



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 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

Hello everyone. Wow summer is flying by and so are the many wonderful events happening at the lodge. Our Wednesday and Friday night dinners are awesome, great food at great prices! Thank you to everyone that supports the committees that run these barbecues. This is how we keep our Lodge looking great. We have many great events happening in August. On Friday, August 8 The Lake Hopatcong Army of Hope is having their 14th Annual Earl T "Corky" Cornelius Golf Classic at the Farmstead Country Club in Andover. Please come out and play or just sponsor a hole. For more information. Call **Robert Ricker** at 973-886-0160.

August 16th is our PERS famous Seafood Fest. Tickets are on sale now so get them before they're sold out. August 18th will be our next initiation of new members. Please come and celebrate our new members with us at 7 PM.

August 30th is our ritual poker night. If you love to play poker you will want to get in the game. if you need any information, please contact our officers or our House Committee.

I would like to thank all the people that donated food for our food pantries and food for our animal shelters. They cannot thank Lake Hopatcong # 782 enough for all we do for them.

Upcoming events. Sunday, September 14th Army of Hope picnic at Lacey Elks Lodge. Tickets on sale at the members bar \$25 for adults \$5 for children under10.

Saturday, September 13th from 9 AM to 3 PM is our flea market at the lodge. Call today to get your spot.

Saturday, September 20th is our Music Festival Northwest District Veterans Committee with live music and live bands. Come help support our vets.

Our members' collective efforts have shown the lodge's dedication to excellence. I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who contributes daily to the Lodge's operations. I encourage everyone to get involved with the best Elks Lodge. You can join a committee, volunteer to help with dinners, barbecues or if you have a special trade to help with improving the lodge. Donate a little bit of your spare time. Getting to know fellow members! Life is special with special people in it and you are all special.

Thank you for what you have done and what you are about to do. If you have any questions or would like to speak to me, feel free to contact me at any time. I hope to see you soon at the lodge.

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
Diane LaPreta	917-318-3111
Kathy Venier	973-738-3259
Debbie Sobierajski	973-876-6169
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 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	Erin Ronchetta 973-219-7624
Convention	Linda Gathen, PPD 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 973-398-2097
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 (Reports to the Trustees)	Walter Wurster 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
Softball/Cornhole Tournament:	Ricky Gathen

RELIEF COMMITTEE

Patricia Zdichocki, Exalted Ruler	201-723-6462
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
Army of Hope	Matthew Winnians, PVP 201-572-8297
Youth Activities	Tom Brown, PDD 973-919-5395

01	James C Hatch
02	Terri Tate
03	Kathleen Caffrey
03	Debra Hanley
03	Rose E Marino
04	Michael Bohrer
04	Jon Sperry
05	Thomas Brown
06	Tari Johnston
06	Mark Kearns
07	Richard Gathen
07	Joseph Zemanek
08	Loretta Beale
08	Drew Ludeking
09	Squire F Osborne Jr
10	Leslie Cirelli
10	Patricia Kerrigan
11	Don Potter
11	Lisa A Skelly
12	Louis Ghetti
12	Audrey M Gliatta
12	Paul Levy
13	Patricia Dennehy
13	Robert A Shortridge
13	Jason Tate
15	Marjorie Curry
15	Christina A Redden
15	Pamela Ryan
16	Marie Galate
16	Anna Ilaria
16	Dwayne Kennedy
17	Diana Kunka
17	Carolynn C Wallace
18	Michael E Lopez
19	Scott Fitzgerald
19	Ronald Kraus
20	Peter Messina
20	Leon J Moreau
21	Tom Adams
21	Jennifer Gonzalez
22	Kalei Cutcher
22	Natalie Valentin
23	Frank J Arminio
23	Nino Denino
23	Michaei Gallego
23	Dawn Malanka
23	Louis Bruce Rodrique
23	Frank Santarpia
23	Henry Savercool
24	Amanda Gladish
24	Mario Marcano
24	Charles Salerno
25	David P Fasanello
25	Mike Pizzulli
25	John Pollman
26	Leonard J Podlaski
26	Lynn Sherman
26	Joseph Weston
27	Lisa Berg
27	Glenn Ubertaccio
27	James Visco
28	Diane Heiskanen
28	Marie Moroney
28	Bridget Lee Morton
28	Cory Schmidt
29	William J Auriemma
29	Matthew Ryan Beik
29	Ronald Palladino
30	Susan W Johnston
30	Patricia A McNamara

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“Elks Give from the Heart”

BRYAN KLATT
GRAND EXALTED RULER
2025-2026



“Elkdom’s Heart for America”

ELKS SHOWED HEART, MADE 2024-25 A SPECIAL YEAR

Happy Independence Day, the Fourth of July. We live in the greatest country on the face of the earth. We, as proud Elks, want to uphold the virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity in order to honor our great nation. This is the perfect time for me to reflect on this amazing year of travel to meet all of you. We could never in our wildest dreams have thought that we would have this great honor. We want to thank each and every one of you for your love, hospitality, and support in fulfilling our year as Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady.

