



# THE LEGEND

## Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

### February 2025



## Exalted Ruler's Message

To my Kinderhook Elks family, members and friends,

Have you ever wondered where you fit into that greeting? What am I? Am I part of the family? am I just a member or am I part of the friends part? I have, and that's pretty hard to say being that I have been a member for more than 15 years, an officer for more than eight... oh my, WHERE does that put me? Questions that my mind puts to me over and over and again. I absolutely love the Lodge and many of its members, I consider them part of my family, not only at the Lodge but in my personal life. I believe that the Lodge has more meaning than just..... yes I am an Elk and I belong to Lodge #?????. We take an oath to ourselves, our members, our families and the community that we are dedicated to serve. Elkdom isn't about "What's in it for me?" Elkdom is about what can I do to better myself and my community? I, personally have taken that obligation and ran with it. I love what we do for the community. We sponsor sports, we are the Marion Stegmann Fund!!, raising funds, helping out those who are struggling, those that just need to know that someone, anyone cares, letting children know they are not forgotten or alone, that they matter!! WE support our Veterans, for what they have given to us, some have given their mind, some have given their time, and there are those who have given it all...THEIR LIVES. I didn't become an Elk for what the Elk's could do for me, that was never even a thought, and after almost two decades of membership I wouldn't change it for the world. I have learned so much about myself, about people, many of whom I would have never meet if I hadn't become an Elk, I have blessed my life. You are part of that experience!!! Thank you for being who you are and committing part of your life to the betterment of not only yourself but the community that we work with and for, to benefit not only them but ourselves.

There are many events coming up that we need help with. There is a PER initiation on February 23rd at 3 pm. If anyone is able to make hors d'oeuvres for after initiation it would be greatly appreciated!!!! After all how many times do we bring in more than 10 members at a time? Help make this a class act not only for the new members coming in but for your Lodge. As many PER's that can will be performing ritual, a few selected chairs will be filled by non PER'S, and I am honored to perform my last initiation with these outstanding members.

You know the rumor mill, what community doesn't? I would like to address part of what I have heard. When you become an officer or take on a responsibility of an officer or a board or directors (trustee) roll, you should look at the standard to which this Lodge has committed to. This Lodge is one of the few Lodges that does RITUAL from memory, we take pride in that fact because that is the bar that this Lodge strives for!!! Yup you are allowed by Grand Lodge to read your part, sad to so say that Grand Lodge sees that people don't take their obligation seriously.



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February 2025



The Kinderhook Elks Lodge has earned many a trophy for their hard work and dedication, an honor not carried by many Lodges. In my opinion when you start accepting second best it isn't a long reach to let the bar just keep dropping. Leo would bust my chops for talking too fast, for a mispronunciation of a word, for not doing the proper movement when it was required, not because he didn't like me or wanted to me fail, but to know that true Elkdom demanded more from me!! I decided to take on the position of an officer, and with that the responsibilities of such. Don't get me wrong... I admire those who are willing to step up, but if you are going to step up to represent this Lodge, KINDERHOOK ELKS LODGE #2530, please do it with the dedication and respect that it deserves.

I love this Lodge, I truly do. I want to see it succeed like no other Lodge, I want us to accomplish more than Lodges with 2,000 members, not for me, absolutely not!!!, but for Elkdom and for the people we are. We are strong, we are resilient, and we are proud of ourselves and our Lodge.

Thank you for everything you do for the Lodge and the community we serve,

Respectfully,  
Anne Leiser ER/PER

### **Esteemed Leading Knight's Message**

January has been a wonderful month, and I'm looking forward to what February has in store for the lodge. Thank you to everyone who helped bring our events to life. Game night was a blast, and trivia night was a remarkable success. We are diligently working on the other suggestions from the survey, so stay tuned for exciting updates ahead!

It's uplifting to witness the enthusiasm on Wednesdays for the 25-week club drawing! Thank you to everyone for your invaluable support in making this happen.

