



#1589 MILFORD ELKS

124 New haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460 203-874-1589
milfordelks.com FB: Milford Elks Lodge 1589

Exalted Ruler Message

Dear Fellow Elks,

Summer has truly arrived at Milford Elks Lodge #1589, and what a start it's been!

Thanks to sponsors Jerry Artz, Barb Zink - Caldwell Banker, and M&R Mechanical, our June Wednesday Night Summer Music series kicked off the summer strong. Also a big thank to the members and guests who come out every Wednesday to enjoy the tunes, have dinner and some drinks. We are definitely keeping the good times rolling. Live music will be in Antler Park every Wednesday throughout July, so bring a chair, bring a friend, and come soak up a summer evening with us. Your support is exactly what keeps these nights a success.



I have to take a moment to recognize the incredible turnout for the Milford Elks Riders' Bike Night on June 7th. Seeing so many of you come together raised \$2,000 for K-9 First Responders, and is a powerful reminder of just how strong this lodge is when we stand together. Well done, everyone.

Our reliable favorites are still going strong, too. Karaoke, Game Nights, and Country Line dancing continue to draw great crowds and even better company. If you haven't joined in lately, there's always a spot for you.

A big thank-you to Jerry Artz and our Past Exalted Rulers for the outstanding Surf and Turf Fest. They served our members beautifully and got food to everyone perfectly, no small feat. It was impressive work and very much appreciated.

I also want to shine a light on our new Tiler, Nicole Vartuli, who ran a wonderful Children's Safety event that drew quite a crowd. Elroy the Elk even made an appearance! Families thanked us warmly as they picked up new bike helmets and smoke or carbon monoxide detectors for their children and homes. Nicole, the community appreciates you, and so do we. Thank you for your dedication.

Looking ahead to July:

We're all in full summer swing, so we'll have just one meeting this month, July 21st. Please note there will be no initiations this month or next.

That said, I encourage you to attend meetings whenever you can. A great deal of important information is shared in the room that never makes it into the bulletin, and I don't want any of you to miss out.

Finally, the Elks National Convention is in Chicago, IL this year, July 5th-8th. There's still time to make the trip if you're looking to get out of town, and I'm sure I'll return with plenty of fresh ideas to bring back to our lodge and share with all of you.

Here's to a safe, fun, and memorable July. Thank you for everything you do to make Milford Elks #1589 the special place it is.

Fraternally yours,
Mary H. Garfield
Exalted Ruler

JULY 2026

Lodge Meeting:
7:00pm 21st

OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler

Leading Knight
Loyal Knight
Lecturing Knight
Secretary
Treasurer
Esquire

Mary Garfield

Sarah Muoio
Erin Burke
Don Sanchez
David Field, PDD
Kelly O'Hara
Mary Ellen Patchell, PER
Nicole Vartuli
Ray Bernor, PER
Caroline Butler

Trustees:

One-year

Dave Williams, PER,
PER Chair

Two-year

Danette Contaras,
PER

Three-year

Joseph Mager III,
PER

Four-year

James Garfield, PER

Five-year

Jennifer Vondle, PER

PER Assoc. President

David Williams, PER

Youth Activities Comm

Courtney and
Robert Black

Drug Awareness Comm.

Nicole Vartuli

Audit Committee

Jocelyn Eagle

House Committee

Jim Garfield and
Gerry Artz

Activities Committee

Jennifer Vondle, PER

Public Relations Comm.

Amy Potts, Sarah
Muoio, & Sue Bernor,
PER

Hall Rental

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

Sickness & Distress

Sarah Muoio
(203)308-3147

sarahmuoio@icloud.com

Bulletin Editor

Amy Potts
(203) 305-3124

Elks1589PR@gmail.com

SECRETARY NOTES

Members,

As we enter the month of July, I'm sure many of you will be going on vacation. I would remind you that wherever you go find out how close the local Elks Lodge is and plan a visit. One of the best perks of membership is that your member card grants you access into any Elks Lodge in the country. It's a great opportunity to see different Lodges and meet other Elks and share their knowledge and vision.

