



THE LEGEND

Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

May 2026



Exalted Ruler's Message

Dear Fellow Elks,

It's hard to believe that my first month as your Exalted Ruler has already come and gone. The time has moved quickly, and I'm grateful for the warm welcome and the steady support I've felt from our Kinderhook Elks family. It is truly an honor and a privilege to lead such fine Elks.

Thank you for everything you do to support our Lodge—by showing up, lending a hand, bringing ideas forward, and continuing the traditions that make our organization strong. Your commitment is what keeps our lodge active, welcoming, and focused on serving others.

I also want to recognize and thank our newer members who have stepped up to volunteer. It means a great deal to see you getting involved and bringing fresh energy to our events and activities.

To our long-time members: thank you for your guidance, patience, and continued support—especially in helping our new volunteers learn the ropes. Your experience and steady encouragement are invaluable, and they are a big part of what makes Kinderhook Elks feel like home.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Members Party on 4/18, and to all who helped with the Stuyvesant Falls Fire Department banquet. These moments of fellowship and service reflect the best of who we are.

I'm also looking ahead to the weeks ahead—there will be a couple opportunities for our members to volunteer, and I encourage anyone who is able to lend a hand to get involved. I also look forward to marching with many of you in the Memorial Day parade

Finally, I hope to see many of you this Friday, May 1st at the Fire Chat—our first one of the year—hosted by PER Tammy McDermott and 5-year Trustee Thom McDermott.

Sincerely,

Kelly McGiffert

Exalted Ruler, Kinderhook Elks #2530



Kinderhook Elks Members Party Recap

A Fun-Filled Evening with Friends, Food, and Friendly Competition

On Saturday, April 18th, the Kinderhook Elks Lodge was buzzing with laughter and camaraderie as members gathered for our much-anticipated Members Party. We were thrilled to see such a diverse group of friends come together, creating an energetic and welcoming atmosphere for all.

The evening kicked off with a classic cookout, featuring delicious burgers and hot dogs hot off the grill. The aroma filled the lodge, and everyone enjoyed hearty plates, good conversation, and plenty of smiles.

A highlight of the night was the lively trivia contest, expertly hosted by our Exalted Ruler. The questions tested our knowledge of all things Elks and Kinderhook, sparking friendly debates and lots of laughs. Congratulations go to the Outlaws—Bill and Andy—who outsmarted the competition and walked away with truly lucrative prizes 😄!

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to every member who attended and helped make this evening a success. Special appreciation goes to those who brought food to share and to the many hands who pitched in with setup and cleanup. Your contributions truly make our events possible and memorable.

Here's to more great gatherings ahead! We look forward to seeing you all at our next event.



Volunteers Needed: Help Support Our Fundraisers

Volunteer Support Needed for Upcoming Fundraisers

To continue serving our community and funding our charitable work, we rely on member volunteers. Our primary revenue comes from hall and pavilion rentals (often needing catering support) and from managing parking for local events. Two of our most important fundraising commitments each year are the Columbia County (Chatham) Fair and Kinderhook Community Day.

Ways you can help:

Food preparation and catering support

Event setup and breakdown

Parking coordination and attendant shifts

Interested in helping? Please contact Kelly McGiffert or Chris Akers for schedules, shift times, or more information.

Thank you for your continued support—and for volunteering when you can.

—Kelly McGiffert, Exalted Ruler, Kinderhook Elks #2530



NYS Elks Scholarship News

The North Hudson District of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks received three (3) winners of NYS Elks Association's Academic Scholarships. They are:

Monsignor Francis White Memorial Scholarship

Meghan Daly Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530

NYS Elks Association

James Spano Red Hook/Rhinebeck Elks Lodge #2022

Mst Warda Mahamud Hudson Elks Lodge #787

Congratulations to these fine students and their families on these great achievements.

Besides the academics of these students, these scholarships also take account non-academic items as employment, community service, and athletics, as well as their goals once they graduate from college.



The Lodge is starting back up the Lodge's Golf League!!

The Signup sheet is posted on the Members' Bulletin Board in the lounge.

We need 12 golfers to be signed u[by May6th for this to happen.

The Kinderhook Elks is pleased to announce !!!

 Our annual... 



~~for individuals with special needs~~



Friday night June 5th from 6:00pm – 9:00pm!!!

There is no cost to attendee & guest or caregiver.

Buffet picnic dinner & DJ!!!

Photo background available for those candid shots with friends and to show off those awesome Hawaiian shirts!!!



Please RSVP Monday June 1st !!!

