

From Articles and Oratory of Hon. Murray Hulbert, PGER

“We are taught in Holy Writ that a certain historic character of exuberant and impulsive audacity, when asked by His Master as to the whereabouts of his brother, replied, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” Throughout the centuries, since that question was propounded, it has been oft times repeated, but invariably unanswered.

It was on Sunday evening, November 14, 1867, that a number of theatrical professionals and semi-professionals, who were boarding at a house on Elm Street, in New York City, decided that the Puritanical Sunday Law was obnoxious to their enjoyment of the only day of recreation allotted to them. So, in a convivial spirit, they proceeded to regale themselves with song, story and recitation.

Some of these men were musicians of no mean ability and their musical instruments added zest to the entertainment. Their success on this occasion provoked a repetition, but added to the discomfort of a sedate landlady, and the second Sunday they were compelled to find new quarters. This they did, and added to their coterie fresh recruits. In a month’s time the success that had attended their efforts evoked serious thoughts, and one of their number suggested that they utilize their talent to accumulate a fund for the relief of any member who might be found to be in distress.

Such was the nucleus which crystallized into the formation of a fraternal organization whose doctrine was:

A gospel born of love, charity, justice and fidelity. To soothe life’s cares, drive grief away and uplift humanity.

And thus was born an organization destined, for the first time, to answer the interrogatory: “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

The Order of Elks is a benevolent fraternity, conceived in a spirit of good fellowship, with a view to aiding those of its members, in need, in the hour of adversity. In the practice of its cardinal virtue – charity – it has long since recognized the necessity of going outside the organization and giving succor and comfort to those who, because of the frailties of human nature, are the victims of man’s inhumanity to man.

Among the objects set forth, in the Preamble to the Constitution of the Order, is a declared purpose “to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism,” which means love of one’s country, and this in its last analysis, involves elevating its citizenry.

We can only directly “inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity” into the minds and hearts and lives and the very soul of our obligated membership; “to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members” means but a relatively small percentage of the population of the United States; but “to quicken the spirit of American patriotism” opens up a field of opportunity for the Order to serve the entire Nation, and thus create an influence that will in turn be felt throughout the world...

I shall urge no membership drive, for I believe this practice has brought into the Order men who never really understood, appreciated or attuned themselves to the real spirit of Elkdome. Better that we devote a greater amount of energy toward making real Elks of those who are, as yet, merely members of the Order; to this end, with a view to maintaining the highest standards of membership, I strongly urge that the Exalted Ruler of every Lodge, during the coming Grand Lodge year, endeavor to reobligate each member of his Lodge. It should be our ambition to attain quality rather than quantity....

We are men of diverse racial extractions, political opinions and religious affiliations, yet all believing in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, Protestant and Catholic, Jew and Gentile, Republican and Democrat, we have stood before the Altar of Elkdome and taken the same solemn and binding obligation to support the Constitution and Laws of one Nation indivisible and pledged allegiance to the Flag of our Republic; and while each of us treads the road of his own choice to attain his eternal salvation, let me emphasize there is an Elks Lodge on every road.”

November 2025

Milford Elks Lodge #1589

Milford, CT

203-874-1589

LODGE MEETINGS
November 4th and 18th
7:00pm

November 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 - November

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 McCormack
2	Crystal Ardito-Meyer, Steven Lynch, Michael McCabe
3	Richard LoPresti
4	Kenneth Crepeau, Jr
5	Anthony Colangelo, Lemanuel Hill
7	Diana Mager
8	Dorothy Johns, Robert Sullivan
10	Michael Aiken, Bruce Ellis
12	Vincenzo Sorrentino, David Williams, Joseph Yednasty, Frank Zavaglia
14	George Byrne, Joel Gorkowski
15	Ann Fabian, Emily Mager
16	Julie Bacher, Avenya Buzelle, Sharon Fabricatore, David Field
17	Michael Guerrero
18	Thomas Gauthier, Concetta Mastrianna
19	Mary Ann Griffin, Robert Lynch, Colleen Wright
20	Francis Gormley, Steven Saleski
22	Dawn Cooper, Robert Finch, Helena Hernandez
23	Thomas Duggan, Christine Hernandez, Kyras Emily Keating
24	David Kurata, Ori Lacroi, William Sheehan, Bernard Wilhelm
25	Rosemary Walsh
26	Evan Arneith, Donald Burns, James Carroll, Felton Jackson
27	Joe Johnson
28	William Anderson, Anthony Dipietro
29	Jeffrey Stewart
30	Jeffrey McPadden

November Birthday Celebration
November 30th @ 5pm!!



