

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

**August 2025**

**Milford Elks  
Lodge  
#1589**

**Milford, CT**

**203-874-1589**

**LODGE MEETINGS**  
**August 19th**  
**7:00pm**

**August 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	4:00pm—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  
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 - August

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
- 5 Alfred Neumon
- 6 Leonard Magruder, Edward Mansfield
- 7 Daniel Kacenski, Jose Oquendo
- 8 Alissa Gallagher, Michael Monaco, Lori Reisinger
- 9 Jeffrey Delauri, Pat Falcione, Judith Hessberger
- 10 Robert Falkowski, Patrick O'Connor
- 13 Christopher Contaras, Thomas Intelisano
- 14 Elaine Casey
- 15 Diane Ancel, Ronald Fontaine, Jessica Rissolo, Anthony Simmons
- 16 Martin Burke, Margaret Hawes
- 17 Lynn Viesti Berube, Pamela Black-Smith, Susan Roth
- 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
- 26 Carla Lyons
- 27 Michael O'Connor, Michael Schoenster
- 28 Frederick Ashcroft, Martin Burke, Frank Manto, | Edward Sekelsky
- 29 Joseph Dubee
- 30 George Bekech, Michael Hanlon
- 31 Michael Muldowney

August Birthday Celebration  
August 24th @ 5pm!!



## What's Happening

<i>Antler Park Concert Series</i> <i>August</i>	
8/6	<i>Straight Up</i>
8/13	<i>John Merola</i>
8/20	<i>This-n-That</i>
8/27	<i>Sentinel Salt</i>
<i>Wednesdays 6 pm - 9 pm</i>	

Calling All Elks!

## Oyster Festival

Friday 8/15 & Saturday 8/16  
5 pm - 10 pm

This is our **biggest fundraiser** of the year!  
Please consider how you can help!



Prep Stations  
Cooks  
Servers  
Clean up



## Exalted Ruler Message

Dear Members,

We are definitely feeling the heat of summer! Thankfully, the Lodge offers a cool retreat with our A/C, and I hope you're able to come down, relax, and enjoy everything we have to offer.

Morgan and I recently had the pleasure of attending the B.P.O.E. National Convention in Kansas City, MO. We learned so much about how to improve our Lodge and member experiences, and we were fortunate to meet some truly inspiring people—including our new Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Klatt. His motto, "Be the Difference," really resonated with me, as I know it reflects the heart of who we are and what we strive for within our Lodge community.

On that note, I'm honored to share that I've recently accepted the role of Coastal Chair for the Elks National Foundation (ENF). I'll be working closely with our District Deputy and area Lodges to help bring ENF into greater focus. When our Lodge meets or exceeds our donation goals, we directly benefit from grants that fund meaningful efforts for veterans and local causes. In addition to donating when renewing your membership, you can also opt into the Fidelity Club, where a monthly donation—as little as \$5—can make a lasting impact. If you're interested, visit [enf.elks.org/recurring](http://enf.elks.org/recurring) or see me with any questions.

We've had a great start to our Summer Concert Series, which continues through September on Wednesday nights. It's been wonderful seeing so many members and friends come out to enjoy the live music, Chef Morgan's summer favorites, and refreshing beverages from the Stewards. I hope to see even more of you join us before the season wraps up!

Looking ahead, we have some exciting opportunities to gather and give back. We'll be introducing a new Oyster Festival After Dark, where we'll be serving from the heart on Friday, August 15th and Saturday, August 16th. Later in the month, a team of our members will be participating in Over The Edge to support Special Olympics—by rappelling down the Mohegan Sun building on August 29th. Come check us out as we take the leap for a great cause! If you'd like to support the effort through a donation or share words of encouragement, please reach out to any of the participants.

{Continued on next page}

# What's Happening

## EXALTED RULER MESSAGE (Con't)

We also have plenty of other upcoming activities and ways to connect. Keep an eye on the Activities section or reach out if you're interested in getting involved. There's something for everyone, and your presence always makes a difference.