February is an exciting month for the lodge. With opportunities for rentals needing volunteers, game nights, St. Luke's Dinner, and our Super Bowl party, there's much to look forward to! Stay connected through your email and the lounge board for updates. If you're not receiving our emails, please let me know so you can join in on all the fun in the future!

The nomination list for officers is on the board in the lounge, where you can contribute your thoughts on important roles. Remember, our collective voice matters.

Additionally, it's that time of year again for our annual dues. Keep an eye out for the membership notices coming your way soon. Let's commit to staying engaged and ensure our contributions are made by March so we can continue to thrive.

Remember, everyone, this is your Lodge. Use it, support it, and continue to promote it.

See you at the Lodge! Tammy McDermott Leading Knight

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President bondfuneralhome@outlook.com

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Being A Veteran.

I would personally like to thank the member of the Kinderhook Elks #2530 for the outstanding article about being a veteran (page 6 of the December 2024 issue). As a veteran myself, I would like to say thank you.

Tom Miglio, Veterans Chairman

North Hudson District #6260



There was such an overwhelming response to the cocktails and \$3 BUCK CHUCK night, Sharron, Rick, Jerry and myself have put together a new idea. DUES NIGHT! On Saturday March 1, 2025 from 6-9 Rick will be in the kitchen making those fabulous bar snacks, Sharron is having a \$3 a drink special and I will be collecting your dues. There will be one free drink for anyone paying their dues that night, and if you already paid for the year, bring your new card and you will still get your free drink. No new cards will be handed out that night as Jerry has to do that part. So come on out and join in on the fun and the camaraderie. As an added perk if you have a friend who would like to join, please bring them along. If they fill out an application and hand it in with the \$10 application fee they will also get a free drink. Sounds like a WIN WIN to me. Hope to see you there.



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**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**  
**1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

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**KINDERHOOK ELKS LODGE 2530**  
**FRIDAY DINNER AT THE LODGE**  
**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21ST - 5:00-7:00PM**

**\$12**  
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**LETS EAT, DRINK & BE LUCKY**

**MAR**  
**SAT** **15** **AT**  
**5PM**

**Mark your calendar for a special**  
**moment—exciting details will be**  
**unveiled in February!**

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# Kinderhook Elks Lodge

## Pantry Food Drive

The Columbia County Dwyer Food Pantry needs help with these items:

- Tuna
- Beef Stew
- Salad Dressing
- Mayo / Ketchup / Mustard
- Coffee
- Tea
- Cereal
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Plastic Wrap / Foil / Plastic Baggies
- Pet Foods

You can drop items off at the lodge in the foyer during these times:

Monday thru Saturday 4pm to 7pm  
Sundays 8am to 11am & 4pm to 7pm

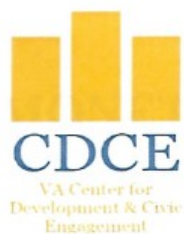


**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE  
CHANGES FOR THE BETTER**

**Questions?**

**Contact Veterans Chair John Sundwall at 518-610-5630  
or co-chair Tammy McDermott at 518-704-1866**

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# Veteran Needs



## Clothing \*ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE NEW

Men's Sneakers (sizes 9-12)  
Sweatpants(sizes Medium and 2XLarge)  
Sweatshirts (sizes XLarge and 3XLarge)  
Men's Boxers and Briefs (Med/Large/ XL)  
Belts  
Chap Stick  
Boots (Winter) sz's 13-14

## Food

Snack items (cookies, chips, pretzels, gummies, etc.) in single serve packaging  
Ramen, Rice, Canned Fruit, Canned Chicken/Tuna & Canned Beans  
Cereal, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pasta Sauce, Mac & Cheese, Oatmeal,  
Spaghetti/Macaroni Noodles

## Toiletries

Toothpaste, Shampoo, Conditioner, Nail Clippers  
Men's/Women's disposable razors(3 blades), thermal top/bottoms, shaving  
*ELECTRIC RAZOR* cream, Body Wash, Body Lotion

