



#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,

I hope this finds everyone enjoying a fabulous summer and finding ways to stay cool!

What a week it was in Chicago! The National Convention was a huge success, and I couldn't be prouder of the Mighty Milford Lodge. Thank you to everyone who spent the week there with me. Your energy, camaraderie, and Elk pride were on full display. I heard we had the most attendees at the meeting of any lodge in Connecticut, way to go! That's something every one of you should be proud of. It says everything about who we are as a lodge. The new GER Timothy Jeager's message for this lodge year is "Ready Elks - Let's Go!" This comes from a time when the group of Jolly Corks and the newly organized B.P. O.E. got fellow Elks to rally in times of need for those that needed help the most! When the call goes out, let's be there!!!



Wednesdays at Antler Park! Don't forget. Wednesdays are the place to be! Live music in Antler Park with the full kitchen menu available is a great way to get out of the house, enjoy the summer evening, and mingle with fellow Elks and friends. Come on out and join us.

Volunteering at its best! The Milford Oyster Festival on Friday and Saturday August 14th and 15th needs all the Elk Volunteers we can get. Look for a communication from Loyal Knight Erin Burke for the line up of jobs and where you can best support our biggest fundraiser of the year! Any amount of time works for us and no volunteer time is too small!

Initiation, August 18th!! Thanks to a wonderful increase in membership applications, we'll be holding an Initiation this month. Please mark your calendars and join us on August 18th to welcome our newest members into the Milford Elks family. A strong turnout means a lot to our newest brothers and sisters.

Always remember to be respectful in the taproom to everyone! Bad behavior or inappropriate comments and gestures will not be tolerated. Be Kind!

See you at the Lodge!
Fraternally yours,
Mary H. Garfield
Exalted Ruler



AUGUST 2026

Lodge Meeting:
7:00pm 18th

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,

It's the middle of Summer and many of us are either on or planning to go on vacation, please remember that your Elks membership card gets you into any Elks Lodge. This is a great opportunity to meet members from other Lodges and States and broaden your view of Elksdom. August is also the month of the Milford Oyster Festival, historically, our largest fundraiser of the year. Please consider helping as much or as little as you can to help make this another great event for us.

We currently have 88 members who have not paid their dues. Our yearly monetary commitment to the CT Children's Medical Center and the Special Olympics as well as our National and State fees are based upon your membership being up to date. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact me at dfield60@att.net or (203)376-3089, In strict confidence.

When you were initiated, you received an electric key card to provide access to the Lounge. The cost of these cards has dramatically increased over the past few years. Should you lose or damage this card a \$10.00 fee will be charged for a replacement, and it must be paid prior to the issuance of the new card. Also, if you ring the bell to gain entry to the Lounge remember to donate a dollar to the Children's hospital in the tubes on the wall.

If you have been a member of the Order of Elks for 30 years you are eligible for Life Membership. You must request it in writing to the Secretary at milfordlodge1589@gmail.com.

- Delinquent Members: 88
- Pending Reinstatements: 2
- Incoming Transfers: 2
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 18
- Investigation: August 3, 2026
- Requests for Life Membership: 1
- Candidates awaiting balloting: 0
- Balloting: August 18, 2026
- Candidates awaiting Initiation: 6
- Initiation: August 18, 2026

Dave Field, PDD
Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear members,

The Board met on July 20, 2026.

In July, we had the privilege of hosting the state meeting for all District Chairs. In preparation, dedicated volunteers cleaned and landscaped the front area of our lodge, with support from generous donations. It has never looked better. Be sure to check out the many photos on our Members Facebook page. We also thank Jerry Artz for repairing the burned grass spots in Antler Park.

Although the Grand Lodge application to replace the existing parking lot is moving forward, we learned that the selected contractor cannot meet our fall schedule. We are reviewing other options, including postponing the project until spring.

We were made aware of the property owner (JT Tool) next to Antler Park is looking to sell. It is not publicly listed.

Our new lodge cleaning service is working out very well. Heather has gone above and beyond by taking extra time to scrub walls and add fresh fragrances throughout the building. As a reminder, please direct any comments about the new cleaning arrangements to me or another Board member—not to Heather. This includes suggestions, grievances, or concerns. Board members include 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; and Treasurer Kelly O'Hara. Thank you for your cooperation.

The next Board meeting is Monday, August 17, at 7:00 PM.

Fraternally yours,

Dave Williams, PER
Chairman Elect, BOD

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer! It's hard to believe we're already looking ahead to the Fall. July was filled with great times at the Lodge, from our Wednesday Night Music Series to line dancing, karaoke, and members coming together to enjoy good friends and plenty of laughs. Despite a few very hot Wednesday evenings, it was wonderful seeing so many members, families, and guests spending time together.