We have had several very successful events in the past couple of months. This has significantly helped us fund our charitable programs for our youth, veterans, and senior citizens within our community.

We still have 100 members who are delinquent with their dues. I want to thank the members that have remitted their dues for the new Lodge year. If you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. You can pay your dues by cash or check; you can also pay by credit card in the lounge or by PayPal to Milfordlodge1589@gmail.com.

Please remember to inform the Lodge of any changes in your contact information to ensure you receive on a timely basis all information provided by the Lodge, such as the bulletin, charitable events and your dues and membership information.

Also, any member who has achieved thirty years of membership in the Elks is entitled to apply for Life Membership. To apply send a note requesting it to the Secretary at milfordlodge1589@gmail.com.

- Pending Reinstatements: 0
- Applications to be read: 3
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 10
- Investigation: July 6, 2026
- Balloting: July 21, 2026
- Candidates awaiting Initiation: 0
- Initiation: TBD

Dave Field, PDD
Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear members,

The Board met on June 15, 2026.

In June, the Board obtained three quotes to clean the air ducts. Due to the cost, the Board decided to wait until the parking lot project is complete before deciding. The Board also voted to increase the non-member hall rental fee to \$600 and adjust the bartender fee to \$120 to reflect current hourly wages. The Board thanked the PERs for hosting a successful Surf & Turf Dinner.

On June 23, the Board held an emergency meeting regarding the failed taproom cooler used for beer bottles, wine, and other liquor. Repair costs were estimated at more than \$2,000 for the cooler, which is over 15 years old. The Board unanimously voted to replace it with a new, equivalent cooler for \$4,217.94 including tax & delivery rather than repair it.

The Board is still working on the Grand Lodge application to repair and replace the existing parking lot.

Also, as reminder, the black chairs in hall are to remain inside. If additional seating is needed outdoors, metal-folding chairs are available for use. This is to ensure our hall furniture & equipment remains in good condition for our renters & member use. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with me or any Board member: Danette Contaras, PER; Joe Mager III, PER; Jim Garfield, PER; Jennifer Vondle, PER; Exalted Ruler Mary Garfield; Leading Knight Sarah Muoio; Loyal Knight Erin Burke; Lecturing Knight Don Sanchez; Secretary Dave Field, PDD; or Treasurer Kelly O'Hara.

The next Board meeting is Monday, July 20, at 7:00 PM. Fraternally yours,

Dave Williams, PER
Chairman Elect, BOD

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

Our Kickoff to Summer Fireworks Celebration was a tremendous success and a wonderful reminder of what makes the Milford Elks so special. From setup to cleanup, the music, food, fireworks, and smiling faces throughout the day, it truly showcased the spirit of our Lodge.

That same day, we were proud to participate in Milford's celebration of America's 250th Anniversary. It was an honor to represent our Lodge during such a historic community event and celebrate this milestone alongside our community.

Throughout the month, members also enjoyed Wednesday Night Music in Antler Park, Country Line Dancing with plenty of boot scootin', and another fun-filled Karaoke Night with DJ Ron. A heartfelt thank you to all of the talented bands who helped make our summer evenings so memorable.

A special thank you goes to our House Committee, Activities Committee, and our incredible Lodge Staff for the countless hours spent planning, preparing, serving, and cleaning up after each event. Your dedication behind the scenes is what makes these events possible.

Most importantly, thank you to our members. Whether you volunteered, attended an event, brought a friend, or simply supported the Lodge, you are the heart of everything we do. Your generosity, enthusiasm, and commitment to our Lodge and community continue to make the Milford Elks a place where friendships grow and memories are made.

Summer is just getting started, and we have many more exciting events ahead. I encourage everyone to keep an eye on the calendar, our Facebook page, and Lodge announcements. We are always looking for helping hands, fresh ideas, and new faces. Together, we'll continue making this a summer to remember.

Wishing you and your families a safe, happy, and memorable summer!

