



THE LEGEND

Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

January 2023



Exalted Ruler's Message

Happy New Year!! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's holiday. December was such an incredible month; so busy, so much cold, and the festiveness.

First, we held the Joseph Dwyer Association's Christmas Party for Veterans on Saturday, December 3rd. Thanks to everyone that helped. The veterans had a great time. Next was the annual Memorial Service held on Sunday, December 4th. The officers of the Lodge performed the service, with music beautifully performed by John Deane. The Reverend Dan Cohen of St. John's Lutheran Church gave a moving response. PER Anne Leiser did the Jolly Corks Toast . Upon it's conclusion, a reception was held immediately after the ceremony in the lounge.

The Marion Stegmann Fund was the week of the 5th with deliveries being made on Saturday December 10th. A huge thanks to Anne Leiser and the whole crew of helpers. They did such an amazing job; I believe deliveries were done before noon. Over 250 families in Northern Columbia County received packages. Also, I wish to give a very heartfelt thanks to all those who donated to the fund; whether in time, product and/or financially; Thank you!

On the 11th we initiated two new members. Welcome Jim and Shane!

On the 17th, was our Christmas party (Elksmas). What a blast!! Thanks to Darci Hover and her crew for the Lasagna and all the fixings. Jerry and Abby Shook did the bar tending.

And on the two Sunday breakfasts of the 11th and 18th were special as we had the pleasure of Santa Claus visiting us and spending time with our guests.

Thank you to all that helped with these activities during the very busy month that December is.

From Wendy and I, May each of you have a wonderful and blessed New Year!!

Fraternally yours,
John Piddock



New Members

On Sunday, December 11th, Kinderhook Elks initiated two new members into the order.

The initiation ritual was performed by Exalted Ruler John Piddock PSVP, Leading Knight Chris Bellingham, Loyal Knight Joel Dyslin PER, Lecturing Knight Steve Everett, Esquire John Deane, Chaplain Jim Yager, Inner Guard Jean Engel, Tiler Larry Knott, and Secretary Jerry Shook PSP.



Front L to R: Joel Dyslin PER, new member Jim Shord, Exalted Ruler John Piddock PSVP, new member Shane McDonald, Inner Guard Jean Engel, Lecturing Knight Steve Everett, Lodge Esquire John Deane.

Rear L to R: Lodge Secretary Jerry Shook PSP, Trustee Thom McDermott, Tiler Larry Knott, Jim Yager, Leading Knight Chris Bellingham.

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Christopher P. Akers

Notices

PER Annie's Message

To my Kinderhook Elks Family,

'Tis the season!! I hope everyone had a fabulous Christmas and by the time you read this a wonderful New Year. We all have our seasons. There are four seasons of the year, there are seasons in our lives too. We have a time of joy, of sadness, a time when we really don't know what we are. We are always changing. One day we have friends that we are so close to and the next we're not; one day we are healthy and the next we're not. Nothing is ever the same. We are fast approaching a new season in Elkdom. Yup, you guessed it, the time when we need a new leader, and new officers to move the Lodge forward.

We have gained many new members this past year, and new things have and are happening around the Lodge. Do you think you can handle a position where you move the Lodge forward? Are you willing to make a commitment to the Lodge, its members, the community, Veterans, and children? We have three months to fill those positions. There is an Officers Book upstairs in the lounge and there are many past officers that you can talk to. Look into it, reach out, step out of your comfort zone and take a chance, you are never alone, you are better than you think you are and the Lodge needs you. Come to a meeting, throw your hat into the ring and watch the world forever change in your eyes.

I hope the new year is bright and brilliant, fun and fantastic, new and adventurous. I wish you all the best.

Annie

2023-24 Officers

Whether you are a new or a long-time member, picture yourself as a Lodge Officer next year!

We are looking for new faces and new ideas. The requirements are minimal: attend meetings, initiate new members, participate in a few, short ceremonial rituals like Flag Day, Memorial Service, etc. Your reward will be the esteem of other Lodge members and new Elk friendships in lodges across the district.

Newsletter Editor

We are sad to announce the departure of our newsletter editor, Kate Timmis. Kate has worked tirelessly over the last 16 months to produce the newsletter and distribute upcoming calendar events. Thank you, Kate.

If you would like to be the next editor, please contact Chris Bellingham on 610-1244 for more details. You will need access to a laptop or desktop computer. The editing software (LibreOffice) is free and runs on PC, Mac, and Linux. Training and assistance will be provided.

Kinderhook Elks Lodge Bowling League



Thursday's
Starting in February
6pm - 8pm

East Greenbush Bowling Ctr
570 Columbia Turnpike

We need 8 people to start a league. If interested,
RSVP to: Tammy or Thom McDermott
518-704-1866

\$20 pp or \$120pp in full for 6 weeks. Includes 2
games. shoe rental, party and prizes at the end.