I want to take a moment to encourage each of you to find a way to get involved—big or small. As a volunteer-driven organization, we depend on members who care deeply about making a positive impact. Whether it's helping with setup, cleanup, lending a hand during events, or simply showing up to support, every contribution matters. Thank you to those who consistently step up—your dedication is noticed and deeply appreciated.

Let's continue to grow, serve our community, and be the difference together.

Fraternally Yours,

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

## Can and Bottle Drive

Sunday, August 3rd

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



**MILFORD ELKS MEMORIAL**

Join us on August 25, 2025, at 8:00 AM at Orange Hill's Golf Club in Orange, CT for the Milford Elks Golf Tournament—a day of spirited competition, camaraderie, and community support.

**EVENT DETAILS**  
**25 AUGUST 2025 — 8 AM - 5 PM**  
AT ORANGE HILLS CC, 389 RACEBROOK RD, ORANGE, CT  
**HAPPY HOUR & DINNER @ MILFORD ELKS FOLLOWING GOLF**

PLAYER REGISTRATION  
\$185 PP / \$740 FOURSOME

WE'RE LOOKING FOR TOURNAMENT SPONSORS  
\*\*INCLUDES FOURSOME\*\*  
\$1500

- CART SPONSOR
- HAPPY HOUR SPONSOR
- PUTTING CONTEST SPONSOR
- GOODIE BAG SPONSOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [MATTHEWJURCZYK@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATTHEWJURCZYK@GMAIL.COM)



**MILFORD ELKS**

**HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday  
6th Sept. 6

10:00am - 5:00pm

124 New Haven Ave.

**Vendors List Available Soon!**

**JOIN US!**



# Activities Committee

Dear Members,

As August brings its summer heat, our lodge continues to be your cool haven for friendship, fun, and community connection. While temperatures soar outside, we're keeping things comfortable inside with plenty of engaging activities to help you stay cool and connected with your fellow Elks.

We kick off August with the Activities Committee Meeting on the 5th at 7:00 pm. We're always looking for new activities and fresh ideas to keep our lodge vibrant and engaging. Whether it's a new game, a different type of entertainment, or a community service project, we welcome your suggestions and participation. Your input and ideas are always welcome!

Wednesday Night Music Series - Antler Park every Wednesday, 6:00 pm - 9:00pm. The music is always outside unless there is extreme weather. Karaoke & Game Nights & Country Line Dancing - Perfect indoor activities to escape the summer heat while having some friendly fun and a little competition with friends and fellow Elks.

Don't forget - The Annual Oysterfest on the 15th and 16th from 5-10pm!! Our beloved tradition (and biggest fundraiser) returns this month! While the Festival Committee has made adjustments from previous years, we're confident this year's Oysterfest will continue to be a success. We will be looking for many volunteers to prepare, set up, work the event, or clean up! See Erin Burke (Lecturing Knight) for more information.

August Birthday Celebration is Sunday, August 24th! We celebrate all our members August birthdays on the last Sunday of the month.

Come to Mohegan Sun on the 29th to watch and cheer on 11 of our fellow Elks members go "Over the Edge" in support of the CT Special Olympics.

SAVE THE DATE: Health & Wellness Clinic - Friday, September 6th, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Special thanks and a big shout-out to Susan Stokes, who will be chairing this upcoming Health & Wellness Clinic.

Remember, the best way to support our activities is by participating! Your presence makes every event more successful and enjoyable for everyone. For more information about any of these events, contact me or speak with any Activities Committee member.

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

# Officers 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 for 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 78 members who have not paid their dues. The list of delinquent members is posted in the Lounge, please look at it to see if you know anyone and can contact them to see if they will pay 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.

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.

