



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



MARCH 2023

CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY LOVE



FIDELITY



# Exalted Ruler's Message

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

2022

"Working together in harmony is the key to success"

2023



Thank you for the outpouring of love and support during this extremely difficult time with the loss of my beloved husband and best friend **Tom**. I don't know how I would have gotten through these past few weeks without the help of family and friends and especially all of the hugs and love from the members. A special thank you to **Rick Gathen PSP, Robert Ricker GLC/PSP, Linda Gathen PDD and all of my officers** for the beautiful and moving ceremony they performed at the funeral home.



On February 26, 2023, the Ritual Team despite the circumstances, competed in the State Ritual Competition in Long Branch to honor Tom's memory and once again won the State's. I am so proud of my team for going forward and making this happen, Tom would have been so proud too. Congratulations to **Wayne McDonnell, PER** (Lecturing Knight) for not only winning the All State Award for his part but for receiving the Earl T. "Corky" Corneilius Award for the highest score in the contest. **Samantha Martin** (Leading Knight) in addition to winning All State was the recipient of the Jay Ligget Award as the highest competing Leading Knight. Other All State Awards were presented to **Heidi McDonnell PDD** (Ritual Coach), **Eric Sabol** (Loyal Knight), **Vicki Angle** (Inner Guard) and **Jennifer Appaluccio, PER** (Candidate). Congratulations to the entire team. We will be traveling to Minneapolis, Minnesota in July for the Grand Lodge Convention and to represent the State of New Jersey in the National Competition. We will begin fundraising events in April along with Wednesday Night Barbeques to help us with our travels to Minneapolis.



Our Wildwood Reunion will be held from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, rooms fill up quickly so get your deposit in as soon as possible.

As this is my last message, I would like to thank everyone for making this past year a successful one as we continue to bring in new members and grow our lodge. There have been many accomplishments throughout the year thanks to all of your hard work. Please see all of the upcoming events in the Newsletter as March is once again a very busy month. Please join us on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1pm to support our next Exalted Ruler Samantha Martin and her team at the Installation of Officers.

God bless you all, our special children, troops, veterans, youth and God bless America.

Fraternally yours,  
Lisa Rovito Exalted Ruler

## 2022-2023 LODGE OFFICERS



Exalted Ruler	Lisa Rovito, ER 201-978-7218
Est. Leading Knight	Samantha Martin 973-586-1329
Est. Loyal Knight	Eric Sabol 908-229-9165
Est. Lecturing Knight	Wayne McDonnell, PER 973-841-9845
Esquire	Tom Rovito 201-400-0810
Chaplain	Lauren Greed 973-668-6733
Inner Guard	Victoria Angle 201-506-1181
Tiler	Sheila Speroni 973-229-8254
Treasurer	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Secretary	Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545
Lodge Photographer	Michaela Winnans
1 Year Trustee	Rick Gathen, PSP
2 Year Trustee	John Shaw, PER
3 Year Trustee	Sean MacMillan
4 Year Trustee	Tom Brown, PDD
5 Year Trustee	Pete Appaluccio, PDD

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

Madelyn Walrod, PER, Chairman  
Samantha Martin  
Rick ter Linden  
Victoria Angle  
Nancy Loizou  
Walter Wurster  
Lauren Greed  
Barbara Pirro  
Kimberly Tweed  
Derya Harquail

## 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	Patricia Carley 973-534-0168
Antlers	Samantha Martin 973-586-1329
Auditing & Accounting	Kathleen Caffrey, PVP 973-534-8283
Community Activities	Madelyn Walrod, PER 973-398-2770
Co-Chair	Nancy Loizou 973-632-1129
Convention	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Drug Awareness	Dee Krowl 973-390-0638
Elks National Foundation	Pete Appaluccio, PDD 973-736-7818
Flag Day	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Fraternal Committee	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Government Relations	Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545
Grounds Maintenance	Trustees
Hall Rental	Debi Werner 973-668-9302
Hoop Shoot	Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395
Indoctrination	Rick Gathen, PSP 973-398-2097
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	Barbara Tokar, PER 201-207-7545
Memorial Day	Linda Gathen, PDD 973-398-2097
Motorcycle	Walter Wurster 973-420-8165
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 Tournament:	Ricky Gathen