Kinderhook Elks PLEASE JOIN US Drive Thru Community Baby Shower

The Kinderhook Elks Lodge will host a Community Baby Shower for residents of Northern Columbia County. Kinderhook, Styvesant, etc. for those expecting or who recently became a mother.

Raffle tickets at no charge, prizes include
a car seat, or baby monitor.

Come pick up a bag of gifts for your new born.



January 14th
10 am to 12 pm

Contact LeeAnn at
518-588-9425

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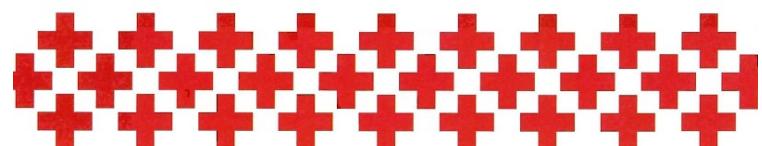
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Breakfast with Santa

As in years past, Kris Kringle visited the Lodge for Sunday breakfast twice this December. On the second occasion, he was accompanied by Mrs Kringle.

Children posed for photos and whispered their Christmas wishes.



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Americanism

Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards

Eligibility

College-bound high school seniors who are the children or grandchildren of dues-paying Elks are welcome to apply. Visit enf.elks.org/leg for full eligibility detail.

Important Dates

Important Dates

Application opens: September 1, 2022

Application deadline: February 6, 2023



Awards and Application

(350) \$4,000 Legacy Awards scholarships each year. Visit enf.elks.org/leg to apply.

The Most Valued Student portion has ended. The Scholarship Committee is happy to announce that we received nine applications. Four applications have been forwarded to the District Judging Committee for further consideration.

Essay Contest

The essays are in! We received 4 essays on, "What is Your American Dream?" The essays are being evaluated and the winners will be forwarded to the District Level. Many thanks to Mrs. Bell, 5th grade teacher at Ichabod Crane.

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Veterans

Deer Hides

Its Deer Season and, as usual, we are collecting deer hides for the Veterans.

Location Drop Offs:

Kinderhook Elks Lodge
2750 NY 9H
Kinderhook, NY

Ghent Sportsmen's Association
1128 County Rd. 9
Ghent, NY

Follow the red signs to the labeled barrels to drop. We will be collecting hides up to mid-January 2023





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Veteran Service Offices are no longer in this VAMC Facility

Please contact the organization directly using the following phone numbers:

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New York State Dept of Veterans Services 888-838-7697
Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) 800-827-1000
VBA New York Regional Office 212-807-3152
Veterans Of Foreign Wars (VFW) 518-626-5687



Veterans

Nassau Army vet receives top DAR award

Reprinted, with permission from the Times Union, Monday, December 19th.

(I had to agree that we'd all subscribe to the Times Union for the rest of our days.)

By Terry Brown

Retired Army Staff Sgt. Raymond "Chip" Lynch of Nassau, a highly decorated 101st Airborne Division soldier in the Vietnam War, received the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution highest award for extraordinary military and community service as well as outstanding contributions to the nation.

Denise Doring Van Buren, past president general of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, presented the DAR Medal of Honor to Lynch at during the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution's 125th anniversary dinner at the Century House in Latham Nov. 18.

The DAR Medal of Honor is also awarded to an individual who is a U.S. citizen by birth and has shown extraordinary qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism, according to Van Buren.

Lynch originally enlisted in the Army for train-



Staff Sgt. Richard Fullam / Army Reserve

Denise Doring Van Buren, past president general of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, presents the DAR Medal of Honor to Chip Lynch in Latham.

ing as a heavy equipment operator and mechanic. After graduation from Basic Combat Training at Fort Dix, N.J., and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He earned his Silver Parachute Wings upon graduation from Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga. He was assigned to the 50th Signal Battalion of the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C., as the

Vietnam War was heating up.

He changed his military occupation specialty to 11-B, infantry, so he could be assigned to a unit in Vietnam. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry (Strike Force) of the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. He worked his way up from being a machine gunner to sergeant, squad leader and then to staff

sergeant. He ended his combat tour as platoon leader.

He performed so well during combat against the North Vietnamese army and Viet Cong that he earned two Bronze Star Medals with V devices for valor, two Army Commendation Medals with V, numerous Air Medals, three Purple Hearts, and a Combat Infantry Badge. He also earned Vietnam-

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Veterans

Nassau Army vet receives top DAR award, continued...

ese Jump Wings.

Lynch earned one of his Bronze Star Medals on Feb. 1, 1968, during a combat operation near Song Be, South Vietnam. After his squad was pinned down by intense automatic weapons fire, he rushed to the front of his squad and directed a counterattack. After the unit was pinned down again, Lynch disregarded his own safety, rushed an enemy bunker and dropped a grenade inside. But the enemy quickly threw the grenade away before it exploded. Lynch then ran to the top of the bunker and fired his M-16 rifle, killing the enemy.