## Small Denomination Gift Cards (\$15 -\$25)

Price Chopper, Hannaford, Shop-rite, etc.  
FOR EMERGENCY PURCHASES OF FOOD

## Checks Payable to:

Albany Stratton VA Medical Center  
On the memo line, please add: Voluntary Services

## **Thank You for supporting our Veterans!**

**For additional information please contact:**

**Dom Dominguez, Service Chief, Center for Development  
& Civic Engagement (518) 626-5507**



# Veterans

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## **Veterans Committee**

John Sundwall Jr. 610-5630   Tammy McDermott 704-1866  
Darci Hover 518-755-3879

## **Widows Support Group**

Any widow whose spouse was a veteran can join the Joseph P. Dwyer widows connection. It's held at 10:00 am 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.

## **The Albany Stratton VA**

Please note that Veteran Service offices are no longer in the VAMC facility. Please contact the organization directly using the following phone numbers

Disabled American Veterans 888-604-0234  
NY State Dept. of Veterans Services 888-838-7697  
Veterans Benefits Administration 800-827-1000  
VBA New York Regional Office 212-807-3152  
Veterans of Foreign Wars 518-626-5687

## **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.

## **Used Clothing Drop-off Shed**

Donate your gently-used, clean clothing, shoes, belts, blankets, drapes, purses, and bedding.

No rags, fabric scraps, pillows, or household goods. These items are expensive to dispose of.

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Recycle and help others in need. Please bag your items in closed bags to keep them clean and dry.

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# Calendar

- Friday Evening** Menu 5pm – 7pm. Reservations required call Anne at 518-758-2196  
Queen of Hearts at 7pm. Purchase tickets in the lounge from Larry Knott or ask a bartender.
- Sunday Breakfast** Dining room seating with menu options. 8am – 11am.
- Lodge meetings** Please join us!  
Members: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm  
Board of Directors: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

## February Menus – served Fridays from 5pm to 7pm

- 7<sup>th</sup> Philly Cheese Steak, french fries or onion rings - \$13 – Bar Menu available  
14<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry with coleslaw, french fries or onion rings - \$12 – Bar Menu available  
21<sup>st</sup> Smashburgers with french fries, onion rings or tossed salad -\$12  
28<sup>th</sup> Meatball Subs with french fries or onion rings -\$12 – Bar Menu available

## February Events

- 9<sup>th</sup> Superbowl  
16<sup>th</sup> Macaroni and Cheese cook off – Hudson Lodge 1pm to 3pm  
19<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive 1pm to 6pm  
22<sup>nd</sup> Paint and Sip - 1pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> PER Initiation - 3pm

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## Lodge Contacts

### Phone Numbers

Lodge	518-758-2530
Office	518-758-2538
Emergency	518-758-0344
Lodge Fax	518-758-1771

### Mailing Address

Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530  
2750 Rt 9H  
Post Office Box 514  
Kinderhook, NY 12106

### Trustees

Ben Lasher (Chair)	784-2032
John Sundwall Jr.	610-5630
Thom McDermott	776-9000
John Piddock DD	758-2842
Chris Akers PDD	858-7134

### House Committee

Sharon Deck (Chair)	784-3482
Chuck Cotsonas PER	821-2367
John Piddock PDD	758-2842
Gordie Engel	653-4157
Larry Knott	758-7618
Rick Stegmann	573-6751
Kelly McGiffert	545-0022

### Officers

Exalted Ruler:	Annie Leiser	758-2196
Leading Knight:	Tammy McDermott	704-1866
Loyal Knight:	Kelly McGiffert	545-0022
Lecturing Knight:	Rosemarie Neckles	845 902-8499
Esquire:	John Deane	758-7051
Chaplain:	Sharon Deck	784-3482
Inner Guard:	Jean 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

## Newsletter

Articles must be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month for the next edition.

Send articles and event flyers to [editor@kinderhookelks.org](mailto:editor@kinderhookelks.org)

(Graphics, plain text, or a word document is preferred - **No PDFs, please!**)

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

Advertising/Circulation: Jerry Shook

Website: [www.kinderhookelks.org](http://www.kinderhookelks.org)

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