It was easy to stay enthused by visiting each unique state convention. But there truly was a common bond in all of our visits: Heart.

Everyone has to serve others to show what the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are truly about. You are the reason we are 800,000 Members strong. You are the reason that we have more than 1,800 successful Lodges. You are the reason that we are the greatest charitable organization in the United States of America. We are strong, mighty, and blessed to be citizens in our great country, and I want to express my gratitude for your service to others.

We would like to thank our family. We truly missed them during our travels, but they were always gracious and encouraging when we missed special events. We are so thankful for having such a loving family.

God bless our family, the Elks, and God bless the United States of America. I believe that my motto, “Elkdom’s Heart for America” will live on for many years to come. Remember we are 157 years young!

“Elks Care - Elks Share.”



We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the Drug Awareness and Youth Activities Committees at our July Wednesday Night BBQ. Your presence and participation help fuel the important work we do in our communities.


The Elks are proud to be a family-oriented organization, deeply committed to nurturing and empowering the youth in our local and surrounding areas. We believe that today’s youth are the cornerstone of tomorrow’s society, and we are dedicated to providing them with the tools, guidance, and opportunities they need to thrive.

Through initiatives like our Peer Leadership Program, we offer young people a platform for both physical and mental growth, encouraging them to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and make informed, positive decisions.

We’re excited to announce this year’s Drug Awareness Contest slogan: “Drugs are a Grave Mistake.”

We encourage all students to start thinking creatively about their essays or posters. Contest dates and submission details will be announced soon—stay tuned!

Together, we are making a difference. Thank you for being part of the journey.

Fraternally, Samantha P. Martin  PER
Drug Awareness Chairperson





SICKNESS & DISTRESS

Sending condolences to our members **Jim and Jackie Buckley**. We are so sorry for the loss of your mother, Eileen. Thoughts and prayers to our members who are ill or home recovering from recent sickness, injury, surgery or procedures: **Walter Wurster, Erin Darden, Drew Ludeking and Patsy Schmidt**. Our best wishes for a complete and successful recovery.

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*

HOUSE COMMITTEE

August is here and we all know what that means, **SEAFOOD FEST**, yes it is, August 16th!! Stop by today and pick up your tickets. You will let our bartender know your selection lobster or steak when you pick your tickets. **ADVANCE SALES ONLY. DEADLINE IS AUGUST 11TH TO GET TICKETS.**

Dont forget this is our last month of Wednesday BBQ's. Our committees will be taking September off and will be back in October. So come out and support their great efforts to raise monies for their cause. Our officers will be doing their annual Labor Day Friday Night Dinner August 29th.

September dates to remember: on September 13th we will have a flea market. If interested please call the lodge after 12pm to reserve your space.

On September 20th our District Veterans will be having their 3rd Annual Music Fest being held our lodge. Great work done by our very own Veterans committee and Ed Parrillo leading the way. Save and buy advance tickets. On sale at the lodge. Happy August to all!!

Special thanks to house committee for always making me look good.

Debi Werner, *House Committee Chairperson*



FINAL MONTH FOR BBQ FOR SEASON 2025

AUGUST 6, 2025

Sweet Asian Marinated Chicken

AUGUST 13, 2025

Sliced Marinated Pork

AUGUST 20, 2025

Spare Ribs

AUGUST 27, 2026

Dry Rub Smoked Chicken



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

AUGUST 1, 2025

SWEET & SOUR PORK OVER RICE

AUGUST 8, 2025

PHILLY CHEESESTEAK TORTELLINI

AUGUST 15, 2025

STUFFED SHELLS

AUGUST 22, 2025

CHICKEN CACCIATORE OVER PASTA

AUGUST 29, 2025

OFFICER'S LABOR DAY KICK-OFF BBQ
BBQ CHICKEN SPECIAL

1st Monday
Every Month 6PM

MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Walter Wurster

973-420-8165

elksmc782@gmail.com

Lake Hopatcong Elks
201 Howard Blvd.
Mt. Arlington



LOOKING FOR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER COOKS!