He earned his first Purple Heart when he was wounded in left arm during a night ambush. Upon recovery, he returned to Vietnam, where he was wounded two more times. After he recovered from gunshot wounds to both legs, he successfully persuaded Congressman Carleton King to assist him in getting another Vietnam War assignment. This time he became a pathfinder, someone who guides helicopters during landings and unloading with the 160th Aviation Group of the 101st Airborne Division. But lingering after effects of his previous wounds forced

him to retire from the military.

After the war, he founded R.A. Lynch Excavating and Trucking Co. Since then, he has been active in veterans' affairs. He helped charter the J.J. Yager AMVETS Post in Nassau in 2012, and re-established the Chandler-Young Veterans Association in 2015. The Chandler-Young incorporates Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8162, the American Legion Post 1268 and the AMVETS Post 797 into one veteran's organization. Lynch is finance officer of Chandler-Young.

He had a setback in 2015 during an operation

on one of his knees. The operation, he said, was unsuccessful and resulted in his right leg being amputated in 2017. But that didn't stop him from being active in veterans affairs and advocating for other veterans.

The Grand Rehabilitation and Nursing at Barnwell

Member Darci Hover of our Veterans Committee has donated committee funds to pay for haircuts, shaves, scalp treatments and general grooming services for veterans at Barnwell Nursing Home. Services are provided by local resident Kelly Nicoletta. Veterans also received Holiday Cards from the students at Chatham Elementary School.



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Veterans

Veterans Christmas Party

On Saturday afternoon, December 3rd, Kinderhook Elks hosted a Christmas Party for local veterans. The event was paid for by the Joseph P. Dwyer fund and organized by Gary Flaherty of the Columbia County Veterans Services Agency in Hudson.

The event filled the dining room, bar, and lounge areas. Approximately 175 meals were served. Live music was provided by the Byron James Band.

Kinderhook Elks Veterans Chair, Tom Miglio, presented a check for \$250 to Karen Dudley, Vice President of the Catskill Blue Star Mothers.



Veterans Food Pantry

The Veterans food pantry at the Joseph P. Dwyer room at 388 Fairview Ave. Hudson, NY, is open. Veterans who need help can come to the new pantry for supplies. They are open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00a - 12:00p.

Widows Support Group

Any widow who's spouse was a veteran can join the Joseph P. Dwyer widows connection. It's held at 5:30pm on the second Thursday of every month at :

Suite 7
389 Fairview Ave.
Hudson, NY

Food and refreshments are served.
Please come and join the group and share
your thoughts and stories.

Calendar

Friday Evening Bar Menu 5pm – 7pm. Reservations required call Anne at 518-758-2196
Queen of Hearts at 7pm. Purchase tickets in the lounge
or call Tammy at 518-704-1866

Sunday Breakfast Dining room seating with menu options. 8am – 11am.

Sunday Afternoon Dave's Dogs and Wings. 4Pm – 6:30pm.
Place your orders with Dave at 518-669-0155

Lodge meetings Please join us!
Members: Monday 9th and 23rd at 7:30pm
Board of Directors: Monday 16th at 7:30pm

January

6th Steak with French fries - \$12. Bar menu available

13th Fish fry, served with coleslaw, French fries or onion rings - \$11

14th Drive through Community Baby Shower 10am – 12pm

20th 3 Beef tacos, hard or soft, with Mexican rice - \$10

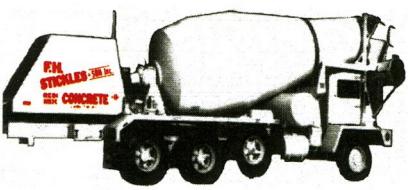
27th Meatball Sub - \$10

February

22nd Red Cross Blood Drive

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Office 518-758-2538
Emergency 518-758-0344
Lodge Fax 518-758-1771

Officers

Exalted Ruler: John Piddock PSVP 758-2842
Leading Knight: Chris Bellingham 610-1244
Loyal Knight:
Lecturing Knight: Steve Everett 610-8542
Esquire: John Deane 758-7051
Chaplain: Sharon Deck 784-3482
Inner Guard: Jeannie Engel 653-3906
Tiler: Larry Knott 758-7618
Treasurer: Joe Laviano PER 758-1741
Secretary: Jerry Shook PSP 567-4443
Organist: John Deane 758-7051

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PO Box 514
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Kinderhook, NY 12106

Trustees

Ben Lasher (Chair) 784-2032
John Sundwall Jr. 784-3600
Thom McDermott 776-9000
Robin Howes 392-3578
Chris Akers PDD 858-7134

House Committee
Dave Travis (Chair) 794-8427
Sharon Deck 784-3482
Chuck Cotsonas PER 821-2367
John Piddock PSVP 758-2842
Tammy McDermott 704-1866

Newsletter

Articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for the next edition.

Send articles to editor@kinderhookelks.org

Committee: Jean Engel, Gordie Engel, Bill Cooper,
Chris Bellingham, John Piddock

Advertising/Circulation: Jerry Shook

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