What's Happening



Turkey Shoot
Saturday, November 22th
6:30 to 9:30 pm
\$35 for 10 rounds
Until Sold Out
If any left- \$40 at the Door
\$5 per round
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN
Limited to 40
See the Steward for tickets
Proceeds to Benefit Youth Activities

The poster features a festive design with a string of colorful triangular bunting at the top. Below the title, there are several autumn leaves scattered around. At the bottom, two cartoon turkeys wearing black pilgrim hats are facing each other. The text is arranged in a clear, bold font, with key details like the date, time, and ticket prices highlighted.



Contact Mary Garfield for tickets
MIXED TAPE MATCH
Friday, Nov. 21st
\$20 PER PERSON
ROUND 1 STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7 PM
3 ROUNDS MUSIC MATCH
SIMILAR TO TRADITIONAL BINGO
NICE VIBES

The poster has a retro, tape-themed aesthetic. It features a central graphic of a cassette tape with a peace sign on the left and a heart on the right. The text is bold and colorful, with a mix of fonts. A small banner at the top left says 'Contact Mary Garfield for tickets'. The overall design is playful and inviting.

Exalted Ruler Message

Dear Members,

As the colder weather settles in and the crisp air reminds us that the holidays are near, I'd like to begin this month's message with one simple word — Gratitude.

Our lodge is volunteer-run, and that is something truly special. Every meeting, event, and gathering we hold happens because of the caring, committed members who step up to help. Our volunteers are the heart of our lodge — they are the reason we are able to offer so much to our members, our community, and to each other.

This lodge belongs to all of us. So, in that spirit, if you see something that isn't quite as you'd like it to be, I encourage you to pause and ask yourself, "How can I help and be the difference here?" When we each give a little of ourselves, we create something extraordinary together.

I want to sincerely thank every one of you who continues to lend a hand — whether it's setting up, cleaning up, cooking, planning, decorating, or simply showing up to support. You embody what it means to be an Elk.

We had a wonderful October, highlighted by a very successful District Deputy Visit and Dinner on October 21st, a fantastic Elktoberfest celebration filled with great food, creative décor, and plenty of Elk-tober fun, and two incredible Halloween Parties — one for the kids and one for the adults — both overflowing with laughter and community spirit. A heartfelt thank-you to all the volunteers who made each of these events such memorable successes!

And there's more to look forward to as we head into November. Be sure to check out the Lodge calendar for upcoming events such as the Veterans Day Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony, the always exciting Turkey Shoot, and the Foran vs. Law Thanksgiving Day Football Game, which will be held at Foran High School this year. Our lodge will proudly present Sportsmanship Awards to deserving football players, cheerleaders, and band members.

We're also participating in the Special Olympics Penguin Plunge, hosted by Westbrook Lodge #1784 on November 16th at 11:30 a.m. We're putting together a team — if you'd like to join in or donate, please reach out!

{Continued on next page}

What's Happening

EXALTED RULER MESSAGE (Con't)

Please keep an eye on our calendar and announcements — there's always something happening, and your participation truly makes a difference.

In this season of thanks, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you — for all that you do, for all that you give, and for who you are.

Wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy Thanksgiving.
Stay warm, stay kind, and thank you for helping our lodge continue to Be the Difference.

Faternally Yours,

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

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

Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, November 2nd

10 AM- 2 PM

Bring your bottles and cans and let your friends know.

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

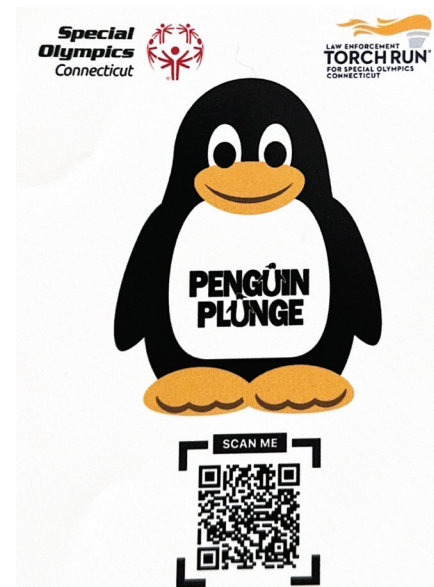


What's Happening



Place: Gymnasium at St Mary's School
74 Gulf Street, Milford

Questions? Contact Rich LoPresti
rich@milestoneamg.com



Activities Committee

Greetings, Fellow Elks!

October has come and gone faster than potluck dishes disappear on Football Sundays. But what a month it was! Our Lodge proved once again that when Elks come together with a purpose, extraordinary things happen. That showed through with the outpouring of Elks generosity at the Milford Riders “Code Blue” event.

Our lodge’s staple activities in the taproom and hall – Game Nights, Line Dancing and Karaoke – continue to bring members together in fellowship and increasing talent. Whether you were perfecting your two-step or belting out power ballads, your participation embodies the Elkdom spirit of fraternal enjoyment.

