

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

April 2025

**Milford Elks
Lodge
1589**

Milford, CT

203-874-1589

LODGE MEETINGS
April 1st and 15th
7:00pm

April 2025 Taproom Hours

Monday	5:00pm—10:00pm
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	2:00pm—8:00pm

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
TBD
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 - April

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 William Cyr, Joseph Mager
- 2 Michele Fratarcangeli
- 3 Joseph Labozzo
- 8 Stephen Barone, Howard Haberman, Kelly Hammill
- 9 Sheryl Daigle
- 10 Carlos Perez
- 11 Steven Zagami
- 13 Zachary Attolino, Raymond Spaziani
- 14 Mary Krotki, Michael Sotir, Lauren Sudbey-Szygiel
- 15 Joseph Coady
- 16 Joshua Rouse
- 17 Thomas Charney, John Patrick Mizzone
- 20 Alexander Pittman
- 21 Evy Hill
- 22 Richard Krusewsk, Barbara Trianovich
- 23 David Bernor
- 25 Thomas Obenhoff, Robert Tarver
- 26 Andrew Hearn, Michael Knapp, Paul Mastrianna, Scott Tompsen
- 27 Christopher Goulden, Mary Ann Levi, Karen Plaveck
- 28 William Hart, Thomas Smith
- 30 Daryle Hiltz, David Litvinoff, Jeffrey Montano

April Birthday Celebration
April 27th @ 5pm!!



What's Happening



Help Us Stock the Purple Pantry!

April Food Drive – Supporting the Purple Pantry

Throughout the month of April, the Milford Elks Lodge 1589 will be collecting non-perishable food items to support the Purple Pantry and help those in need in our community.

Donation Drop-Off: Look for the collection box in the Taproom – every item makes a difference!

Most Needed Items:

Canned Goods (soups, vegetables, beans, tuna, etc.), Pasta, Rice & Boxed Meals, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Cereal & Granola Bars, Shelf-Stable Milk & Juice, Snack Packs & Kid-Friendly Foods

Let's come together to fight hunger and show that Elks Care, Elks Share!
Thank you for your generosity!

Exalted Ruler Message

Dear Fellow Elks,

It is with great joy, honor, and gratitude that I step into the role of Exalted Ruler for this Lodge year. I am truly humbled to serve such an incredible community of dedicated Elks, and I look forward to working alongside each of you to make this another amazing year for Milford Elks Lodge 1589!

First and foremost, I want to extend my deepest thanks to PER Jim Garfield for his leadership, commitment, and tireless efforts over the past year. To our officers, committee chairs, volunteers, and every single member who contributed their time, energy, and heart—you are what makes this lodge special. Because of your hard work and dedication, we had a wonderful year, and I am excited to build upon that momentum together.

I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside this year's officers, committee chairs, volunteers, and our entire membership. Each of you plays a vital role in making this Lodge a place of friendship, service, and community, and I look forward to all we will accomplish together.

I believe that our strength as Elks lies in our brotherly and sisterly love, kindness, and respect for one another. These values will be at the forefront of all we do this year, ensuring that our Lodge remains a welcoming and thriving place for all. Whether you are a longtime member or new to the Lodge, I encourage you to get involved—join a committee, attend meetings, share your ideas, and be a part of something meaningful. Your voice and participation matter!

To ensure I am available to hear your thoughts, answer questions, or just chat, I will be holding regular ER hours at the Lodge every Thursday evening. I invite you to stop by, whether you have concerns, suggestions, or simply want to connect.

Through transparency, kindness, and action, we can continue to grow our Lodge and create another incredible year together. I look forward to serving alongside you and seeing all the great things we will accomplish as a lodge family.

Fraternally,

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

What's Happening

CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY



Saturday, April 5th at 9 am to 12 pm
Member's children and grandchildren Age 12 & under

**Breakfast, Easter Craft, Egg Hunt
& Visit from the Easter Bunny**

Sign Up in the Taproom by March 29th

Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, April 6

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

Game Night
Wednesdays
6:30 PM



Pinochle



Starting April 14th
Pinochle
Mondays
6:30 PM

Join the Milford Elks Team for Walk a Mile in Her Shoes!

The Milford Elks Lodge 1589 is putting together a team for the 18th Annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®, and we want YOU to join us! This powerful event raises awareness and funds to support survivors of rape, sexual assault, and gender violence in our community.

We welcome walkers, families, and supporters to be part of our team. Whether you want to walk, donate, or cheer us on, your participation makes a difference!

Date: Sunday, April 27th, 2025
Location: Lisman's Landing, Milford

Time to grab those heels, wedges, or fabulous women's shoes! There are awards for the best footwear, so let's have some fun while supporting an important cause!