- Delinquent Members: 78
- Pending Reinstatements: 2
- Candidates awaiting Investigation: 6 Investigation: August 11, 2025
- Requests for Life Membership:
- Balloting: August 11, 2023
- Candidates awaiting Initiation: 11
- Initiation: September 2, 2025

Dave Field, PDD  
Secretary

TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS

Robert Riordan

## Elk of the Month

### Patrick Rouse

We're proud to recognize Patrick Rouse as our Elk of the Month!

Pat has truly stepped up in recent months, generously offering his time, energy, and enthusiasm to support our Lodge in multiple ways. Whether it's helping run kitchen orders during our Wednesday Summer Music Series or lending a hand during Elks Riders events, Pat has been a dependable and positive presence behind the scenes.

In addition to his volunteer work, Pat has also become our go-to connection for delicious cheesecakes, taking orders from members and bringing a little extra sweetness to our Lodge community.

Thank you, Pat, for all you do—you embody the spirit of Elkdom, and we're grateful to have you as part of our team!

## Tip of the Antlers

### Rob & Sarah Muoio

A heartfelt Tip of the Antlers to Rob and Sarah Muoio for organizing and running a fantastic Elks Riders fundraising event at Prime Tobacconist!

Thanks to their leadership and dedication, this event not only raised funds to support our Lodge participants in reaching their Special Olympics "Over the Edge" fundraising goals, but it also brought members together for a great cause and a fun evening.

It was a wonderful opportunity to build community, connect with a new local business owner, and give him a glimpse of what Elkdom is all about. Thank you, Rob and Sarah, for showing what it means to Be the Difference!

### Roberta "Berta" Gogliettino

A big Tip of the Antlers to our superstar cleaner and all-around Lodge rockstar!

The moment Berta steps back into the state—and into the Lodge—she's already hard at work, scrubbing, organizing, and shining every corner to meet the high bar we lovingly call the "Berta Standard." Her dedication and elbow grease never go unnoticed!

But Berta's impact doesn't stop at cleaning. From baking delicious treats, to helping monitor the hall, and pitching in wherever needed—she's truly everywhere, and we're all better for it.

Thank you, Berta, for your tireless efforts, big heart, and constant support of our Lodge. We appreciate you more than words can say!

## What's Happening



In support of



**Special  
Olympics**  
Connecticut

**August  
29th**

**Contact Jim Garfield  
to donate!**

## CANDIDATES

Daniel Williams	Proposed
Anna Clabby	Investigation
Thomas Gauthier	Investigation
Steven Saleski	Investigation
Ethan Simmel	Investigation
Anthony Teixeria	Investigation
Michael Aiken	Initiation
Pedro Alcantara	Initiation
Lori Cetaloni	Initiation
Deborah Chaffin	Initiation
Abaigail Failliacce	Initiation
Christopher Field	Initiation
Robert Finch	Initiation
Mathew Lanier	Initiation
Jo-Marie Pelle	Initiation
Jane Wampler	Initiation
Colleen Wright	Initiation
Patricia Raineri	Reinstatement
Brian Thomas	Reinstatement

# Board of Directors Corner

Members All,

The BOD meets once per month, normally scheduled for the Monday before the third Tuesday in the months of July and August. The next BOD meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2025.

Financially the Lodge is doing well. Thank GOD for that, because along with great activity comes many repairs and maintenance. Milford has a very active Lodge because it has energized leaders keeping things moving quickly, and with successful events comes crowds of people. Currently there have been a string of successful things happening. Keep your eyes open for what's next.

The handicap door upstairs has been fitted with a new threshold to better accommodate scooters and wheelchairs. The main entrance will have a new threshold in the next week or two. After the building was power washed it needed some touch up painting, and that has been done. I want to again thank Trustee Dave Williams for addressing the doors, and the painting.

As some may be aware, the glass & dishwasher in the taproom is currently out of commission, but should be up and running when you receive your bulletin. Unfortunately, one of the main components failed and the part has a longer than normal lead time.