November is here, the home stretch of 2025, and we find ourselves in the countdown to the rest of the year. But fear not! Your Activities Chair has plenty in store to keep our Lodge lively and engaged.

Mixed Tape Match (Music Bingo) on November 21st is selling out fast. If you haven’t secured your spot yet, time is running short! This isn’t your grandmother’s bingo (unless your grandmother has excellent taste in music, in which case it might be). Get your tickets before they’re gone!

Our Turkey Shoot on November 22nd - tickets are still available – we have 40 of them, so get them while they last! And for those wondering: No actual turkeys are shot. This is a fun, family-friendly fundraiser that supports our Lodge’s charitable programs.

Football season is in full swing, and Sundays are “Fundays” at the Lodge! Come down, watch some football, and enjoy our potluck offerings. It’s the perfect way to spend your Sunday while exercising your right to yell at television screens in fraternal solidarity. All are welcome!

See you at the Lodge! (Preferably before all the Mixed Tape Match and Turkey Shoot tickets are gone.) – Check the calendar for all upcoming events.

Mary H. Garfield (203-906-5693)
Leading Knight & Activities Committee Chair

Officers Notes

Members, November is the month we honor and remember all our Veterans who have served our country. Please take time to participate in our events that honor our Veterans. **CALLING ALL VETERANS!** If you are a veteran and have not previously done so, please send me your name, the branch you served and type and date of discharge so I can make note of it in your member profile. We use this information to notify you when we run events honoring our veterans.

As I am sure you know membership is the lifeblood of our Lodge and all our good works are only possible with a robust group of individuals dedicated to the principles of our Order. We now have 44 members still delinquent so please pay your dues as soon as possible.

If you do not have a 2024 – 2025 dues card, you are delinquent and not entitled to Club or Lodge privileges and you cannot be signed in as a guest. If there are financial issues impacting you, please contact me in confidence at milfordlodge1589@gmail.com and I can help. We don’t want to lose your membership!

For those of you who did not attend the official visit to our Lodge by our District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Patricia Robles you would have been very proud of how warmly she spoke about Milford and our impact within the community and additionally we received high marks for our performance to all Grand Lodge policies and procedures.

If you have moved recently, please remember to notify me of your new address. Don’t miss out on any of the great activities and opportunities we have by not providing your current address.

Looking ahead, the Elks Memorial service where we remember our members who have passed in the past year will be held on Sunday, December 7th, please attend this sincere and hallowed ceremony.

- Delinquent Members: 44
- Reinstatements Pending: 1
- Applications to be read: 3
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 5
- Investigation: November 10, 2025
- Balloting: November 4, 2025 & November 18, 2025
- Awaiting Initiation: 1
- Initiation: TBD

Dave Field, PDD
Secretary

Elk of the Month

James Kiely

This month's Elk of the Month goes to James Kiely!

James is always in action — often when no one is even watching. From helping design the Milford Lodge's first-ever Challenge Coin to taking on public relations for the Rider and exploring new ways to promote our Lodge, James is always on task and ready to serve.

He ensures our AED machine is maintained and operational, and he's among the first to offer a hand in setting up, running, and breaking down events. James truly exemplifies what it means to be an Elk — he lives our values, leads by example, and shows us every day how to Be the Difference. He does it all with genuine heart, and we simply cannot thank him enough for his dedication and spirit.

Tip of the Antlers

Tip of the Antlers – Kathy Hart and Her Fabulous Crew!

A huge Tip of the Antlers goes out to Kathy Hart and her amazing team of volunteers! Kathy is the creative spark behind our Adult Halloween Party — the reason this fun and festive event exists! From planning and organizing every detail to transforming the lodge with imaginative décor, Kathy brings the spirit of Halloween to life. Her enthusiasm sets the tone, her vision makes it unforgettable, and her crew helps make it all happen — from setup to breakdown. Thank you, Kathy and team, for your hard work, creativity, and dedication. You make our lodge celebrations truly spook-tacular! I look forward to many more events like this in the future.

Tip of the Antlers – Elks Riders and Our Incredible Supporters!

A tremendous Tip of the Antlers goes out to the Elks Riders and all the amazing donors, volunteers, and attendees who came together for the incredibly successful Code Blue event. This special fundraiser was organized to support one of our very own Elk families — Julia and Ryan McAllister — as Ryan faces the challenge of needing a liver transplant. The Riders saw a need — providing financial support for Ryan's potential donor — and took action with heart, determination, and compassion. Thanks to everyone who contributed time, talent, and generosity, the event was not only a success but a powerful reminder of what it means to truly Be the Difference. Your kindness and unity embody the spirit of Elkdom at its finest.

Tip of the Antlers – Bruce Buzell!