Interested in learning more?
Call Debi Werner at 973-668-9302



VETERANS COMMITTEE

This summer is almost over most vacations are over and back to work. July was a busy month for our Veterans Committee. We did the first Wednesday barbecue kicked off with Asian Marinated grilled chicken. The second one was Italian hotdog which went over very well! Back by popular demand we will be making the marinated and grilled chicken that people liked!

The Northwest District Veterans Committee BBQ went great at the Birchwood Manor on 23 July. Our Lodge had the most members out helping the 85 veterans that attended. The veterans were from the East Orange and Lyons Hospital campuses. They all thanked us for the donated shirts and sweatshirts. Thanks to our executives for making the shirts available Rick Gathen and Tommy Brown suggested we give them to the veterans and they really appreciated them. Please join us for our final BBQ of the Season on August 6th. We will have a presentation to our Veterans Committee.

We had a donation of the Inogen Oxygen System given to us by a citizen of Succasunna. She had requested to be given to a needy Veteran. I put it out to the Northwest District if they know anyone. I'm also putting it out to our members here and whomever reads the columns. If anyone knows of a veteran who could use this equipment piece, it will be free of charge. The woman would love to have them have it! Have a good August. See you all at the Seafood Festival.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Parrillo, Committee Chairperson

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

AUGUST 30 - 7:00 PM
201 Howard Blvd, Mt Arlington



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS



TEXAS HOLD'EM RULES ♠ REGULATION TABLES ♦ LICENSED DEALERS
\$5,000 PRIZE POOL (75 PLAYERS) ♣ CHAMPION BRACELET ♥ CHIP BONUS
\$100 BUY-IN (5,000 CHIPS) ♠ RE-BUYS & ADD-ONS ♦ DINNER INCLUDED

Scan here for details
and registration:



Mike's Poker Tables

MUSIC
4th Annual
fest
for
Vets

Northwest District
National Veterans Service
Commission Committee

- One night.
- Big sound.
- Bigger cause.

\$15 Entry = 100% to Veterans

Food and Beverages Available for Purchase

Featuring

Live music spanning oldies to rock all night long!

Donations to Tunnel to Towers & Operation Chillout

Saturday
Sept 20 | 5-9 PM

Join us & rock out for our heroes!

Lake Hopatcong Elks. 201 Howard Blvd, Mt. Arlington NJ 07856

Lake Hopatcong #782
Army of Hope
14th Annual Earl T. "Corky" Cornelius
Golf Classic



Friday August 8, 2025
Farmstead Country Club in Andover
7:00 AM Registration
8:00 AM Shotgun Start

Includes: Green Fees, Cart, Prizes, Lunch & Dinner at Farmstead
Limited to the first 72 Golfers

Cost \$140.00 per golfer

Make checks payable to Lake Hopatcong #782 Army of Hope

Foursome Names

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

For more information please call Robert Ricker 973-886-0160

Please Sponsor a Hole \$50.00

Sponsor Name or Names or What you would like on the sign

Make checks payable to Lake Hopatcong #782 Army of Hope and
Mail to

Robert Ricker
3636 Vicari Avenue
Toms River NJ 08755



YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Our committee continues to sell the Gift Card Raffle tickets for a \$5.00 donation for local restaurants on Wednesdays as well as Friday night dinners. You can also see any bartender to purchase as well.

We will be participating in National Night Out on August 5th. Please come out and see us there.

Also mark your calendars for the new date for Flag Day Postponed Date of September 27th in Hopatcong. More details to be announced.

We will also be holding our Soccer shoot that day as well from 12pm-6pm. Check the flyer in this newsletter.

Youth Activities Committee

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Members,

First, we want to officially congratulate our new Area 3 **Ambassador, David Shikman**. As of the Wildwood Convention back in June David was elevated from alternate ambassador to Area ambassador. As he starts his year, David, his family and chaperones will be attending the Miracle run on Sunday, 7/27 as his first official event. When you see David around the lodge please take time to congratulate him and if your committee is so inclined please invite him to your events.

In addition, in regard to the Annual Miracle Run our committee made a \$500 donation.

We continue to work on plans for the fall and winter months. More to come soon.

Until then have a great big beautiful tomorrow!

Fraternally,

Heidi & Wayne McDonnell, SCC Lodge Co-Chairs

LODGE IMPROVEMENT CORNER

We are currently looking for anyone interested in joining our Maintenance Committee. Please see myself, or our Exalted Ruler, Patty if you are interested in learning more information.

Tom Brown, PDD
Chairman of Trustees



August has arrived, and with it comes the bittersweet reminder that summer is beginning to wind down. Our Antlers have been making the most of these sunny days, and we recently enjoyed our annual trip to Frog Falls—a tradition that never disappoints! As we look ahead, we're excited to share that we're brainstorming some fresh fundraising ideas to keep our momentum going. Stay tuned for more details soon!

