

MILFORD LODGE NO. 1589  
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE  
ORDER OF ELKS  
124 NEW HAVEN AVENUE  
MILFORD, CT 06460-4827  
PHONE: 203-874-1589

**October 2025**

**Milford Elks  
Lodge  
#1589**

**Milford, CT**

**203-874-1589**

**LODGE MEETINGS**  
**October 7th and 21st**  
**7:00pm**

**October 2025 Taproom Hours**

Monday	5:00pm—11:00pm
Tuesday	4:00pm—10:00pm
Wednesday	4:00pm—10:00pm
Thursday	4:00pm—11:00pm
Friday	3:00pm—12:00am
Saturday	12:00pm—12:00am
Sunday	12:00pm—9:00pm

# Officers

## Exalted Ruler

Leading Knight  
Loyal Knight  
Lecturing Knight  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Esquire  
Tiler  
Chaplain  
Inner Guard

Jennifer Vondle  
Mary Garfield  
Sarah Muoio  
Erin Burke  
David Field, PDD  
Kelly O'Hara  
Mary Ellen Patchell, PER  
Don Sanchez  
Julia Townsend  
Caroline Butler

## Trustees:

One-year  
Two-year  
Three-year  
Four-year  
Five-year  
PER Association President  
Youth Activities Committee  
Drug Awareness Committee  
Audit Committee  
House Committee  
Activities Committee  
Public Relations Committee

Joseph Leto, PDD, PER Chair  
Danette Contaras, PER  
David Williams, PER  
Joseph Mager III, PER  
James Garfield, PER  
Joseph Mager III, PER  
Robert Black  
Mary Ellen Patchell, PER  
Kevin Kozek  
Lexi Black & Morgan Vondle  
Mary Garfield  
Amy Potts, Sarah Muoio,  
& Sue Bernor, PER

Hall Rental

Danette Contaras (203) 623-1991 or  
Anne Marie Field (203) 314-1831

Sickness & Distress

Mary Garfield  
(203)906-5693  
maryhgarfield@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor  
(203) 305-3124

Amy Potts  
Elks1589PR@gmail.com

# Birthdays - October

Wish another member Happy Birthday. Stop in the month of your Birthday and start the day you choose to celebrate your birthday with us and both you and your significant other will receive a complimentary drink of your choice.

- 1 James Malaney
- 2 Richard Dzialo
- 3 Leonard Alterio, Vincent Canavan, Thomas Murphy  
John Phillips, Sr
- 4 Gerald Artz, Kiersten Bernier, Jack Pincus-Coyle
- 5 David Chupcavich, Kyle Lang
- 7 Alison Bernier, Leo Beutel, Philip Delauri
- 8 Howard Murph Fanning
- 9 Christopher Terew
- 11 Julie Gombieski
- 13 Jessica Elliott, James Napolitano
- 14 Thomas Craig, Jr, Dominick Veccharelli, Jr
- 17 Caroline Butler, Richard Paier
- 18 Charles Brienza, Robert Lively
- 20 Bruce Buzelle, Bartholomew Chadderton, Nicole Fabricatore,  
Gina Marie Falt
- 21 Heidi Hinckley, Kenneth Thomas, Jr
- 22 Jean Amazan
- 23 Stephen Macauley
- 24 Kevin Bernier, Ellen Novack
- 25 Josie Shannon Hill, Gerald Rowe
- 26 Anthony Alamo
- 27 Joseph Leto, Harold Manaskie, Jr
- 29 Joseph Duguay, Cathy Stavrovsky
- 31 Judy Attianese, Daniel Contaras

October Birthday Celebration  
*October 26th @ 5pm!!*



## What's Happening



**Cash Bar**

**8TH ANNUAL**  
**ELKTOBERFEST**  
**Friday, October 10th**  
**5-8 pm**

**BEER ★ FOOD ★ MUSIC**

**German music all night!**

**\$15 each (\$20 starting October 7th)**

**German Food**  
**Spatan & 2 Roads October Fest**  
**Riesling wine**  
**Jägermeister shots**

Open to Members & Guest - see Steward for Tickets  
**LIMITED TO 50 TICKETS (AT DOOR OR UNTIL SOLD OUT)**

### HALL RENTALS MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

*We appreciate the lodge members support during our rentals.*

Member rates are the lowest around and a benefit for our members.

Want to be a Hall Monitor? Let us know.

*Paid Hall Monitors represent the lodge by supporting the Steward and renter.*

Want to know more?

Contact us - Danette Contaras and Anne Marie Field

## Exalted Ruler Message

Dear Members,

As the days grow cooler and the leaves begin to turn, I am reminded of how special this time of year can be. Fall brings us together in new ways, and I am so grateful for the energy, generosity, and kindness that our lodge continues to share with one another and with our community. September was truly a month to remember.