Jennifer P Vondle, PER, Activities Chair
jennifervondle@gmail.com, 203-823-6313

TAPROOM HOURS

Mondays 12-10pm
Tuesdays 4-11pm
Wednesdays 4-11pm
Thursdays 4-11pm
Fridays 2-12am
Saturdays 12-12am
Sundays 12-10pm

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Jim Garfield & Jerry Artz - HC Co-Chairs

I would like to thank all the volunteers, employees, the bands and all the members for making this years rock n fireworks an absolute success and blast, one of our most memorable days this year so far.

We will be closed on the 4th of July to give all the employees and volunteers a day off to enjoy with family.

All summer long antler park gates are open from opening till closing. Please feel free to grab a drink from the tap room and sit outside in the picnic area and enjoy the sun.

After a few delays we now officially have Jack Box Trivia up and running in the tap room every Monday night from 7-9pm.

We now have Hot roast beef sandwiches to enjoy all day on Saturdays as well as Mondays. Also by request the return to zuppardi's personal pizzas everyday downstairs in the taproom.

A gentle reminder August is around the corner and will need volunteers for this years oyster festival. (More to follow)

Many thanks to all of our volunteers and HC Shirts, from helping with all of our events, running food, changing kegs and backing up our stewards so they may better serve our members, your efforts are very much appreciated and valued by all and we are looking forward to many fun and special days this coming summer and year.

Cheers

Weekly Specials:

Mondays:	Roast beef sandwiches* \$9.00 12-8pm Draft Day & Night Special \$2.00 domestic Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm
Tuesdays:	Wine it down Tuesdays – Wine Specials
Wednesdays:	Frozen cocktail specials Antler Park Summer Concert Series Music 6-9 pm Kitchen open w/special event menu 5-8:30
Thursdays:	\$6.00 Zuppardi's personal pizzas Bottles Night (Domestics) specials 5pm-close
Fridays:	Kitchen open 5:30-8:30pm Martini specials
Saturdays:	Kitchen open 5-8:30pm Roast beef sandwiches* \$9.00 Martini specials
Sundays:	Every Sunday pot luck day Game day 3pm

* includes cole slaw and signature cherry pepper

ELK OF THE MONTH - Nicole Vartuli (Tiler) Drug Awareness Chair

Nicole Vartuli, we tip our hats (and adjust our properly-fitted bike helmets) to you. Your tireless work on our Children's Safety Event was nothing short of spectacular. Thanks to Nicole, many local kids are now cruising the neighborhood with bike helmets that actually fit, a small miracle for any parent who's ever tried to wrangle a child into safety gear. But she didn't stop at helmets. Nicole made sure families went home with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors too, because nothing says "we care about you" quite like a device that beeps at 3 a.m. to remind you the battery is low.

All kidding aside, Nicole's dedication to keeping our community's children and families safe reflects the very best of what it means to be an Elk. She poured her heart, energy, and remarkable organizational skills into making this event a success, and our community is genuinely safer because of her. Thank you, Nicole, you've earned this recognition many times over, and we're proud to call you one of our own.

TIP OF THE ANTLERS - Rockin' Fireworks Volunteers

This month we raise our antlers high to the incredible crew of volunteers who made our Rockin' Fireworks celebration such a spectacular success! Under the steady leadership of Jenn Vondle, PER and Activities Chair, along with Jim Garfield, PER, and Jerry Artz (House Committee Co-Chairs), this event went off without a hitch and with plenty of bang!! There were simply too many helping hands to name them all, but those who were there saw it firsthand: the folks who showed up early to set up, the ones who kept everything running smoothly throughout the night, and the troopers who stuck around to clean up long after the last firework faded from the sky. It takes a small army to pull off an event like this, and every single one of you answered the call. Your hard work, energy, and team spirit did not go unnoticed and they're exactly what makes our Lodge shine. Thank you to all who pitched in. We couldn't have done it without you, and we're already looking forward to the next one!

