

## The Legend

Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530  
PO Box 514  
Kinderhook, NY 12106  
518.758.2530

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Volume 24; Issue 14-9

DECEMBER 2014

Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530



# THE LEGEND



### Marion Stegmann Fund

Northern school district families are aided by Marion Stegmann Holiday Fund.

The season's first snow has covered the ground across Northern Columbia County heralding the approaching holidays, and now local volunteers are busy coordinating activities to ensure the success of the annual Marion Stegmann Fund, which provides essential assistance to needy and less fortunate individuals during the Christmas season.

The Marion Stegmann Fund, the legacy of the caring and sharing Niverville lady for whom the program is named, collects and distributes food, toys and good will to those in need in the Ichabod Crane, Chatham, and New Lebanon school districts just prior to Christmas.

"It just doesn't seem like Christmas until you feed the needy" was the belief of Mrs. Stegmann. Her holiday program grew over the years to such an extent that she had to reach out to other citizens, churches, businesses and civic organizations to meet the demand for a "lending hand".

She readily found that help within her community, including the Kinderhook Elks Lodge 2530, which has spearheaded the tradition for the past 29 years in conjunction with Ghent Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5933, whose chairman is Ralph Kring.

In 2013, the program's volunteers crisscrossed the three school districts delivering holiday packages to some 300 families consisting of 1300 individuals—a significant increase from the 94 needy families helped in 1986.

"The Elks Lodge and our members are proud to be a part of this great benevolent project," said past exalted ruler and current Fund Chairman Paul Martin. "But, without the support of our community and its citizens, this endeavor would not be possible."

"The generosity and compassion of so many others, who raise funds, collect non-monetary donations, package and distribute holiday gift and food boxes, allows us to continue to offer help to our fellow citizens at this special time of the year," said Martin.

Hundreds of people—young and old and from all walks of life—are involved each year, enthusiastically demonstrating the spirit of the season through their participation," he added.

The neighborhood Girl Scouts annually prepare and mail donation letters throughout the region seeking financial support, while Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts partake in a local "Scouting for Food" drive that collects items for distribution to needy families.

Martin said the average food basket costs about \$40 each, while a basket with new

toys for each child costs about \$50. Each food basket contains about a week's supply of food.

We are fortunate to have the backing of our friends and neighbors, but we gratefully welcome all help, along with suggestions and ideas that would improve our program," the Elks leader said.

Donations may be made to: Marion Stegmann Fund, care of the Kinderhook Elks Lodge, PO Box 514, Kinderhook, NY 12106.

In addition to the holiday packages, the program provides year-round assistance through its area food pantry.

The staging area for the 2014 program will again be at St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Route 9, Valatie, where the delivery week work will begin on December 14th in the church hall. Volunteers will wrap presents and create food packages that will benefit recipients ranging in age from infants to senior citizens. Delivery day is Saturday, December 20th.

"For some of these families, the holiday baskets may be the only holiday joy they get," Martin said, appealing to the public to share the spirit of Christmas by supporting "The Fund".

For more information or to volunteer, call Paul Martin at 518-653-4522.

We need YOU to volunteer.  
Please consider donating your time to  
help keep our Lodge going.

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Read the newsletter online at:  
[www.kinderhookelks.org](http://www.kinderhookelks.org)



*Dave Travis, HCC says.....*

**FOOTBALL SUNDAYS!**  
Drink specials, food and friends.  
Or join us for shuffleboard, pool,  
darts, corn hole, etc.

**Mens Night Out**

every Thursday from 7pm to 9pm.....  
DARTS, CORNHOLE, POOL, AND MORE.



**Don't forget the Lodge  
Christmas Party on  
DECEMBER 20th from 6-10.**

Dinner at 7 with open bar 6-7:30.

Please sign up at the Lodge if you  
plan to attend and indicate how many are in your  
group. Bring a covered dish to share. Dessert will  
be supplied by the Lodge.

Music by Tom Volcheck from North Creek, NY

Want to help at an event? See Chris Akers.

Want more Elks news? Check out:

<http://www.nyselks.org/>



Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, six new members were initiated at the Kinderhook ELKS Lodge. The ritual was performed as part of the Kinderhook Lodge visitation and was attended by many members and dignitaries from the Lodges of the North Hudson District.

**Front:** New members John Piddock, Jared O'Neil and Danielle O'Neil, District Deputy Gerald Wood, PDD Steve Race, NY State Vice President Richard Belcher, New members Garry Smith, Jenny Smith and John Colgan. **Rear:** Chaplain Chris Bellingham, PER Joe Laviano, PER Bob Hall, PER Chris Akers, Lecturing Knight Ida Leiser, Loyal Knight Bob Cramer, PDD Charles Cotsonas, PER Frank Masten, Tiler Larry Knott, Richard Fisher, PDD Carman Esposita, Organist John Deane, PDD Leo Buell.