A big Tip of the Antlers goes out to Bruce Buzell for taking on the task of maintaining our lodge's lawn! Bruce has done a wonderful job keeping the grounds looking their best — even taking the extra time to clean up the front and sidewalk areas. The results are amazing! Thanks to his hard work and care, our outdoor space looked beautiful and welcoming, making it even more enjoyable to sit back, relax, and listen to the music in Antler Park. Bruce, we truly appreciate you stepping in to make the lodge shine. Your dedication and pride in our space help create an environment that everyone can enjoy — thank you for helping our lodge look great and feel like home!

What's Happening

House Committee Notes (Con't)

Sunday hours are from Noon to close in the Taproom and 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 Autumn is here. Don't be a stranger.

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

Veterans Events

Veterans Day Parade - Sunday November 9, 2025. Step off from Parsons at 2pm. All units are asked to assemble at the Daniel Wasson Field parking lot at 1pm

Veterans Wreath Laying Ceremony - Tuesday November 11 at 10:45 am at Milford City Hall 110 River Street. We will gather at the WW1 Doughboy monument.

CANDIDATES

Marisa Byrnes	Proposed
Jessica Leto	Proposed
Ryan McAllister	Proposed
Carl Artz	Investigation
Susan Mastrianni	Investigation
Marjorie Mendillo	Investigation
Tom Raab	Investigation
Denise Brown	Balloting
Catherine Liontas	Balloting
Peter Liontas	Balloting
Nicholas Ricci	Balloting
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 October 6, 2025. The major topic of discussion was repairs to the parking lot, and the quotes we have received so far. With quotes coming in between \$80,000.00 and \$150,000.00 we discussed if it could be done in stages. That led to discussions of fund raising events to help with the cost of this major project. If members have ideas on how to raise significant amounts of money, please feel free to share them with any Board member. Discussions will continue be ongoing through the winter months to try and be ready for a spring or summer start to the project, if possible. The Board will keep members apprised of any progress at Lodge meetings.

The Lodge is waiting for quotes from Knight Security for the expansion of the security system to cover all of the Lodge property, including all areas of Antler Park. Once complete all areas will have 24/7 camera coverage with video backup.

A new chandelier has been installed at the top of the stairs in the main entrance. The leak in the taproom ladies room has been repaired thanks to Steve Saleski of Steves Plumbing for the speedy fix. Thank you Steve.

The Board of Directors would like to thank Bruce Buzelle for the beautiful landscaping work around the Lodge, and Antler Park. Bruce puts in a lot of time making the Lodge looks fantastic. A big tip of the Antlers to Bruce for donating his time to keep our Lodge looking GREAT.

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

Sat, November 1st	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Thu, November 6th	6:00pm Sausage & Peppers Grinder- Crispy Polenta Fries
Fri, November 7th	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, November 8th	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Fri, November 14th	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, November 15th	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Thu, November 20th	6:00pm Chicken Cacciatore with White Rice
Fri, November 21st	5-8:30 pm EVENT MENU (Mixtape Match)
Sat, November 22nd	12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Thu, November 27th	THANKSGIVING- Taproom Closed
Fri, November 28th	5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, November 29th	12-8:30 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 the wonderful Elks that have supported the Thursday Night Supper. Hopefully everyone has enjoyed the dining options. We look forward to many more of these dining events.

I also want to thank everyone that helped with ELKTOBERFEST 2025 that occurred on Friday, October 10th. What a fun, festive tradition that we were proud to have been able to keep going. I am pleased to announce that we have hired a cook for the kitchen, allowing us to offer food every weekend once again.

Some of you have already had the pleasure of meeting James Bazso, and if you haven't, please introduce yourself to him at your earliest convenience. He is a fine young man with a passion for cooking. He just happens to be the son of one of our amazing stewards, Julia McAllister. He is a veteran of the Marine Corps, a husband to Madison and father to Oakley. This amazing addition will allow us to do some more fun things in the kitchen, offering some exciting new food events.

Starting Friday November 7th, we will have seasonal soups available to purchase in-house as well as in 32-ounce containers to take home for an easy, heat-at-home meal option. They will be scratch made with healthy ingredients and void of preservatives.
(continued on next page)

November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						12-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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 Supper 6-8pm Sausage & Peppers Grinder	5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Veterans Day Parade Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm	Veterans Wreath Laying			5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu Country Line Dancing	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Hoop Shoot Polar Plunge Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm		Thurs Night Supper 6-8pm Chicken Cacciatore	5-8:30pm Event Menu Mixed Tape Bingo	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu Turkey Shoot
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm Elks Riders Mtg 7pm			Thanksgiving Breakfast CLOSED REST OF DAY	5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu
30	VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 2					
Pot Luck Sunday November Birthdays 5pm						
8	www.MilfordElks.com www.CTElks.org www.Elks.org					
	www.MilfordElks.com www.CTElks.org www.Elks.org					
	9					