TIP OF THE ANTLERS - Nancy Brennan

This month's tip of the antlers also goes to Nancy Brennan for the work she put into organizing our Elks Apparel showcase. Nancy's creative vision brought our merchandise back to life, and her idea to hang shirts in the Taproom for viewing and purchase makes it easy (and tempting!) for members and visitors to browse and buy. Thanks to her efforts, we are hoping for great movement in our inventory.

Thank you, Nancy, for your dedication and creativity in support of our Lodge.

HAVE SOMEONE YOU WANT TO NOMINATE FOR ELK
OF THE MONTH OR TIP OF THE ANTLERS?

Send your nomination to Mary Garfield
maryhgarfield@gmail.com

CANDIDATES

Susan Bettigole	Proposed
Sharon Lawless	Proposed
Gerald Elam	Transfer Dimit
Andrew Arnold	Investigation
William Cantwell	Investigation
Heidi Dragonette	Investigation
Jesse Fyfe	Investigation
Kathryn Hurteau	Investigation
Irena Kozlowski	Investigation
Michael Oliveira	Investigation
Michael Pellegrino	Investigation
Michael Petrucci	Investigation
David Viselli	Investigation
Kelly Walsh	Investigation

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS INITIATION JUNE 2026



MEMBERSHIP DUES

IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Ask the Steward on duty in the taproom. If you have questions please reach out to David Field, Secretary.

IF YOU HAVE **NOT** PAID YOUR 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Your membership card will not give you access to the taproom. You will have to buzz in and pay your dues to continue to visit.

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN PARKING
SPOTS DESIGNATED FOR MEMBERS.**

(Elk of the Month, Elk of the Year,
Officer of the Year, Exalted Ruler,
Lodge Steward and HC Chair)

They worked hard to get
those parking spots!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

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 Frank Savakis
- 2 John Hart, Olga Nigretti
- 5 Christopher Meunier
- 6 Susan Bernor, Susan Kelleher, Philip Rosati, Joseph Soto
- 7 Steven Bauer, Kathleen Festa
- 9 Corey Bernor, Lawrence Thennes
- 10 Marissa Mizzone
- 11 Alexis Black, Raymond Paul Girard, Christopher Hessberger, Mary Ellen Patchell
- 12 Timothy Hey, Johnathan White
- 13 Lanette Setkoski
- 14 Abigail Faillace, Margaret Maillet, Raymond Paskiewicz
- 15 Christopher Cody, Kathy Lawruszko, John Patterson
- 16 Kim Manion, Robert McDonald
- 17 Timothy Saller, Donna Vienneau
- 18 Todd Hellyar, Cynthia Hill, Gideon King
- 19 Catherine McDonald
- 20 Christopher Malerba
- 21 Alan Brown, John Kuchma
- 22 Anthony Lucas, Craig Renz
- 23 Brenda Sanchez-Papeika
- 24 Morgan Vondle
- 26 Tracey Williams
- 27 Lori Fagan
- 28 Susan Oviatt
- 29 Kelli Marie Carr, Anthony Detullio, Timothy Grivalsky, Robert Magowan, Michael Petro, Joseph Uberti
- 30 Robert Moran, David Raffauf, Robert Villodas, Steven Wydra
- 31 Robert Fantarella, Carrie McFarland, Richard Piscitelli, Michael Schoenster, Robert Whelan, Jr.

RIDERS' CORNER

Our 2nd Annual Bike Night was a tremendous success, and I am proud to share that we donated \$2,000 to K-9 First Responders, Inc. This outstanding organization deploys specially trained canine teams that provide emotional support and psychological trauma response services to victims, survivors, communities, and first responders affected by tragedies, disasters, and critical incidents.

Our Riders group has also been busy participating in several great events throughout the month. We were honored to ride in the City of Milford's 250th Anniversary Parade and to take part in the West Haven Riders Patching-In Ceremony. It's always rewarding to represent our Lodge and strengthen the bonds of Elkdom through these events.

Our next Riders meeting will be held on July 27 at 7:00 PM. If you'd like to learn more about the Riders or are interested in joining our great group of Elks, we invite you to stop by and see what we're all about.