An exterminator was hired to rid Antler Park of the invasive Lantern Fly. It worked because they did not show up for the Wednesday night music, which made for a wonderful and successful evening. I would like to again thank Jessica Elliott for cutting the grass before the latest music event. It looked professionally manicured, and received many compliments. "Tip of the Antlers to Jessica".

On July 25 we had our annual inspection of our elevator. The service company said the elevator is in great condition, and noted that he can tell it gets a lot of use. We should get many years of use from it if we all treat it with some TLC. If you are not sure how it works, please do not hesitate to ask. Someone will come out to help. Send someone downstairs, or call 203-874-1589

August is Oyster Festival month which makes for a busy month. If you would like to get involved, please reach out to any of the officers. Erin Burke is the point person for this event, but anyone will be happy to point you in the right direction.

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

Fri, August 1st	5 – 8:30pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, August 2nd	4 – 8:30pm Kitchen Menu
Fri, August 8th	5 – 8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Pizza's and BYOF
Sat, August 9th	4 – 8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Pizza's and BYOF
Fri, August 15th	5 – 8:30pm TBD
Sat, August 16th	4 – 8:30pm TBD
Fri, August 22nd	5 – 8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Pizza's and BYOF
Sat, August 23rd	4 – 8:30pm Roast Beef Sandwiches, Pizza's and BYOF
Fri, August 29th	5 – 8:30pm Kitchen Menu
Sat, August 30th	4 – 8:30pm Kitchen Menu

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Hello, my fellow Elks!

Thank you all for another successful month at the lodge. Remember that on Wednesday nights we will have the Event Menu for the Summer Concert Series out in Antler park from 5:30pm until 8:30pm. There will be no Thursday Supper Club this month, but we will start that back up after the Summer Concert Series is over. Kitchen hours Fridays remain the same in August but note that Saturdays, we will open the kitchen at 4 pm as opposed to noon (See Calendar). We will continue with the full menu every other weekend until we hire someone for the kitchen or get volunteers to do a dinner service. Sundays from Noon to close in the Taproom are Potluck. Please bring something down that you enjoy or something you love to make for other members to share and enjoy.

Please continue to head down to the lodge and support our amazing stewards, as they would like to see everyone's beautiful faces all summer long. Don't be a stranger.

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 always, we would like to say thank you for allowing us this opportunity and we would appreciate the continued 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 on Thursday August 7 th at 6 pm! (This is a week early due to Oyster Fest Preparations)

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

# August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					5-8:30pm Kitchen menu	4-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Can & Bottle Drive 10am-2pm Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm	Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm	6-9pm Antler Park Music 5:30 – 8:30 pm Event Menu	House Committee Meeting 6pm	5-8:30pm Roast Beef, Pizza, BYOF Country Line Dancing	12-8:30pm Roast Beef, Pizza, BYOF
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm		6-9pm Antler Park Music 5:30 – 8:30 pm Event Menu	Blood Drive	Oyster Festival 5-10pm	Oyster Festival 5-10pm Karaoke 7:30pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Pot Luck Sunday	Game Night 6:30pm Elks Riders Mtg 7pm	Lodge Meeting 7:00pm	6-9pm Antler Park Music 5:30 – 8:30 pm Event Menu	Blood Drive	5-8:30pm Roast Beef, Pizza, BYOF	12-8:30pm Roast Beef, Pizza, BYOF
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pot Luck Sunday August Birthdays 5pm	Golf Tournament Game Night 6:30pm		6-9pm Antler Park Music 5:30 – 8:30 pm Event Menu		Over the Edge at Mohegan 5-8:30pm Kitchen menu	4-8:30 pm Kitchen Menu Karaoke 7:30pm
31	<b>VOLUNTEER TO ADD MORE EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR EVERY MONTH</b>  <b>GOT AN IDEA?    SHARE IT WITH ANYONE ON PAGE 2</b>					