On September 21st, 11 of our members attended the Grand Exalted Ruler Dinner at Westbrook Lodge #1784. It was a privilege to meet our GER, Bryan Klatt, and his wife Susan, and to hear Bryan speak about his theme for the year: "Be the Difference." His words could not ring more true. Each of us has the ability to be the difference—in our homes, in our communities, and right here in our lodge—and I see this spirit come alive in so many of you every day.

That same spirit was on full display when Susan Stokes and her team of volunteers hosted our very first Elks Health Fair, free for both members and the community. Tracey Williams, with the help of her volunteers and generous donors, led a book collection that resulted in 468 books being donated to Read to Grow. Both Susan and Tracey brought these wonderful ideas forward, and with the support of others, ran with them to create meaningful events that gave back to so many. These acts of service show the heart of Elksdom: giving back and lifting others up.

We also celebrated another Veterans' Boat Trip and Dinner thanks to the efforts of Jeff Hall and many volunteers. It was a beautiful day on the water and such a privilege to spend time with men and women who sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted. In the same spirit of community, the Soccer Shoot and Awards Ceremony, led by Dave Williams and many helping hands, brought smiles to children and their families as they celebrated sportsmanship and the excitement of moving on to the next round.

September also brought pride within our own walls. The District Deputy Audit was held on the 17th, and I am pleased to share that it went smoothly and reflected well on how our lodge is managed and how engaged our members are. A week later, on September 24th, we enjoyed the final Wednesday Summer Music Night of the season. These evenings brought so much joy throughout the summer, and we owe a big thank you to Mager & Mager and Gerry Artz for their generosity in making them possible.

{Continued on next page}

# What's Happening

## EXALTED RULER MESSAGE (Con't)

Looking ahead, the fall calendar promises more fun and fellowship—Halloween parties, the Penguin Plunge, and maybe even some hearty meals to warm us up as the weather cools. For those looking for another way to make a difference, I encourage you to consider joining the ENF Fidelity Club. A small monthly gift of just \$5 can go a long way in strengthening our lodge and community.

As I reflect on all we have accomplished together, I am filled with gratitude. Thank you for your kindness, your ideas, and your continued commitment to our lodge. Together, we are living the message to “Be the Difference,” and I cannot wait to see all that the months ahead will bring.

Fraternally Yours,

Jennifer P Vondle , Exalted Ruler  
jennifervondle@gmail.com  
203-823-6313

### SAVE THESE DATES:

November 21st – Mix Tape Match  
November 22nd – Turkey Shoot  
November 27th – Thanksgiving Breakfast

## Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, October 5th

10 AM- 2 PM

Bring your bottles and cans and let your friends know.

Volunteers needed to sort glass bottles, plastic bottles and cans.



# What's Happening

JOIN US IF YOU DARE FOR MILFORD ELKS'

# HALLOWEEN PARTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2025  
7 PM- 11PM

\$20 PER PERSON     \$25 AFTER 10/22 AND AT DOOR

**DJ, Light Buffet, Raffles, Cash Bar**  
**Bring Your Own Snacks, No Outside Alcohol**

See Steward on Duty for Tickets!  
124 New Haven Ave. Milford  
Contact Kathy Hart at (203) 874-2983

**Children's HALLOWEEN PARTY**

10 am – 1 pm | October 25

**Must Sign Up in the Taproom– no walk-ins**  
**Free to all members children & grandkids**  
**Trunk or Treat**  
**(need donations & volunteers for the party & Trunk & Treat)**  
**Craft & Breakfast**

# Activities Committee

## Greetings, Fellow Elks!

October is here, which means it's officially time to argue about whether pumpkin spice belongs in everything (spoiler: it does), bust out your best Halloween costume, and join us for a month jam-packed events! Here's this month's social calendar:

October 6th – Activities Meeting – 7pm

Come help us plan future shenanigans! We are hoping for at least three good ideas and unlimited debate about appetizer choices. Your attendance = better parties. No pressure!

October 8th – House Committee Meeting – 6pm-7pm

Where we discuss the important stuff. One hour only because we respect your non-Elk activities and your binge-watching schedule.

October 10th – ElktoberFest in the Taproom! Prost!

We're bringing Bavaria to the Lodge with beer, brats, and questionable lederhosen choices. Grab your stein and practice saying "Ein Prosit!" No one will judge if you just yell "Cheers!" instead. (They will absolutely judge your dancing, though.) There may even be some keg rolling!

October 12th – Texas Hold'em Tournament

Think you're the next poker champion? Prove it! All are welcome but tickets are limited, from beginners who think a "flush" is what happens after too much beer, to sharks who count cards in their sleep. Poker faces mandatory. Actual poker skills optional.

