Hopatcong Elks • 201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington • 973-398-9835
(ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LEAP IN THE LAKE GRAND TOTAL)

Pre-Leap In The Lake 2026 Events



**MORE PENGUINS IN THE RACE THE JACKPOT PRIZES INCREASE!*

HELP US REACH \$1 MILLION SMILES

2 FUN FILLED DAYS OF FOOD & LIVE MUSIC!

LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS • 201 HOWARD BLVD., MT. ARLINGTON, NJ 07856 • 973-398-9835

ANNUAL PIG ROAST

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 21ST
2PM-6PM

VINYL TAP
THE WANNABES
& MORE!

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

ADVANCED TICKETS \$25
DAY OF EVENT \$30

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE MEMBER'S BAR



PENGUIN RACE \$5 DONATION/PENGUIN

**MORE PENGUINS IN THE RACE THE JACKPOT PRIZES INCREASE!*

(WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT)

1ST PRIZE \$1,250.00
2ND PRIZE \$750.00
3RD PRIZE \$500.00

1ST PENGUIN RACE

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 22ND
1PM-4PM

THE CITY
LIMIT

- BURGERS
- HOT DOGS
- CLAMS
- FRENCH FRIES
- CHICKEN WINGS

FREE ADMISSION
FOOD AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE

Come Watch Your Penguin Float Down The Icy River To Finish The Race!

16th Annual



LEAP IN THE LAKE



**One Million Smiles
For Our Special Kids**

Sponsored by Lake Hopatcong Elks #782

Saturday, March 7, 2026

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

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



YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

We have a District Hoop shoot coming up January 24th. We just finished our District Soccer Shoot with 4 kids from our lodge going to states. Congratulations to all who participated!!



We will have a meeting shortly, TBA
Tom Brown, *Chairman of Youth Activities*

LODGE IMPROVEMENT CORNER

A very busy holiday season at the lodge we would like to thank all who participate at anything done at the lodge. Great job by all As always. We are looking forward to the leap and all it's upcoming activities. We would like to wish our fellow Trustee, Mike Tresca a quick and speedy recovery!

Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees & Officers
Tom Brown PDD, *Chairman of Trustees*





LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



Elks Care — *Elks* Share