## RELIEF COMMITTEE

Lisa Rovito, Exalted Ruler	201-978-7218
Samantha Martin, Leading Knight	973-586-1329
Eric Sabol, Loyal Knight	908-229-9165
Wayne McDonnell, PER, Lecturing Knight	973-841-9845
Linda Gathen, PDD, Treasurer	973-398-2097
Ritual	Heidi McDonnell, PDD 973-545-1557
Scholarship	Jennifer Appaluccio, PER 973-222-4547
Sickness & Distress	Debi Werner 973-668-9302
Soccer Shoot	Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395
Special Children	Heidi McDonnell, PDD 973-545-1557
Veterans	Wayne McDonnell, PER 973-841-9845
Army of Hope	Ed Parrillo 973-398-6677
Youth Activities	Tom Rovito Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395



02	Thomas D Babbitt
02	Michael Murdter
02	Thomas J Warner
03	Charles G Rist
04	Sharon Romero
05	Robert W Dalrymple
05	Allen Hutchins
05	Daniel Malloy
06	Alfred Walls
07	Scott Curry
07	Raymond W Hammond
08	James Bizarro
10	Thomas Francis Chiappa
10	Todd Hakimian
10	Dennis Lynch
10	Aaron Reed
11	Ashley B Vaughn
12	Sonia Joseph
13	Patricia DeDolce
13	Paola DiBernardo
13	William Lounsbery
14	Sharon Gruber
15	Robert J Hardt
15	Mark Petrosky
17	Lesla Modafferi
20	Patricia Carley
21	John Arbolino
21	Alice Denino
21	Bridget Wisher
22	Lisa Deans
23	Donna Catapano
23	Carmine J Errico
23	John R Hendrickson
23	George Kunka
23	Linda Wright
24	Antonio Cappello
24	Derek Walsh
25	William Erickson
25	Dee Maxine Johnson
26	Brian Keegan
26	Thomas E Mac Donald
26	Leon Sweet
28	Pauline Cook
28	Gail Delaney
28	Robert C Ricker
29	Tarin Chiappa
29	Frank Trosky
30	Dale DelCamp
30	Roxanne J Steffen
30	Kim Sweet
31	Michael J Wisher





## “Elks Give from the Heart”

**Bruce A. Hidley**  
GRAND EXALTED RULER  
2022-2023



### March brings new leadership to our Lodges

The month of March brings us to the close of our Lodge year. Wow, does the time fly!

I hope all the Officers in your Lodge had a successful year in Elkdom. The work that was accomplished this past year is a tribute to your leadership and effort. The torch of authority is now being passed to the new Officers in our Lodges.

Congratulations to all of you who have stepped up to continue the great work in your community and, most of all, your Lodge. I wish you all success in achieving any new goals and successes in the programs for the coming year.

All may not be smooth sailing, but as the captain of the ship, I know you will guide its course to the best of your ability. Don't ever be afraid to ask a question. Utilize your Past Exalted Rulers in your Lodge to assist you. They have been there and can give you excellent advice. Ask them what worked for them—just maybe, this can also work for you. I encourage you to listen to your membership, as someone may have an idea for a fundraising event or Lodge function for all to enjoy. You can and will make a difference in your Lodges and communities by “Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm.”

As the new leader of your Lodge, it is extremely important to put together a slate of dedicated committee people. Your committee members are the ones who work to make your Lodge great. They are the ones who will be promoting in each of your communities that “Elks Care — Elks Share.” As the baseball season has started again, I'll use this analogy: Step up to the plate and hit a home run with all of your Lodge programs. Score that winning run as you run the base paths of Elkdom. Win, win, win.

The month of March is also a time when many Lodges participate in St. Patrick's Day. Lodge St. Patrick's Day parties or community parades are celebrated. Please be safe during these celebrations. I'd like to close with an Irish blessing: “May your heart be warm and happy with the lilt of Irish laughter, every day in every way, and forever and ever after. May the luck of the Irish be always with you.”

Thank you for all you are doing to make our great Order of Elks the greatest Order in the nation. God bless all of you. God bless our troops, past and present, and most of all, God bless America.

God bless all of you. God bless our troops, past and present. And most of all, God bless America.

## “Elks Care - Elks Share.”



### **WILDWOOD CONVENTION T-SHIRT SIGN-UP!**

*Don't miss out on our great Wildwood shirts for this year, men's & women's samples are hanging in the members bar, please sign up if you want a shirt, only a couple weeks left to order.*



### **50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS FOR WILDWOOD AVAILABLE AT THE MEMBER'S BAR**

*The past winnings have been anywhere from \$5,000-\$7,000 .... but never less than 5K and as they say “You have to be in it, to win it!”*

## HOUSE COMMITTEE



*Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day*



We had two huge events last month to raise money for the Leap in the Lake - the Corn Hole Tournament & the Pig Roast. Next up is St. Patty's Day on March 18th. Join us for a night of dinner, music and dancing. Our own **Mike Walsh, Pat Esposito and Alex Banos** are making their melt in the mouth Corned Beef. See the Bartender for your tickets today! These amazing wall to wall events don't happen without your support, and our volunteers bartenders that keep our drinks flowing. Thank you all!