October 17th – Line Dancing

Boot scootin' time! Whether you're a seasoned dancer or someone who thinks the "Electric Slide" is a playground feature, come two-step your way to fitness and fun. Left foot, right foot, shuffle, repeat. You've got this! Cowboy hats encouraged but not required.

October 25th – Kids Halloween Party

Calling all little goblins, superheroes, and tiny dinosaurs! We're hosting a spook-tacular party starting with a trunk or Treat followed by a Halloween craft, treats, and zero scary stuff (we save that for the House Committee budget discussions, lol!). Costumes required. Sugar rushes guaranteed.

October 25th – Adult Halloween Party

Once the kiddos are safely sugar-crazed at home, it's OUR turn! Dress up, show up, and let's see who wins "Most Creative Costume" and "Most Likely to Regret Their Costume Choice by 9pm." Raffle prizes, 50:50 music, and memories you may or may not remember making!

Mary H. Garfield (203-906-5693)

Leading Knight & Activities Committee Chair

# Officers Notes

Members,

As we enter the second half of the Lodge year, we still have 59 delinquent members. Please send in your dues payment as quickly as you can. We rely on your dues to fund our charitable works. If you do not have a 2025 – 2026 membership card, then you are in arrears. This means you are considered an "Elk not in Good Standing" and as such are not entitled to Lounge and or Lodge privileges and cannot be in the social quarters or signed in as a guest, no matter what type of event is going on.

If you have moved recently, please remember to notify me of your new address. You can email it to me to milfordlodge1589@gmail.com. Don't miss out on any of the great activities and opportunities we have by not providing your current address.

District Deputy Grand Exalter Ruler Patricia Robles will make her official visit to Milford on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. I hope you can join us on this special day.

Finally, October is Elks National Foundation month. The ENF funds most of our charitable programs for the youth, our veterans, and local Lodge programs. Please donate to this extremely important fund, we rely on your help. Contact ENF chairman Jim Hessberger, or any Lodge Officer for more information.

- Delinquent Members: 59
- Reinstatements Pending: 1
- Applications to be read: 0
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 5
- Investigation: October 13, 2025
- Awaiting Initiation: 4
- Initiation: October 21, 2025

Dave Field, PDD  
Secretary

TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS

Andrew Ancel  
Charles J Flannigan



## Elk of the Month

### Anne Marie Field

This month, we are proud to recognize Anne Marie Field as our Elk of the Month. Anne Marie is always willing to lend a hand wherever it's needed—whether it's supporting the House Committee, stepping into various positions during our lodge meetings, assisting with hall scheduling, or tackling projects around the lodge.

Beyond her many contributions, Anne Marie brings warmth and kindness to everything she does, making our lodge a more welcoming place for all. She truly embodies this year's GER message to “Be the Difference”—not only through her hard work but also through her generous spirit and positive attitude.

Thank you, Anne Marie, for your dedication, compassion, and for always going above and beyond. Our lodge is stronger and brighter because of you!

## Tip of the Antlers

### Tip of the Antlers – Susan Stokes

A big Tip of the Antlers to Susan Stokes, one of our newer members, whose creativity and dedication brought us the idea of hosting a Health Fair. Susan worked tirelessly with outside agencies, filled the hall with vendors, and turned her vision into reality. Thanks to her efforts, our first-ever Health Fair was a wonderful success for both our members and the community at large.

This event was not only informative and helpful but also a shining example of what can happen when passion meets purpose. We are so grateful to Susan for her commitment, and we look forward to many more events like this in the future.

### Tip of the Antlers – Tracey Williams

A heartfelt Tip of the Antlers to Tracey Williams, who took her love of reading and turned it into something that truly gave back to the community. Tracey organized and ran a Book Drive that resulted in an incredible 468 books being collected for the Read to Grow program.

Taking something you are passionate about and using it to benefit others is a beautiful way to give back, and Tracey's dedication has opened the door for children and families to enjoy the gift of reading. Thank you, Tracey, for your creativity, hard work, and generous spirit!

## What's Happening

### House Committee Notes (Con't)

Just a friendly reminder that NO ONE should go behind the bar in the taproom unless you are working on shift, or you are on the House Committee and the Steward has given you permission.

As always, we would like to say thank you for allowing us this opportunity and we would appreciate the continued support of our Elks Family. Our contact information is below if you have any thoughts or questions. Can't wait to see you at our next meeting on Wednesday October 8th at 6pm.

Your House Committee Co-Chairs,  
Alexis Black, bobnlex@aol.com 203-214-6911  
Morgan Vondle, mdv724@gmail.com 203-313-6644



## CANDIDATES

Michael Musante	Reinstatement
Denise Brown	Investigation
Catherine Liontas	Investigation
Peter Liontas	Investigation
Michael Knapp	Investigation
Nicholas Ricci	Investigation
Abigail Faillasc	Initiation
Christopher Field	Initiation
Kim Manion	Initiation
Ethan Simmel	Initiation

## Board of Directors Corner

Members All,

The BOD meets once per month, normally scheduled for the Monday before the first Tuesday meeting of the month.