Our next big event is just around the corner: Wednesday Night BBQ on August 13th! We'll be serving up pork loin paired with Matt & Eric Martin's famous Homemade Apple Cider BBQ Sauce—a crowd favorite from last year that we're thrilled to bring back. We're also happy to welcome a few new Antlers to the lodge. Be sure to say hello and help them feel at home when you see their new faces around.

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. The Antlers offer great growth opportunities, they earn community service hours for graduation, help the community and are eligible for scholarship opportunities. Reach out for more information. 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

Lake Hopatcong Elks #782

20th Annual



**SEAFOOD
FESTIVAL**

AUGUST 16TH 2-6PM

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

STEAMERS • CLAMS • SHRIMP • CLAM CHOWDER
SHRIMP COCKTAIL • SHRIMP SCAMPI • MUSSELS
BURGERS • HOT DOGS • CORN-ON-THE-COB
ASSORTED SALADS AND MORE!!!

DRAFT BEER • WINE • SODA

PLUS YOUR CHOICE OF A
WHOLE LOBSTER OR 16 OZ. STEAK

**ALL FOR ONLY \$80 PER PERSON
ADVANCE SALES ONLY!!!**

FOR TICKETS SEE THE BARTENDER OR CALL: 973-398-9835

FLEA MARKET



\$20.00 Table Rental
\$15.00 Per Space
(With Own Table)

**SATURDAY
9-13-25
9AM-3PM**

RESERVE YOUR
SPACE TODAY!

Food & Drink Available For Purchase

• CALL TODAY TO GET YOUR SPOT •

• *VENDORS PERMITTED TO SET UP 7AM DAY OF EVENT* •

• **LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS 973-398-9835** •

• *~ Proceeds To Benefit The Lake Hopatcong Elks ~* •

Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge 782
201 Howard Boulevard • Mt. Arlington, NJ



**Lake Hopatcong #782
7th Annual
Gerry Cook**



Drug Awareness Golf Invitational

Thursday, October 9, 2025

Farmstead Country Club

88 Lawrence Road, Lafayette NJ 07848

8:00 AM Registration and Breakfast

9:00 AM Shotgun Start / Scramble Best Ball Format

Cost \$140.00 per golfer

Includes: Green Fees, Cart, Prizes, Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Limited to the first 90 Golfers

Make checks payable to

Lake Hopatcong #782 Drug Awareness

Foursome Names

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

For more information contact Robert Ricker - 973-886-0160

Please Sponsor a Hole \$50.00

Sponsor Name(s) or Sign Design

**Make checks payable to
Lake Hopatcong #782 Drug Awareness and Mail to**

Robert Ricker

3636 Vicari Ave

Toms River NJ 08755



August 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00PM	4	5	6	7	8
		VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM	BBQ		Friday Night Dinner	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	BBQ		Friday Night Dinner	20th Annual SEAFOOD FESTIVAL
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		LODGE MEETING	BBQ		Friday Night Dinner	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			BBQ Final Of Season		Friday Night Dinner Gift Card Raffle Drawing	
31						


SUPPORT THE YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE




Eat Drink Local

**GIFT CARD BUNDLE
DRAWING
FRIDAY
AUGUST 29TH
TICKETS \$5.00**

SEE ANY BARTENDER FOR YOUR TICKETS TODAY!




ELKS SOCCER SHOOT®

SOCCER GOAL KICKING CONTEST

(FOR GIRLS & BOYS AGES 15 & YOUNGER)
120 RIVER STYX ROAD • HOPATCONG NJ 07843
SEPTEMBER 27TH
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
(REGISTRATION STARTS 1:00PM - FOLLOWING FLAG DAY PARADE)
**EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A
FREE T-SHIRT**

*1st Place Winners Will Continue On To The District Competition & Have A
Chance To Compete In The State & Regional Competitions.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL TOM 973-919-5395



September 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00PM	LODGE MEETING 2	3	4	Friday Night Dinner 5	6
7	8	HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM	9	10	11	Friday Night Dinner 12
						13 FLEA MARKET
14	15	LODGE MEETING 16	17	18	Friday Night Dinner 19	20 Music FESTIVAL
21	22	HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	23	24	25	Friday Night Dinner 26
						27 FLAG DAY PARADE Elks SOCCER GROUP SOCCER GOAL KICKING CONTEST
28	29	30				



LAKE HOPATCONG ELKS LODGE

No. 782

201 Howard Boulevard
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856



Elks Care – Elks Share