Wednesday Night Music continues throughout the summer! If the weather is too hot or stormy, we'll simply move the entertainment indoors. Be sure to check our Facebook page and the Lodge calendar for any updates. Also, please note that our August Karaoke dates have changed, so be sure to check the calendar for the updated schedule.

The Activities Committee has been busy planning an exciting fall season! Be sure to save the dates for Bourbon & Cigar Night on September 10 and Mixtape Match on September 25. We're also excited to be planning a brand new Hoedown, along with several other activities that are in the works. We can't wait to share them with you and continue bringing our members together for fun, friendship, and great memories.

As summer winds down, Oyster Festival weekend will be here before we know it! This is our largest fundraiser of the year and plays a vital role in supporting the charitable work we do throughout our community. If you'd like to volunteer, please reach out to Erin. Whether you can give a few hours or the whole weekend, every volunteer truly helps us make a difference.

Thank you to everyone who comes out to support our events, lends a helping hand, and makes Milford Elks Lodge such a welcoming place. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and I look forward to seeing you around the Lodge!

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

Thank you for continuing to make our summer 2026 memorable. Our Wednesday night summer music is going great, a strong turn out and enjoyment every week. It's our pleasure seeing the members enjoying the summer everyday down at the lodge.

Looking forward to August enjoying the music outside in antler park while the summer weather is still here. We are also excited for the upcoming Oyster Festival this month, our biggest volunteer event of the year. There are sign up sheets to help volunteer for the festival down in the tap room for the 14th and 15th. If you have any questions or suggestions, see Erin Burke (Loyal Knight) who is leading the organization of volunteers and assigned tasks again this year. Excited for our last month of summer 2026.

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/full menu 5-8:30
Thursdays:	\$6.00 Zuppardi's personal pizzas Bottles Night (Domestics) specials 5pm-close
Fridays:	Kitchen open 5:00-8:30pm (full menu) Martini specials
Saturdays:	Kitchen open 5-8:30pm (full menu) 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 - Bruce Buzelle

Retirement hasn't slowed Bruce Buzelle down one bit! If anything, it's given him more time to make our lodge shine, and we couldn't be more grateful. Bruce is the quiet force behind so much of what makes our grounds beautiful, from mowing Antler Park to keeping our flower pots blooming during the dry hot days of summer.

This month, we want to spotlight something truly special: Bruce led the effort to completely renew the front landscape of our lodge. Over three long, hot days, he brought his vision to life. River rock paired with contrasting stone around the flagpole, creating a look that's nothing short of spectacular. Anyone who pulls into our parking lot now sees the pride and care Bruce pours into our lodge.

Bruce, your dedication doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you for everything you do to keep Milford Elks Lodge #1589 looking its best. You are truly deserving of Elk of the Month! Thank you!

TIP OF THE ANTLERS - Landscaping Volunteers

This month's Tip of the Antlers goes out to the crew who rolled up their sleeves to help get our new front landscaping across the finish line: Jim Garfield, Avenya Buzelle, Don Sanchez, Linda Kane, Martin Burke, and Anthony Muoio. Whether it was shoveling, raking, scrubbing, or hunting down cardboard, every bit of effort helped transform our lodge's entrance into something we can all be proud of. Special shout out to Linda Kane who crawled under the handicap ramp to clean out the years of collected mess, not the easiest to get under there so Thank you!

We also want to extend a special Tip of the Antlers to Dave and Ann Marie Field and Dave Williams for their generous donation of stone and mulch, a gift that made all the difference in bringing this project across the finish line.

Thank you all for giving your time, your sweat, and your generosity to our lodge. Milford Elks Lodge #1589 looks better because of you!



TIP OF THE ANTLERS - Hugh Mullen

This month, a Tip of the Antlers also goes out to Hugh Mullen for stepping up in a place most members will never even see. Hugh noticed a need behind the scenes and took action by building a set of shelves in the locked liquor room to help our stewards keep inventory organized, visible, and safely off the floor.

It's easy to overlook the work that happens out of sight, but it's exactly this kind of initiative that keeps our lodge running smoothly. Thank you, Hugh, for your craftsmanship and for looking out for your fellow Elks in ways that don't always get noticed but always make a difference! You Rock!

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

Leslie Bayetis	Investigation
Susan Bettigole	Investigation
Deborah Bonnanzio	Investigation
Theodore Boynton III	Reinstatement
Sandra Carlino	Investigation
Heidi Dragonette	Investigation
David Gallant	Investigation
Dale Humphries	Investigation
Donna Humphries	Investigation
Sharon Lawless	Investigation
Zachary Markowitz	Investigation
Edward Schappa	Investigation
Janet Serra	Investigation
Robert Tworkowski	Investigation
David Visely	Investigation
Kelly Walsh	Reinstatement
Sofia Zagami	Investigation
Gerald Elam	Transfer Dimit
Jesse Fyfe	Transfer Dimit
Andrew Arnold	Initiation
William Cantwell	Initiation
Kathryn Hurteau	Initiation
Michael Oliveira	Initiation
Michael Pelligino	Initiation
Michael Petrucci	Initiation
Don Dinapoli	Life Membnership

MEMBERSHIP DUES

IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Ask the Steward on duty in the taproom. If you have quesitons 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 taprrom. 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!