The Board met on September 15, 2025. The first order of business was a discussion about the parking lot. We have secured one bid, but will need at least two more bids before we move forward. If any member knows of a paving company that would like to bid the parking lot, please contact me or Jim Garfield.

Members of the Board met with Knight Security on September 26, to go over the fire alarm system, and the key card access. The Board discussed some changes on access and camera security. Any changes will be for the benefit of the membership.

The Lodge will be replacing one of the old unrepairable chandeliers with a new one. We also replaced the handicap toilet in the upstairs hall men's room. The old one could not be repaired. A Hugh Tip of the Antlers to Tom Gauthier and his project manager Rose Gauthier for their hard work installing the new unit. Tom is a new member and offered his help to me the night he was installed as a member. Thank you Tom & Rose.

The new contract for winter plowing was review and passed the vote for renewal. The Board also had it annual review for insurance coverages of the Lodge.

On September 17, the Lodge had it annual District Deputy Audit, and passed with flying colors. For those who are unfamiliar with the process, there is a committee of seven people, from Grand Lodge, who check on all the internal processes of the Lodge. Milford is a strong and growing Lodge thanks to great officers, and great members.

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to me, or any of your Board Members. Dave Williams PER, Danette Contaras PER, Joe Mager III PER, Jim Garfield PER, Exalted Ruler Jennifer Vondle, Leading Knight Mary Garfield, Loyal Knight Sarah Muoio, Lecturing Knight Erin Burke, Secretary Dave Field PDD, and Treasurer Kelly O'Hara.

Fraternally yours,  
Joe Leto, PDD - Chairman, BOD

## House Committee Notes

### KITCHEN MENU

Fri, October 3rd	5-8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Zuppardi's Pizza's and BYOF
Sat, October 4th	12-8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Zuppardi's Pizza's and BYOF
Thu, October 9th	Thursday Night Supper 6-8 pm Menu TBD
Fri, October 10th	ELKTOBERFEST 5-8 PM Event Menu Available
Sat, October 11th	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Fri, October 17th	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, October 18th	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Thu, October 23rd	Thursday Night Supper 6-8 pm Menu TBD
Fri, October 24th	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, October 25th	Adult Halloween Party- Zuppardi's Pizza's and BYOF
Thu, October 30th	Thursday Night Supper 6-8 pm Menu TBD
Fri, October 31st	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu

Hello, my fellow Elks!

As always, we would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to everyone for another successful month at the lodge as well as a big "THANK YOU" to all of the volunteers that made the Summer Concert Series a hit. Now that it is over, we look forward to starting up the Thursday Night Supper Club this month. Check the bulletin for dates. In addition to our tasty dinner series menu, we are getting ready for the start of soup season.

We will have house made soups available later in the month for purchase in 32 ounce containers that you can bring home to enjoy as well as offered on nights the kitchen is open. Please check up on the new Lodge Hours as they have changed for the football season. On Friday, October 10th, we will be hosting our annual Elktoberfest from 5-8 pm, where we will have classic German food, beverages and music. It will be a great time for all. Limited Pre-sale tickets for \$15 are available until Monday, October 6th. \$20 at the door night of. Come dressed in your lederhosen and have a great time.

Also, be on the lookout for events like Texas Hold'em on the 12th and Kids Trunk or treat on the 25th. You can talk to Lexi if you need more details. We will continue with the full menu every other weekend until we hire someone for the kitchen (we may have found someone) or get volunteers to do a dinner service. Sundays from Noon to close in the Taproom are Potluck. Please bring something that you enjoy or something you love to make for other members to try. We ask that you continue to head down to the lodge and support our amazing stewards, as they would like to see everyone's beautiful faces now that summer is no longer here. Don't be a stranger. (Continued on next page)

# October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
					5-8:30pm Roast Beef, Pizzas & BYOF	12-8:30 pm Roast Beef, Pizzas & BYOF Karaoke 7:30pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm	House Committee Meeting 6pm	Thurs Night Sup- per 6-8pm	Octoberfest - 5-8pm 5-8pm Event Menu	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pot Luck Sunday Teexas Hold'em	Game Night 6:30pm				5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu Country Line Dancing	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm	Lodge Meeting, DD Visit & Initiation 7:00pm		Thurs Night Sup- per 6-8pm	5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	Kids Halloween Adults Halloween 12-8:30pm Zuppardi's Pizza's and BYOF
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Pot Luck Sunday October Birthdays 5pm	Game Night 6:30pm Elks Riders Mtg 7pm			Thurs Night Sup- per 6-8pm	5-8:30pm Kitchen	

**VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH**

**GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 2**