Join our team by contacting: Jennifer Vondle at jennifervondle@gmail.com or 203-823-6313

Donation Link: <https://go.rallyup.com/rccwalk2025/t/974176>

Let's put ourselves in their shoes, raise awareness, and show our community that Elks Care, Elks Share!

Activities Committee

Dear Members,

March has been an extraordinary month filled with excitement and success for our Milford Elks Lodge! Our beloved Karaoke nights continued to draw enthusiastic crowds, while the tap room was alive with fantastic music from two talented bands that performed on Friday, March 7th (Make it Happen) and 21st (Dustina Rose & Mike Savino). Country Line Dancing on March 14th was a delightful sight under the festive St. Patrick's Day decorations, bringing members together for boot-stomping fun.

The highlight of the month was undoubtedly our St. Patrick's Day parade participation, where our float entry —complete with Lucky Charms, playful Leprechauns and Leprechaun Catchers—captured the crowds hearts and won 1st Place in the Milford parade! The celebration continued after the parade as we opened both floors of the lodge for our after-parade party, which was packed to capacity with jubilant members and guests. The renowned country rock band “Yes Ma'am” rocked the house with their regular hits plus special Irish music added to their lineup for the occasion. Our success didn't stop there—a crazy group of Elks rallied the next day to drive the 1st place John Deere Tractor and Leprechaun float to the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade, where we proudly won Best Fraternal Organization! A special shout out to Caroline Butler who represented the Milford Lodge exceptionally well by jumping in the blow up Leprechaun costume to entertain the crowd! (P.S. there may be a video around somewhere!)

Our other events were equally impressive in March. The PER Pierogi Night followed by Trivia with PER Joe Mager III was such a hit that we sold out faster than anticipated! Game nights throughout the month provided wonderful opportunities for friendly competition and fun. As March came to a close, we extended our deepest gratitude to Jennifer Vondle, who concluded her remarkable tenure as Fundraising Chair with the successful Psychic/Medium event before transitioning to her new role as ER beginning April 1st. Be sure to check the calendar for all upcoming events this month (Children's Easter Party along with an Easter Bunny sighting), and stay tuned for exciting new activities that will soon be added to our lodge's offerings!

Mary H. Garfield, Activities Chair
203-906-5693

Officers Notes

Members,

I want to congratulate our new Exalted Ruler Jenn Vondle and her incoming suite of Officers for the 2025 – 2026 Lodge Year. Jenn has been very active in the Lodge from the day she was initiated and I'm sure her enthusiasm, energy and organizational skills will result in great accomplishments for our Lodge. Please join me in congratulating Jenn and her team as I am confident, she will receive the support of all our members to make this a great year!

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.

- Applications to be read: 2
- Candidates to be balloted on: 1
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 7
- Investigation: April 8, 2025
- Candidates awaiting Initiation: 7
- Initiation: TBD

Dave Field, PDD
Secretary

Elk of the Month

Daryl Hiltz

Daryl may be a newer member, but he has quickly become an invaluable part of our Elk family. Always willing to lend a hand, he works tirelessly behind the scenes—quietly but impact fully—helping wherever he's needed. His generosity shines through in the many raffle prizes he has personally crafted and donated to support our fundraisers.

Daryl embodies the true spirit of Elkdom, always ready to share his time, talent, and treasure for the good of the Lodge. Whether offering a helping hand, sharing ideas, or contributing in any way he can, his dedication does not go unnoticed.

Tip of the Antlers

A huge thank you to **Jon White** for his generous donations to kick off the new year with some incredible raffle prizes! Your kindness and support help make our lodge events even more exciting and enjoyable. We truly appreciate your generosity!

A special shoutout to **Jerry Artz and the entire House Committee** for an amazing year and an incredibly successful St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Lodge! This dedicated team, along with our many volunteers and hardworking staff members, went above and beyond—preparing, cooking, and serving an incredible 120 lbs of corned beef, cabbage, sauerkraut, and carrots. Our amazing Stewards kept everything running smoothly, and thanks to everyone's hard work, we even SOLD OUT! What a fantastic day enjoyed by all who attended—thank you to everyone who helped make it such a huge success!

A huge thank you to **Mary Garfield, Bobby Fantarella, and the incredible team of volunteers** for their amazing creativity, hard work, and dedication in building and decorating our award-winning float for the Milford St. Patrick's Day Parade! Taking home 1st place for the second year in a row is no small feat, and it's all thanks to the effort and enthusiasm of our Elks family. A big shoutout to everyone who walked or rode with us, proudly representing our Lodge and spreading the spirit of Elkdom. It was a fantastic parade, filled with fun, camaraderie, and community pride!

