#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,

As summer winds down and the days start to shorten, I want to thank each of you for making it such a memorable season at our lodge. But don't put away the sunscreen just yet, September is packed with activities to keep the fun going, and I hope you'll join us for as many as you can.

A huge congratulations to Loyal Knight Erin Burke and Member Eileen Richitelli, who once again took the leap, literally, for CT Special Olympics, going "Over the Edge" this year to raise funds for a cause that means so much to our community. Your courage (and your fundraising!) never cease to amaze us.

And another huge thank you to the entire team of volunteers who rocked the Oyster Festival this year. The hours of setup, serving, and cleanup didn't go unnoticed. You all represented our lodge beautifully and made it a fantastic event for everyone who came out.

Mark your calendars! We need members to come out and support Soccer Shoot on September 12th. This is an important event for our community's youngest athletes, and we need volunteers to help it run smoothly. Even an hour or two of your time makes a real difference. Please reach out to Dave Williams-PER, if you're able to lend a hand.

Milford Elks and the Milford Elks Riders will be escorting the Closer to Free Riders on Saturday, September 19th, supporting this vital fundraiser for the Smilow Cancer Center. If you'd like to join in on this meaningful ride, please reach out to Jim Garfield-PER, to get involved.

Get ready!! Mixed Tape Match is back this month! Come test your music trivia knowledge and enjoy a fun night with fellow members. If you have not joined us before, it is just like a traditional game of bingo, but with music played by a DJ. You don't need to know the song, after the song starts to play, the DJ lets you know what the song is! Mark it off on your player sheet and if you get a bingo, you win! There will also be raffles and a 50:50!

A Few Reminders!
As we head into fall, let's keep the spirit of our lodge alive in everything we do. Be kind. Make someone smile each day. Small gestures go a long way, and they're a big part of what makes our lodge feel like home.

And as always, a friendly reminder that no lodge business is to be discussed in the taproom. Let's keep that space relaxed and social for everyone.

Thank you all for your continued dedication to our lodge and our community. I look forward to seeing you at our September events!

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

Lodge Meetings:
7:00pm 1st & 15th

OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	**Mary Garfield**
Leading Knight	Sarah Muoio
Loyal Knight	Erin Burke
Lecturing Knight	Don Sanchez
Secretary	David Field, PDD
Treasurer	Kelly O'Hara
Esquire	Mary Ellen Patchell, PER
Tiler	Nicole Vartuli
Chaplain	Ray Bernor, PER
Inner Guard	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,

We now have 660 active members in our Lodge with 74 delinquent members. Dues for the 2026-27 Lodge year were due on April 1, 2026, if you do not have a 2026-2027 membership card then you are in arrears. This means you 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.

Dues can be paid by check, cash, or via Venmo or PayPal thru Milford Lodge 1589, or you can pay by credit/debit card at the Lodge when we are open. 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 dave.field1953@gmail.com or (203)376-3089. In strict confidence.

We had an outstanding Oyster Festival!! This is the direct result of all the hard work and effort from our members, families, and friends who volunteered their time. Many thanks to Erin Burke and her team for planning and executing a fantastic event. We also had a very successful Memorial Golf Tournament! Great job by Matt Jurczyk and the committee.

- Delinquent Members: 74
- Reinstatements Pending: 0
- Applications to be read: 4
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 7
- Investigation: August 31, 2026
- Balloting: Sept 1, 2026
- Candidates Awaiting Initiation: 8
- Initiation: September 15, 2026

Dave Field, PDD
Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear members,

The Board met on August 17, 2026.

As announced last month, the selected contractor to replace the parking lot cannot meet our fall schedule. We are now working towards postponing the project until spring of 2027.

Discussions began about moving some money from regular savings to a CD account. The matter was tabled for further consideration in September.

Repairs to the lodge are ongoing & thanks to many members keeping our front entrance flowers looking great. Bruce Buzelle continues to keep Antler Park looking great with grass cutting & other landscaping work, including the overgrowth of weeds from our neighbors.

The Lodge had a very successful August. The Oyster Festival was a huge success and the number of volunteers was amazing. Erin Burke, Don Sanchez & Jerry Artz did a fantastic job running the event. Wednesday Night Music continues to be a huge hit in Antler Park, bringing in a lot of members & non-members to enjoy, thanks to the many sponsors to make it happen.

The annual Golf Tournament was once again very well attended event. Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time organizing & running this successful event plus the actual donations themselves. It took many hours behind the scenes & day of this great event. Starting in the early morning with registration at the golf course to food preparation back at the lodge, has taken a lot of hands to pull it off, making me proud to be a Milford Elk.