AUGUST 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 Thomas Briglia
- 2 Laura Ambrogio, Melissa Hodges, Tony Ianniello, Michael Kuhar
- 3 Mariano Sanchez
- 4 Catherine Liontas
- 5 Alfred Neumon, William Sheehan
- 6 Leonard Magruder, Edward Mansfield
- 7 Daniel Kacenski
- 8 Alissa Gallagher, Michael Monaco, Lori Reisinger
- 9 Jeffrey Delauri, Pat Falcione, Judith Hessberger
- 10 Robert Falkowski, Patrick O'Connor, Gabriella Salati
- 13 Christopher Contaras, Thomas Intelisano
- 14 Elaine Casey
- 15 Diane Ancel, Ronald Fontaine, Jessica Rissolo, Anthony Simmons
- 16 Margaret Hawes, Laina Kominos
- 17 Lynn Visti Berube, Pamela Black-Smith, Dominique Kolodziejczk, Susan Roth
- 18 Patricia Rainieri
- 19 Jane Wampler
- 20 Kenneth Lesinsky, Carla O'Brien, Sheila Wolfe
- 21 Kalysta Contaras
- 22 James Brown, Joyce Koslowski, Tracy Labbe
- 23 William Jackson, Raymond Lasczak
- 24 Mikayla Castro, Theodore Holden, Robert Tschilske
- 25 Doreen Alfano
- 27 Michael O'Connor, Michael Schoenster
- 28 Frederick Ashcroft, Martin Burke, Frank Manto, Edward Sekelsky
- 29 Joseph Dubee, Christopher Field
- 30 George Bekech, Deborah Chaffin, Michael Hanlon
- 31 Michael Muldowney

RIDERS' CORNER

As summer continues, I'd like to share a few highlights from the Milford Elks Riders.

One thing that continues to impress me is how often our members get out into the community to represent our Lodge. Whether it's a large group or just a few members, I know we can always count on our Riders to support fundraisers and activities at fellow Lodges and proudly represent Milford throughout the state.

This past month, we had Riders attend the Waterbury Memorial Ride and travel to Southington to support their Patch-In Ceremony. Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate.

Our fundraising efforts also continue to make a difference close to home. The lodge recently approved our \$1,000 donation from our Riders account to the Milford Junior Major League—a great reminder that everything we do helps support our local community. We can't wait to see the Milford Elks name on the back of those uniforms again this fall, and I've already heard Riders talking about getting groups together to head to the ballfield, cheer the kids on, and show our support throughout the season.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Riders. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on Monday, August 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Fraternally,
Jim Garfield, PER
President, Elks Riders

Antler Park Concert Series August

6 pm - 9 pm

- 5th John Merola
- 12th Sal Grillo
- 19th Ode to Rosie
- 26th Steve Scovell

Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, August 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.

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Exciting drinks coming in August

- 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)

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!

The Gang in Chicago



LOCATION UPDATE - FORAN HIGH
Milford Elks Lodge #1589

SOCCER SHOOT

Saturday, August 29th
8 - 2 PM

Volunteers Needed to Score & Shag Balls

Contact Dave Williams
(203) 843-6123

All Milford & Orange Children born in years 2009- 2020 are eligible
Register at event

Location TBD



SMOOTH BOURBON. PREMIUM CIGARS.

Great Vibes.

Join us for a night of bold pours, rich flavor, and unforgettable *conversations* at our Bourbon & Cigar Event.

SIP, SMOKE, AND SAVOR THE EXPERIENCE.

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH 7 - 9 PM

LOCATION: ANTLER PARK

LIGHT FOOD AND DESSERTS WILL BE SERVED

PRICE: \$40

ORDER YOUR TICKETS FROM THE STEWARDS IN THE TAP ROOM

GOOD PEOPLE. GREAT BOURBON. BETTER VIBES.



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



August 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Game Night 3pm 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 Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Activities Com- mittee Meeting 7:00pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm Karaoke 7:30pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm		Music in the Park 6-9pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm OYSTER FESTIVAL	Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm OYSTER FESTIVAL
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm (Initiation)	Music in the Park 6-9pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm Karaoke 7:30pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Riders Meeting (Hall) 7-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm	House Committee Meeting 7pm	Music in the Park 6-9pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm Soccer Shoot - 8am-2pm
30	31	VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 1				
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm Birthday Celebration 5pm	Golf Tournament Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm					