



THE LEGEND

Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

January 2026



Exalted Ruler's Message

To the Kinderhook Elks Family,

Happy New Year! I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for everything you contribute to our Lodge. Your unwavering dedication fuels my excitement for the possibilities that lie ahead.

Last year was filled with opportunities at the Lodge to explore new roles, host memorable events, and discover innovative ways to serve. You may not realize what ignites your passion until you dive into new experiences. I encourage you to embrace this journey, try something new, and let your ideas shine.

As elections approach, the nomination list for officers will soon be posted on the board in the lounge. I encourage all members to review it and share your thoughts on these important roles. Each of us currently serving is here to support you, so please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Keep an eye on the events and rentals schedule, which is filled with opportunities to engage, support fundraisers, and invite friends and family into our vibrant community. Remember, every voice matters, and each volunteer—big or small—plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our Lodge.

Please mark your calendars for February, March, and April. We will resume two lodge meetings per month in accordance with the statutes.

Wishing you a year filled with health, joy, and success. Together, let's make this our most extraordinary year yet!

With deep gratitude,
Exalted Ruler, Tammy McDermott

Your Newsletter Needs You!



The newsletter committee is looking for someone to edit the newsletter. If you have basic word-processing skills (MS Word or similar) and would like to manage the layout of submitted articles and images in the newsletter each month, please contact one of the newsletter committee members (see last page).

The hours are flexible and compensation is second to none! Work can be done from the comfort of your own home using LibreOffice, which is free, open-source software that runs on MS Windows, Mac OS and Linux. One-on-one training is available.



Election of Officers

Our new Elk year begins on April 1st and runs through March 31st next year. Lodge Officers are elected every year (the exception is that only 1 Trustee is usually elected each year - the remainder serve through their 5-year term). Any member in good standing can be nominated for an elected position.

Nomination of officers begins in February and elections take place in March.

The elected positions are:

Exalted Ruler

The Exalted Ruler is the "Chief Executive" of the Lodge and is responsible for effectively administering the affairs of the Lodge and providing the leadership necessary to accomplish Lodge goals.

Knights

Leading, Loyal, and Lecturing Knights assist the Exalted Ruler in conducting the affairs of the Lodge.

Secretary

The Lodge Secretary has a variety of administrative responsibilities, including the maintenance of Lodge membership records. The Lodge Secretary (along with the Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, and Trustee Chairperson) is required to attend status and informational clinics conducted by the District Deputy.

Treasurer

The Lodge Treasurer pays all approved bills and is required to maintain an accurate record of receipts and disbursements.

Board of Trustees

The Five-member Board of Trustees meets at least once each month to assess the funds, investments and property of the Lodge.



LEWIS P. HOUGHTALING III
President

1304 ROUTE 9
CASTLETON, NEW YORK 12033

E-mail lhoughtalingIII@debrino.com



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New Members



Two new members were initiated during our regular meeting on November 24th. Their names and photos are in the cabinet in the lounge. If you see them in the Lodge, please make them feel welcome.

Front L to R: Chaplain Sharon Deck, Loyal Knight Rosemarie Neckles, **Michael Orlando Asare**, Exalted Ruler Tammy McDermott, **Julia Johnson**, PER Frank Masten, Inner Guard Jean Engel

Rear L to R: Tiler Larry Knott, Trustee Ben Lasher, Trustee Michael Dolan, Trustee Chair Thom McDermott, Leading Knight Tom Burrell, PDD Christopher Akers, Esquire Chris Bellingham.



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Veterans Commitee

Chris Akers : 858-7134
Darci Hover : 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 to Friday from 9:30a - 1:30p

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.

Donations are tax-deductible.

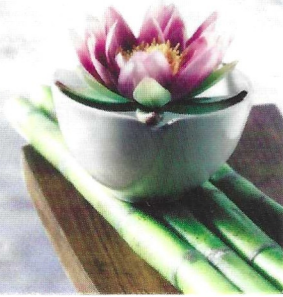
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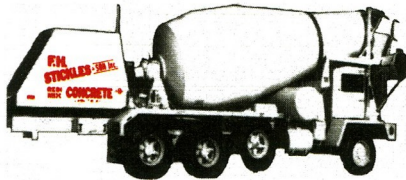
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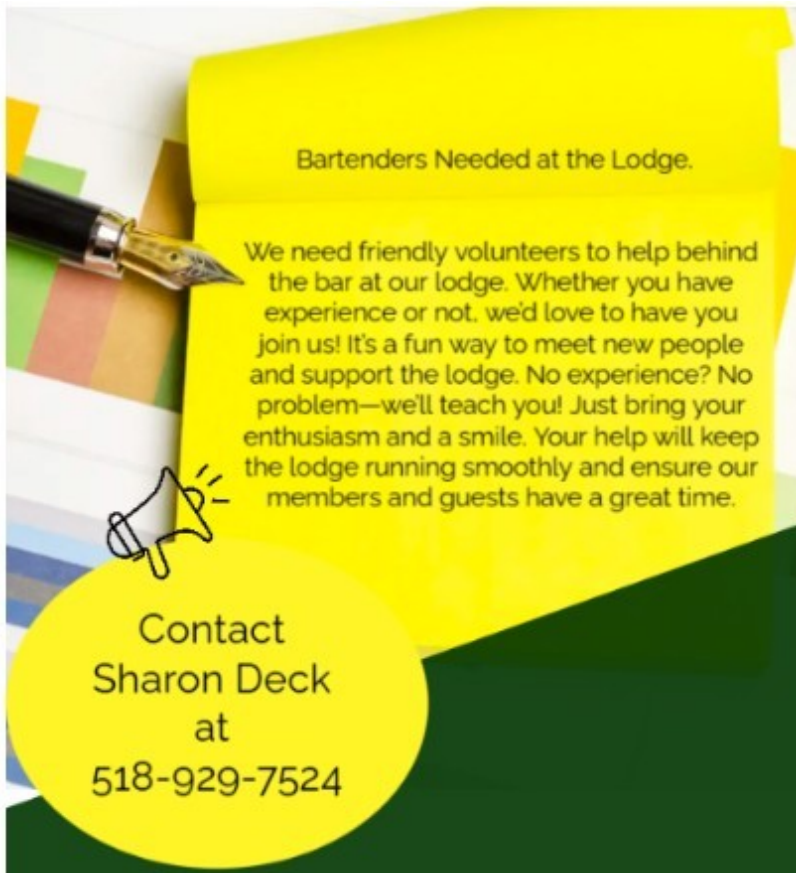
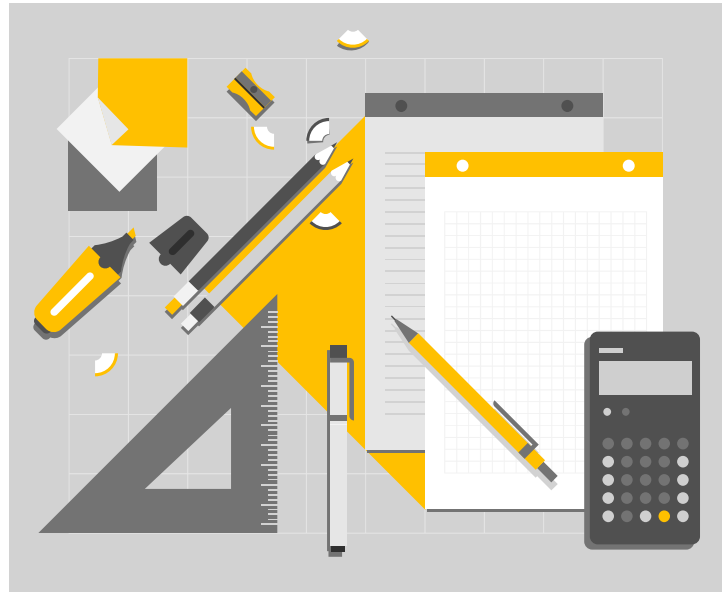
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EMERGENCY EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Emergency Educational Grants (EEG) provide undergraduate college financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks in the form of renewable, one -year grants of up to \$5,000. EEG's aren't meant to cover a student's complete education, but they can help cover room and board, textbooks and tuition and fees.

For the 2025-2026, the Elks National Foundation (ENF) has allocated \$131,090 to fund this program. If you know any Elks children who may be eligible to receive an EEG, encourage them to contact me at nursecq@hotmail.com or they can go to enf.elks.org/EEG

Thanks
Colleen Quackenbush
NYS Emergency Grant Chairperson





Friday Dinner at the Lodge
5:00-7:00PM - January 16th, 2026

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Calendar

- Friday Evenings
- Dinner Menu. 5pm – 7pm
 - Queen of Hearts at 7pm – purchase tickets in the lounge from Larry Knott or ask bartender
- Sunday Breakfast Dining room seating with menu options. 8Am - 11am
- Lodge Meetings Open to all members – please join us!
- Members: Monday 26th at 7:30pm
 - Board of Directors: Monday 19th at 7:30pm

January Menus – served Fridays from 5pm to 7pm

- 2nd Philly cheese steak, french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar menu available
- 9th Fish fry, coleslaw, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu available
- 16th Appetizer: basket of chili cheese-fries - \$10
Dinner: zesty chili or chicken stew, with cornbread and side salad - \$13.
- 23rd Meatball sub with french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar menu available
- 30th TBA

January Events

- 18th Initiation of new members

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Lodge Contacts

Phone Numbers

Lodge	758-2530
Office	758-2538
Emergency	758-0344
Lodge Fax	758-1771
Baby Shower (LeeAnn Alessi)	588-9425

Officers

Exalted Ruler:	Tammy McDermott	704-1866
Leading Knight:	Tom Burrell	577-5265
Loyal Knight:	Rosemarie Neckles	845 902-8499
Lecturing Knight:	Jim Shord	727-5831
Esquire:	<open>	
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

Mailing Address

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

Trustees

Thom McDermott (Chair)	776-9000
Ben Lasher	784-2032
John Piddock PDD	758-2842
Chris Akers PDD	858-7134
Michael Delaney	495-9923

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	712-7125
Kelly McGiffert	545-0022
Greg Monjeau	845-542-0257

Newsletter

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

Send articles and event flyers to editor@kinderhookelks.org

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

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

Advertising/Circulation: Jerry Shook

Website: www.kinderhookelks.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KinderhookElks



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