The Lodge is doing well with all the members & non-member participation. New members continue to join our lodge. We remain strong, thanks to the great leadership of the BOD's continuing to monitor financial health. If you have any questions or concerns please speak to me, or any of your Board Members.

The next Board meeting is Monday, September 21, at 7:00 PM.

Fraternally yours,

Dave Williams, PER
Chairman Elect, BOD

TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS
George W Bekech

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

It is hard to believe summer is already starting to wind down. We have had such a fun and busy season at the Lodge, and it has been great seeing so many members come out and enjoy it together.

Our Wednesday Night Music continued to be a favorite this summer, and we will keep it going through September 16th. We also had another round of Karaoke, which is always a good time and a great reminder that we have quite a bit of talent in the Lodge!

August also brought the Oyster Festival. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, helped out, and came by to support the Lodge. It was a great weekend, and we truly appreciate everyone who helped make it happen.

We have plenty more fun coming in September.

Along with Wednesday Night Music, we have more Karaoke, Line Dancing, and Elktoberfest on the way. There will be plenty of reasons to come out and enjoy the Lodge this month, whether you are ready to grab the microphone, get out on the dance floor, or just come join the fun. Be sure to check the Lodge calendar for dates and times.

On September 10th, we have our Bourbon & Cigar Tasting. We do need to reach the minimum number of participants to hold the event, so if this is one you have been thinking about attending, be sure to sign up.

Then on September 25th, we have Mixtape Match, our music bingo style fundraiser benefiting the Elks National Foundation. This should be a really fun night, so grab some friends and come test your music knowledge with us! To reserve your spot, you can sign up in the Taproom or contact me directly.
As we head into fall, the Activities Committee is already working on more fun events and ways to bring everyone together.

Save the Date! Our Hoedown is coming October 3rd! More details will be coming soon, but for now, mark your calendar and dust off those boots.

Thank you, as always, to everyone who comes out, volunteers, supports our events, and helps make the Lodge such a great place to be.

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

TAPROOM HOURS	HAPPY HOUR
Mondays 12-10pm	**3-6pm**
Tuesdays 4-11pm	**4-6pm**
Wednesdays 4-11pm	**4-6pm**
Thursdays 4-11pm	**4-6pm**
Fridays 2-12am	**3-6pm**
Saturdays 12-12am	**3-6pm**
Sundays 12-10pm	**3-6pm**

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Jim Garfield & Jerry Artz - HC Co-Chairs

Thank you for an outstanding month of August. The volunteers for the Oyster Festival went above and beyond this year - selling out of our lobster rolls, as well as the other food items and beverages. Those manning the grills in the full sun, taking orders, running food and handling money is not an easy task. You all dedicated your time and strength for two full days with the many hours of preparation leading to the festival, as well as the cleanup after. We are truly blessed and grateful for our members that volunteer every year and also the new faces we had this year.

We still have live music on Wednesdays until September 16th which will be the last concert in antler park for the season. To close out the 2026 season and going out with a bang will be the crowd favorite YES MA'AM (a Country Rock Band).

Looking forward to September with up coming events such as, Cigar & Bourbon night, Mixtape Match, and Elktoberfest. Looking forward to all the coming events with the new season and upcoming holidays. Keep your eye on the calendar and event screens in the Taproom.

Thank you members for being there every day for every event, donation, volunteered time, and fond memories

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*

Newly added to our kitchen and food menu:
Kuhn's Spicy Chili dogs

ELK OF THE MONTH - Hugh Mullen

This month, Milford Elks Lodge #1589 is proud to recognize Hugh Mullen as our Elk of the Month, a true silent hero of our lodge.

Hugh is the kind of member who never looks for a spotlight, a thank-you, or a pat on the back. He simply shows up, sees what needs to be done, and does it. Ask him and he'll tell you he was "just helping out" but those of us who've watched him in action know better.

Every Monday, Hugh has stepped in to help make our roast beef sandwiches, quietly becoming part of the backbone of that weekly tradition. During the Oyster Festival, Hugh was instrumental in transportation, and his little white truck became a familiar and welcome sight, running to and from the lodge for two full days straight to keep everything and everyone moving where they needed to be.

But Hugh's generosity doesn't stop at the visible jobs. He also built shelves in the liquor room, a project most members will never even lay eyes on, but one that makes a real difference every day, helping our stewards retrieve items safely and avoid hazards that come with a small space.

Those who know who Hugh is, he doesn't do the job that gets noticed, he does the job that needs doing. Whether it's behind a taproom kitchen counter, behind the wheel, or behind the scenes with a hammer and level, Hugh Mullen embodies what it means to serve quietly and faithfully.

Please join us in thanking Hugh for his tireless, humble dedication to our lodge. We are lucky to have him!!