Fraternally,
Jim Garfield, PER
President, Elks Riders

Antler Park Concert Series July

6 pm - 9 pm

- 1st Lost Marbles
- 8th Western Electric
- 15th Dustina Rose Duo
- 22nd Jason Heffernan
- 29th BASSic Ivory

Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, July 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.

SAVE THE DATE MILFORD ELKS FOOD TENT MILFORD OYSTER FESTIVAL AFTER DARK

MILFORD ELKS LODGE #1589
FOOD & DRINK

featuring: LOBSTER ROLLS | SAUSAGE & PEPPERS
CHEESEBURGERS | HOTDOGS

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!
VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR BOTH DAYS!**

SERVING FOOD | COOKING & PREP | SETTING UP | CLEAN UP

FRI, AUG. 14, 2026 5-10PM | SAT, AUG. 15, 2026 4-10PM

Fowler Field, Milford CT

VOLUNTEER NOW



xfinity

HOUSE COMMITTEE

New and excited drinks coming in July

- Pear martini
- Violet lemon drop martini
- Lemon meringue martini
- Jolly rancher martini
- Skinny margarita
- Prickly pear margarita
- Coconut margarita
- Cherry cola margarita
- Hugo spritz
- Limoncello spritz
- Councilman
- Razzzy bourbon sour
- And our new signature cocktail (The Exalted Ruler)

We add some new and healthier options to
our Wednesday night special event menu

- Hamburger \$6.00
- Hamburger deluxe \$7.00
- Cheeseburger \$7.00
- Cheeseburger deluxe 8.00
- Hot dog \$3.00
- Chicken wings 10pc \$13.00
- Chicken tenders 3pc \$7.00
- French fries \$5.00
- Onion rings \$6.00
- Jalapeño poppers \$9.00
- Grilled chicken sandwich deluxe \$10.00
- Crispy chicken sandwich deluxe \$10.00
- Caesar salad \$5.00
- Grilled chicken Caesar salad \$8.00
- Crispy chicken Caesar salad \$8.00
- \$8.00-fried shrimp \$9.50
- Shrimp cocktail \$9.50

MILFORD ELK'S ANNUAL

GOLF Tournament



MONDAY, AUGUST 31
8 AM



ORANGE HILLS COUNTRY CLUB



\$185 PER PERSON
SEE STEWARD TO SIGN UP OR



[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/QV4VSUVQCSAJGZDN9](https://forms.gle/QV4VSUVQCSAJGZDN9)



AT THE MILFORD ELKS FOLLOWING TOURNAMENT
• HAPPY HOUR
• DINNER

JOIN US!





Family Safety Event



Flag Day



Parade



Rockin' Fireworks

MEMBERS' BUSINESS ADS

If you are interested in having an ad in this bulletin, please contact Amy Potts amy@aapk.com.

Business card ad - \$10/month for a year

1/2 page ad - \$15/month for a year



DocuCollections.com
We document your collections

*Have your valuables inventoried to protect them.
Great for insurance and estate planning purposes.*

Amy Potts, Owner
203-305-3124

Not an appraisal service

July 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Music in the Park 6-9pm Event Menu 5:30-8pm	Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm	5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	Roast Beef 12-5pm 5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Pot Luck Sunday	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm <i>Investigation Meeting</i> 6:30pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm		Music in the Park 6-9pm Event Menu 5:30-8pm		5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu 6-10pm Country Line Dancing	Roast Beef 12-5pm 5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 6:30pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm		Music in the Park 6-9pm Event Menu 5:30-8pm		5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	Roast Beef 12-5pm 5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 6:30pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm	Music in the Park 6-9pm Event Menu 5:30-8pm		5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	Roast Beef 12-5pm 5-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 6:30pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Riders Meeting (Hall) 7-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm	House Committee Meeting 7pm	Music in the Park 6-9pms Event Menu 5:30-8pm		5-8:30pm Kitchen Menu	

VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH
GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 1