We would be remised if we didn't thank all those who have stepped up to cook all our Friday Night Dinners. We have planned a bunch of Lenten meals and we have a couple open-ings where we just need the chefs to prepare and run the kitchen. If you are interested in cooking, please let us know.

*Thank you, The House Committee*

## SHOT FROM THE BAR

NASCAR Sundays are back; Spring training has started for Baseball and March Madness starts on the 14th so that along with the baseball players reporting to training which means Spring is right around the corner. We're here the bar is open so stop down.



## FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

**MARCH 3, 2023**

Stuffed Shells  
Nancy Loizou

**MARCH 10, 2023**

Lasagna  
Pat Esposito, Debi Werner  
Tina Kraus & Kim O'Brien

**MARCH 17, 2023**

Fried Shrimp  
Chef Needed To Prepare & Expedite Meal

**MARCH 24, 2023**

Cavatelli & Broccoli  
Kim Hipwell & Bob Nock

**MARCH 31, 2023**

Seafood Cakes  
Chef Needed To Prepare & Expedite Meal

## INTERESTED IN COOKING?

CALL THE LODGE TO SIGN UP 973-398-9835



## SICKNESS & DISTRESS

It is with a very heavy heart that we had to say goodbye to a dear friend and a dedicated member of our lodge. To our Absent Member, **Thomas Rovito**, you will truly be missed. His dedication to our ritual team (a true King) and to our lodge .... We will miss you our dear friend!!

Get well wishes to **Kenneth Wisher** who had surgery and is home and doing well. Continued prayers and get well wishes to **Madelyn Walrod, PER** who is still in the hospital but improving every day. Hopefully she is headed for rehab soon.

Debi Werner, *Sickness & Distress*  
Chairperson



## Charity



## Brotherly Love



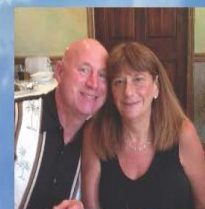
TOM ROVITO  
4-12-58 + 2-16-23  
35 YEARS AS A MEMBER OF  
THE BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

*You Will Be Missed  
So By Many ...*

## Justice



## Fidelity







# VETERANS COMMITTEE



Last month was a very sad time for **Lisa Rovito, ER** and our lodge with the sudden loss of our lodge Esquire **Tom Rovito**. He will never be forgotten by the Elks but surely missed!!

Valley Brook resident residence thanked our Veterans committee for the Super Bowl pizza parties.

We will be having a BBQ this year at the Birchwood catering house in June. We will invite and serve Veterans.

Hackettstown Elks will host the flag retirement on June 29th and a picnic for \$10 per person.

Congratulations our Elks ritual team for the state win at Long Branch!! They will Go on to the Nationals in July! Best of luck from the Veterans Committee!!

Our Leap In The Lake is Saturday, March 4th! We had a great pre-leap fundraiser pig roast which was a great success!! Great work to who all who assisted, volunteered, and donated. Congratulations to Cory and Patsy Schmidt and all who helped.

*Ed Parrillo, Jr.*  
Veterans Committee Chairperson

## SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

We had our 13th Annual Leap in the Lake on 3/4/23. This year was another record year as we raised over \$111,000 for our special needs children in our communities. A giant thank you to everyone that participated to make this another successful event. We want to thank all of our sponsors, local businesses, bars, teams and the individuals who participated in the fundraising efforts. We invited 10 Special Needs families to the after party that we presented a monetary donation of \$200.00 to each child in attendance. We also invited 10 School Districts that have Special Needs Programs and presented each with \$1,000.00. Also in attendance was Smiles of Hopatcong Special Needs Adults program, which received a \$500.00 donation. We wanted to recognize the Special Children who assisted in creating the Art Project. This piece was auctioned off for \$1,045.00 and purchased by **Barb Pirro**, our Penguin Mascot. Thank you to the our organizers of the event lead by **Rick Gathen, PSP and our PER association**. Thank you to **Linda Gathen, PDD and Samantha Martin, ER elect** for doing all of the administrative duties and organizing the raised funds. Thank you to our **ER Lisa Rovito, PER and her officer team** and finally thank you to the membership who all came together to once again make this wonderful event safe and successful.

*Until next month... Have a great big beautiful tomorrow!*

Heidi & Wayne McDonnell, *Special Children's Co-Chairs*



The Antlers had a fantastic time at Peer Leadership. Once again **Lisa and her advisors** had phenomenal speakers that really resonated with the kids. They went to multiple sessions, ate, danced, played games, and maybe got a little slept. Overall, a great and positive weekend for our Antlers. They want to extend a very special THANK YOU to Walter Wurster for driving them down to and back from the conference!

Our Antlers continue to serve us Friday Night Dinners and Thirsty Thursday meals each week. They are always stepping up to assist us at our events. We should continue to thank them for all their hard work and dedication! Our Lodge has a great group of Antlers!

Last month the Antlers made a \$200 donation to Peer Leadership in memory of **Tom Rovito**. They are forever grateful for all he and **Lisa** have done for them over the years and will miss him greatly.

We will be holding an initiation of new members along with an officer installation on March 19th at 4pm. So, if you know someone who is 12 to 20 who wants to be an Antler have them get their application in ASAP. A major plus it looks great on college and job resumes. Applications and Brochures can be found in the front lobby of the lodge. Stay tuned for other upcoming events, and spread the word, the Antlers do amazing things and it's a great time to be an ANTLER!

As always, THANK YOU for all the donations in the clothing bins at the lodge and for supporting our Antlers.

Finally, Congratulations to the Ritual team for winning the States last month!

Fraternally,  
Samantha P. Martin  
Antler Chairperson



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 782

# FISH FRY

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

## GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7th

### \$14.00 PER PERSON

Serving From  
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM



**IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED & APPRECIATED  
TO CALL IN ADVANCE TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS**

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



Thomas M. Zisa, Esq.  
NJSEA Past State President  
11 Atlantic Street  
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

Home: 201-265-4404  
Business: 201-587-1957  
Fax: 201-587-1954  
Email: tzisaesq@aol.com  
Hackensack #658

#### NJSEA Policy Statement on the Legalization of Marijuana

The New Jersey state Elks Association is concerned by the recent legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes in New Jersey and other states.

Our organization has always been a strong advocate against the use of drugs. Despite the legalization of marijuana, our position has not changed.

The misuse of drugs and alcohol has taken a great toll on our country and in particular our youth. The numbers of overdose and drug-related deaths in our country and specifically in New Jersey are unacceptable. Too many young people's lives have been lost or ruined as a result of drugs here in New Jersey and across our country.

Therefore, the Elks still stand against the use of drugs for any purposes other than as may be properly prescribed by a physician for legitimate medical purposes.

In addition, the Elks are a patriotic organization and our members have sworn to uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States of America.

Federal Law still classifies marijuana as a Schedule 1 controlled substance. Under Federal Law, it is a crime to possess, cultivate, or use a Schedule 1 Controlled substance.

Therefore, it is our position that legalization of marijuana by the State for, either medical or recreational use does not change the fact that, the use of marijuana is against Federal Law.

Our Drug Awareness program's message to our nation's youth remains, 'no illicit drugs ever', and 'no alcohol use under the legal age.'

Our organization remains dedicated to helping our youth make healthy decisions for themselves and others and to help them avoid the dangers and consequences related to the use of drugs and alcohol.

Very truly yours,



Thomas M. Zisa



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

We will be having a Spring Paint-n-Sip on March 22 at 7pm. This is the picture we will be painting. The cost will be \$ 35 with one beer or

wine included. We also will have pretzels and nachos available for purchase. Tickets are available for sale behind the bar. See our our great bartending staff for one. Any questions call Tom Brown at 973-919-5395. Looking forward to see all you artists on the 22nd

The Youth Activities Committee

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

This serves as Official Notice that we will vote on the following addition to our Lodge House Rule Rules and Bylaws during the March 21st meeting.

### HOUSE RULE

It is against the House Rules for any individual(member or non-member) to distribute, possess, inhale, or consume any Cannabis (marijuana) in any form (Vape, Cigarette, raw, etc.) when on the Lake Hopatcong Elks 782 property inclusive of any building (pole barn included) or grounds that are owned by the Lake Hopatcong Elks 782. Violating this rule can result in a warning, suspension, or expulsion.

Samantha Martin

*Exalted Ruler Elect and Acting House Committee Chairperson*



New Jersey Elks **Miracle Run Committee**  
Presents  
**Our Annual Motorcycle Raffle**  
Drawing Held Last Sunday In July  
"Its for the Kids"

## New Jersey State Elks Association **MIRACLE RUN 2023 RAFFLE**

Drawing July 30<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm

**DONATION \$20.00**

**WIN A 2022 HARLEY DAVIDSON ROAD GLIDE**

*(Retail \$21,999)*

New Egypt Elks Losdge #2457 | 105 Lakewood Road • New Egypt, NJ

**PLEASE SEE ANY BARTENDER FOR YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!**



# Congratulations To Our Ritual Team - 1st Place States - Off To Minnesota!



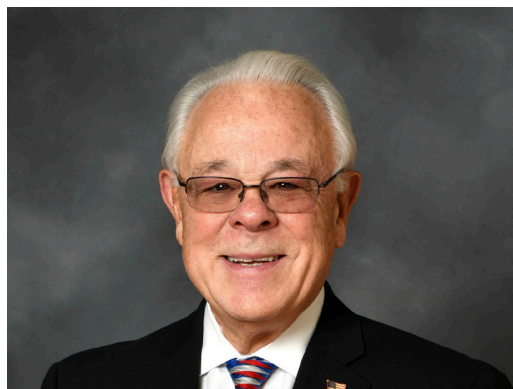
## Congratulations

Northwest District VP-Elect  
Jennifer Appalucio, PER



## Congratulations

NJ ELks State Association  
2023-2024 NJ State President Elect  
Joseph Pedone, PDD



# Lake Hopatcong Elks

201 Howard Blvd, Mt. Arlington, NJ

EAT  
DRINK  
& be



IRISH

MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>

Dinner: 6:00-7:00pm

Dancing/Music

By DJ Eduardo

7:00pm-11:00pm

ONLY \$25.00 pp

(Cash Bar)



**CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER**

SEE ANY BARTENDER FOR TICKETS • FOR INFORMATION CALL 973-398-9835



# SIP-N-PAINT PARTY

SOCIAL • CREATIVE • FUN • EASY

YOUR VERY OWN MASTERPIECE  
CREATED BY YOU!!

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!!!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22  
FROM 7:00PM-9:00PM

TICKET: \$35.00 PP

Includes: Canvas, Painting Supplies  
1 Complimentary Drink  
Snacks Will Be Available For Purchase  
(Hot Pretzels & Nachos With Cheese)

*All Proceeds To Benefit The  
Lake Hopatcong Elks Youth Activities Programs  
Lake Hopatcong Elks - 201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington*

MUST PURCHASE TICKET IN ADVANCE. TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE  
AT THE LODGE 2-3-23. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 973-398-9835





**SUNDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 9AM-11AM**



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

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT**

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





**ADULTS \$8.00**

**KIDS \$3.00**





# MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	3 Friday Night Dinner	4  <i>Leap In The Lake</i>
5	6 Ritual Practice	7 Lodge Meeting 7pm	8	9 <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	10 Friday Night Dinner	11
12 	13 Ritual Practice	14 House Committee Meeting	15	16 <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	17 Friday Night Dinner <i>Happy St. Patrick's Day</i>	18  <i>St. Patrick's Day Party</i>
19	20 Ritual Practice Ritual Practice	21 Lodge Meeting 7pm	22 	23 <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	24 Friday Night Dinner	25
26	27 Ritual Practice	28 House Committee Meeting	29	30	31 Friday Night Dinner	

## WELCOME



Proposed by

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Lori Catalano      | Lisa Rovito, PER |
| Michael Curry      | Bernard Curry    |
| Scott Curry        | Bernard Curry    |
| Christopher Hayden | Lisa Rovito, PER |
| Yvonne Ioffredo    | Walter Wurster   |
| Michael A Maida    | Debi Werner      |
| Christine A Redden | Walter Wurster   |
| Anthony Sessa      | Cory Schmidt     |
| Debra Sobierajski  | Walter Wurster   |

**ELKS**  
*Celebrate New Leaders*  
**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Community • Friendship • Charity  
elks.org

*All Are Invited!*  
*Saturday, April 1st*  
*1:00 PM Cocktail Hour*  
*2:00 PM Installation*  
*3:30 PM Dinner*

# April 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 	2 
3 Ritual Practice	4 Lodge Meeting 7pm	5	6	7 Friday Night Dinner	8	9 
10 Ritual Practice	11 House Committee Meeting	12	13	14 Friday Night Dinner	15	16
17 Ritual Practice	18 Lodge Meeting 7pm	19	20	21 Friday Night Dinner	22 	23
24 Ritual Practice	25 House Committee Meeting	26	27	28 Friday Night Dinner	29	30



## LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard  
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



**Elks** Care - **Elks** Share