TIP OF THE ANTLERS - To Our Fesitval Volunteers

This one's for every member who showed up, whether it was 10 minutes or 10 hours, on one day or both days, to make our festival run so smoothly. You set up, you tore down, you worked the booth, you filled the gaps nobody saw, and you did it with a smile the whole way through. There were too many of you to list by name, but you know who you are, and so does this Lodge. Special thanks to Erin Burke for leading these efforts front to back and keeping everything and everyone moving in the right direction. Milford Elks #1589 runs on people like you. Tip of the Antlers to all of you!

TIP OF THE ANTLERS - Teddy Boynton

A very special shout-out to Member Teddy Boyton for recruiting a group of Jonathan Law High School students who jumped in and helped out across both days of the festival. These young folks tackled every task asked of them, worked hard, and represented themselves, and their school beautifully. It's not lost on us what it means for the next generation to show up and give their time to something bigger than themselves. We hope this experience stays with them, and that one day, we get to call them Elks among us. Tip of the Antlers to Teddy and to every one of those students!

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

Todd Casey	Proposed
Edward Crutchfield	Proposed
Paul Defrancisco	Proposed
Charles C Nappe	Proposed
Todd White	Proposed
Michael Binder	Investigation
Deborah Bonnanzio	Investigation
Gerald Elam	Investigation
Kelly Walsh	Investigation
Zachary Markowitz	Balloting
Sofia Zagami	Balloting
David Gallant	Initiation
Michael Pellegrino	Initiation

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS INITIATION AUGUST 2026

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!

Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, September 6th
10 AM- 2 PM
Bring your bottles and cans and let your friends know.

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

SEPTEMBER 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	Phyllis Collier
2	Linda Kane, Shaun Squier, Lisa Streit
3	Joseph Birarelli, Joan Lloyd
6	John Finan, Amy Potts
7	Leslie Manowitz
9	Kevin Ramirez, Matthew Whelan
10	Brian Garfield
11	Daniel Gardella, Michael Injaychock, Rosemary Toth
12	James Coffey
13	Arlene Hart, Darlene Lombardo
14	Jonathan Allen, Jerome Brennan, Susan Mastrianni, Robin Parry
15	Sarah Muoio
16	John Mager
17	Michael Novenstein, Frederick Palmieri
18	Don Dinapoli, James Garfield, Marjorie Mendillo
19	Henry Dzwonkowski
21	Raymond Fleischer, William Richards
22	Tammy Eaton, Jan Wankowicz
24	Jennifer Biela, Robert Black, Jerry Gluhanich
25	Robert Black, Marisa Byrnes, Peter Pasquale Szymanski
26	Elsie Correa, Jennifer Mager
28	Mark Richetelli, David Warzel
30	Ryan Patrick McAllister, Paul Stowell

RIDERS' CORNER

The Milford Elks Riders have had a busy month! Numerous Riders attended the 2026 National Elks Riders Rally at Middletown Lodge #771, where a great time and plenty of camaraderie were enjoyed by all. We're also excited that the 2027 Rally will be held March 18 in New Orleans!

We were proud to support a Poker Run hosted by Derby Elks Lodge #571 and honored to have Mighty Milford Lodge #1589 selected as one of the stops. Special thanks to our Rider volunteers who helped out and served hot roast beef sandwiches!

Save the Date — October 11!

The Milford Elks Riders are partnering with Anthony's Army for a special toy drive benefiting the Toy Closet at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital. More details are coming soon, but mark your calendars and plan to join us for this great cause!

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Riders. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on Monday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m.

Fraternally,
Jim Garfield, PER
President, Elks Riders

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Exciting drinks coming in September

- Tito's lavender lemonade
- Apple cider cocktail
- 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
- Razzy bourbon sour
- And our new signature cocktail (The Exalted Ruler)

PHOTOS FROM OYSTER FESTIVAL

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

September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Lodge Meeting 7:00pm	Music in the Park 6-9pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm		Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm Karaoke 7:30pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Game Night 3pm Pot Luck Sunday	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm *Investigation Meeting 6:30pm* Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm		Music in the Park 6-9pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Cigar & Bourbon Night 7 pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Full Menu 5-8:30pm Line Dancing	Soccer Shoot 8:30-2pm Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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 Elktober Fest 5-8pm Karaoke 7:30pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm			Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Mixed Tape Bingo Full Menu 5-8:30pm	Roast Beef 12-5pm Full Menu 5-8:30pm
27	28	29	30			
Pot Luck Sunday Game Night 3pm September Birthday	Roast Beef Sandwiches 12-8pm Riders Meeting (Hall) 7-8pm Jack Box Trivia 7-9pm	House Committee Meeting 7pm				

VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH

GOT AN IDEA? SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 1