What's Happening

CANDIDATES

Matthew Cuminotto III	Proposed
Timothy Saller	Proposed
Evan Arnrth	Investigation
Thomas Bogart	Investigation
John Finan	Investigation
Liugo Mullin	Investigation
Gary Pugliese Sr.	Investigation
Falynne Schnauffer	Investigation
Robert Slesinski	Investigation
Mary Olsen	Balloting
Lori Cetaloni	Initiation
Christopher Fresilli Jr.	Initiation
Frank Holleran	Initiation
Wayne Lutsky	Initiation
Susan Stokes	Initiation
Philip F. Ucci III	Initiation
Suzanne Vitaletti	Initiation

TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS

James Patchell, PDD, POY

Board of Directors Corner

Dear members,

I am excited to announce that the Board of Directors will have a new member joining us, James S. Garfield, PER, as of the publication of this bulletin. We look forward to his assistance and dedication to the Order and this Lodge.

The Board would like to congratulate Jennifer Vondle on her installation as our new Exalted Ruler along with the rest of her team. We look forward to working with you.

The election of the Board Chairman position is currently underway. A Board Chair will be announced this month and future official statements of the Board shall come from that elected individual come May.

The Board will begin the '25 fiscal year with plans to meet twice per month to help alleviate any issues that may arise throughout the month. Meetings will take place prior to each Lodge meeting to allow approval of bills presented to the secretary as well as handling any concerns presented by the membership.

Currently, the Board has a number of line items to handle. Some issues being dealt with currently are Lodge cleanup initiatives including power washing of the building and looking into improving the lodge ambience with possible dimmer switches.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions while the election of a Board Chairman is pending.

Cheers to another successful year!

Joe Mager, PER, Board Secretary

House Committee Notes

KITCHEN MENU

Fri, April 4	5 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Sat, April 5	12 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Fri, April 11	5 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Sat, April 12	12 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Fri, April 18	5 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Sat, April 19	12 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Fri, April 25	5 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Sat, April 26	12 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Fri, April 28	5 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu
Sat, April 29	12 – 8:30pm	Kitchen Menu

Hello my fellow Elks!

We are excited to step into the roll as House Committee Chairs and serve the members of Milford Elks Lodge 1589!

Its that time of year again and we would love to welcome the new House Committee members as well as our new Exalted Ruler Jennifer Vondle. Let's also take time to thank Mary Garfield for continuing her role as Activities Chairperson. She had a great year, and we are very excited to see what she has in store for this upcoming year. Hats off to Jerry Artz who has spent the last 3 years as House Committee Chair, volunteering and providing the Lodge with so many wonderful additions, both seen and unseen. Your dedication to this Lodge is greatly appreciated.

We would like to thank everyone for their hard work in making St Patrick's Day weekend a big success. Without the help of our member volunteers, this success just would not have happened. Also, a huge CONGRATULATIONS to those that took care of designing, building and riding on this years St Patty's Day Float. For the second year in a row, it took first place in the Milford St Patrick's Day Parade in addition to taking the Top Nod for "Best Fraternal Organization" In the New Haven Parade.

We have many exciting things planned for this upcoming year, some traditional and some fresh new ideas... Stay tuned as we announce them in the coming months. We are welcome to suggestions and look forward to hearing from you at the House Committee meetings. We will do our best to provide offerings that all members can enjoy.

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 we transition into our new roles as co-chairs of the House Committee, we would like to say thank you for allowing us this opportunity and we would appreciate the 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!

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

April 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Lodge Meeting 7:00pm			5-8:30pm Kitchen menu Live Music Taproom 7-10pm	9-12 Easter Kids Party 12-8:30pm Kitchen menu Karaoke 7:30pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Pot Luck Sunday		Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm	Game Night 6:30pm House Committee Meeting 6:30pm	1-6pm Blood Drive	5-8:30pm Kitchen menu	12-8:30pm Kitchen Menu <i>Roast beef sandwiches</i>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Pot Luck Sunday	Pinochle Class 6:30pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm	Game Night 6:30pm	1-6pm Blood Drive	5-8:30pm Kitchen menu Country Line Dancing Live Music Taproom 7-10pm	12-8:30pm Kitchen menu Karaoke 7:30pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
CLOSED FOR EASTER	Pinochle Class 6:30pm		Game Night 6:30pm		5-8:30pm Kitchen menu	12-8:30pm Kitchen menu <i>Roast beef sandwiches</i> Pinochle Class 3pm
27	28	29	30	31		
Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Pot Luck Sunday April Birthday Celebration 5pm	Pinochle Class 6:30pm		Game Night 6:30pm			

VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH

GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 2