The Lodge prepared and served Ham with Macaroni & Cheese on Wednesday, November 12th. Veterans were invited to dine free. The dinner was a success with 64 meals served.



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## Bartender & Dinner Schedule for December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
J. Novak	Closed at 8:00PM	J. Coutsonikas Shrimp Scampi	Closed at 8:00PM	P. Melino Q. Philly Cheese Steak	B. Hall 3:00PM A. Siligato 6:00PM	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C. Cotsonas 1:00PM T. McDermott 4:00PM	J. Shook Closed at 8:00PM	G. Engel Baked Ziti & Meatballs	Closed at 8:00PM	R. Fisher Gordi's Fish Fry	J. Novak 3:00PM A. Siligato 6:00PM	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
G. Yates 1:00PM T. Smith 4:00PM	C. Davis Closed at 8:00PM	J. Laviano Closed at 8:00PM	R. Howe	S. Andros D. Travis 6:00PM LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
C.E.Cotsonas 1:00PM S. Deck 4:00PM	L. Buell Closed at 8:00PM	C. Seymour No dinner	MERRY CHRISTMAS CLOSED	G. Hammond No dinner	L. Knott 3:00PM D. Travis 6:00PM	
28	29	30	31			
W.Boehme 1:00PM D. Travis 4:00PM	B. Hymes Closed at 8:00PM	D. Malsan	Happy New Year!		Seamstress needed for Lodge Curtains; call 758-7671	



### New York State Elks Association DEER HIDE PROGRAM

The New York State Elks Association annually collects raw deer hides and the monies gathered from this great program are then distributed, on a monthly basis, to all the veterans hospitals in the state of New York. Donated hides may be dropped off at any local participating Elks Lodge where they will be salted and prepared for the tannery. Rapid deterioration is a big factor so we suggest that no plastic bags be used unless air is allowed to circulate in the bag. The tannery will not accept any hide that has deteriorated so please let us all do our best to keep the hides in shape for the benefit of our hospitalized vets. In return for your hide, a \$35.00 tax deductible certificate will be issued to the individual making the hide donation. There will be a sign-in sheet at each Lodge location which requires your name, address, and license type and number. For further information, please call: Kinderhook Elks @ 518-758-2530 or Steve Race @ 518-758-1767. Thank you!

### Attention Students! Essays Due December 19, 2014

The Americanism Committee is conducting its annual essay contest. Students in grades 5-8 are eligible to participate. The goal of the essay contest is to stimulate the spirit of American patriotism, and encourage children to take pride in America. If you know of any eligible students, please inform them of this opportunity. Essays are due back to the Lodge by Friday, December 19, 2014. No essays can be accepted after that date.

Participants are asked to prepare an essay on the topic of: **"What the Pledge of Allegiance Means To Me"**.

The essay is not to exceed 250 words, and must be typed, or legibly printed in ink by the entrant. Participants must be identified by name, grade, parent's name, home address and school.

Three prizes of \$50 will be awarded in each of two divisions, 5-6 and 7-8. The winners will receive their awards at our annual Flag Day Ceremony, held in June. Thank you to all who make this program successful!

### 2014-2015 Lodge Officers

**Exalted Ruler**  
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Roger Bradley 784-3263  
PER Chuck Cotsonas 828-2507  
Mike Aiello 758-1626  
Bert Beach 784-2104  
Chris Akers 858-7134

(518 area code unless noted)

**Memorial Service**

On Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 3pm, the Officers of the Kinderhook Elks Lodge will conduct the Ritual of Memorial Services in remembrance of all deceased members. The ceremony will be conducted at the Lodge. The public is invited to participate in this dedication. Light refreshments will follow the service. Thank you.

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**Lodge meetings**  
are usually held on the  
**2nd & 4th Mondays**  
**@ 8:00 PM**  
See you there!  
See you there!

Check out  
[www.kinderhookelks.org](http://www.kinderhookelks.org).

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you would like to contribute or help maintain the web-site, please contact Chris Bellingham via telephone at 518-610-1244 or via email at [chris@chrisbe.net](mailto:chris@chrisbe.net). We're on Facebook at "Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530". Please Like us and feel free to post comments and photos.

Thanks, Chris

**WE NEED**

Tis the Season to  
Volunteer!  
Call or speak  
to any one listed  
on page 3.



**VEGAS NITE**  
Is back!  
See you on  
December 5th

To All Members: Remember, the Lodge is every member's place.  
Please help support us.

**Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530****Newsletter Articles**

Must be submitted by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Place articles in the envelop on the bulletin board at the Lodge or email [deemgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:deemgeorge@gmail.com) Or [news2530@fairpoint.net](mailto:news2530@fairpoint.net)

**The Legend**

Is published 12 times a year by:

Kinderhook Lodge #2530  
P O Box 514  
Kinderhook, NY 12106

With a circulation of  
approximately 550 copies  
per month.