Rosemarie Neckles 845-902-8499

rneckles@gmail.com



Friday @ The Lodge

Friday, May 1st

Friday Dinner AT THE LODGE
THIS WEEK **Philly Cheesesteak** \$13
Open To Members and Their Guests
Available In-House or To-Go - Open Friday 5:00-7:00PM
Served with Fries, Onion Rings, or Side Salad
Bar Menu Also Available
Visit Us kinderhookelks.org

Friday, May 8th

Friday Dinner AT THE LODGE
THIS WEEK **Famous Fish Fry** \$13
Open To Members and Their Guests
Available In-House or To-Go - Open Friday 5:00-7:00PM
Served with Fries or Onion Rings, Cole Slaw
Bar Menu Also Available
Visit Us kinderhookelks.org

Friday, May 15th

Friday Dinner AT THE LODGE
THIS WEEK **Roast Chicken Dinner** \$13
Open To Members and Their Guests
Available In-House or To-Go - Open Friday 5:00-7:00PM
Served with Potato Salad, Pickles, and Vegetable
Wedge Salad \$5
Also Swiss French Onion Burger \$13
Visit Us kinderhookelks.org

Friday, May 22nd

Friday Dinner AT THE LODGE
THIS WEEK **Chicken Cordon Blue Sandwich** \$13
Open To Members and Their Guests
Available In-House or To-Go - Open Friday 5:00-7:00PM
Served with Fries or Onion Rings
Visit Us kinderhookelks.org

Friday, May 29th

To be Determined

It's also a time to possibly catch the QUEEN.

Garden Committee

There have been signs of spring on the lodge grounds for a while now. The tulips and daffodils have been in bloom, and the allium planted last season is just about ready to pop up at the bottom of the ramp. The lilies John Deane planted years ago by the front will be bigger and better than ever. We've seeded Flanders red poppies in the bed by the flags, and we've started additional poppy plants. We're dedicating at least one bed of red, white, and blue flowers to honor our veterans. Last year, the veterans area got a makeover thanks to Tammy, Ginny, and Thom.

Right now, we're a small group. Our goal is to continue adding low-maintenance annuals, perennials, shrubs, and other plantings to the grounds. We're looking for new members to help grow the committee—share ideas, assist with planning, and pitch in with planting, watering, and deadheading—while learning alongside other seasoned gardeners. There will also be opportunities to share and exchange plants within the group.

John D. has been growing and planting marigolds (and more) for the beds around the lodge for years. The marigolds continue to reseed in several areas and will be blooming soon. Some will need to be transplanted to other beds. Last year, a small group of enthusiastic Girl Scouts helped with some of these tasks. Although that group has disbanded, we hope to recruit and include other youth groups that may want to help with various projects.

If you have a moment, take a walk around the property and see what's growing—and be sure to take a whiff of the Korean lilac out back.

Please consider joining the Garden Committee. Contact Maureen Mooney for more information or to let her know you're interested. Our first meeting will be at the lodge on Thursday, May 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Maureen's cell phone number is 519-210-6079. Her email is: moemooney1972@gmail.com

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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.

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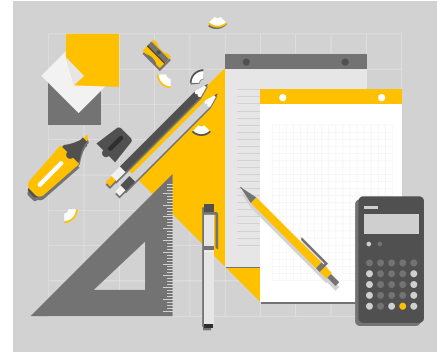
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EMERGENCY EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

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



ELKS ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

HELP US SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

MONTHLY

LODGE NEWSLETTER

ADVERTISING

- Publicly Available On-line and Printed for Members
- Distributed Monthly

\$125/Year



📍 Kinderhook Elks Lodge 2530
2750 Rt 9H
Post Office Box 514
Kinderhook, NY 12106-0514

🌐 Kinderhookelks.org

✉ advertising@kinderhookelks.org

Show your company's or organization's support by advertising with the Kinderhook Elks. Advertise in our monthly on-line and printed newsletter or, on Placemats used during public dining events like our famous Sunday Breakfasts. Great rates with great exposure.

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Veterans

Veterans Committee

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.

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

Kinderhook Elks and Guests

FIRE CHATS at the Lodge

May 1st • 7:00 PM

★ Kick off the end of spring and welcome summer ★

Snacks provided

Bartenders Needed at the Lodge.

We need friendly volunteers to help behind the bar at our lodge. Whether you have experience or not, we'd love to have you join us! It's a fun way to meet new people and support the lodge. No experience? No problem—we'll teach you! Just bring your enthusiasm and a smile. Your help will keep the lodge running smoothly and ensure our members and guests have a great time.

Contact Sharon Deck at 518-929-7524

CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSET? WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU.

USED CLOTHING DROP-OFF SHED

CAN YOU?

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

Kinderhook Elks Present American Flag to New Eagle Scout

On behalf of Kinderhook Elks Lodge, we were proud to present an American Flag to our community's newest Eagle Scout at his Court of Honor ceremony. It was a meaningful moment, and a great reminder of what this award represents—hard work, leadership, and service to others.

Reaching the rank of Eagle doesn't happen overnight. It takes dedication, plenty of perseverance, and the support of family and leaders along the way. We're grateful to everyone who helped him get to this milestone, and we're especially happy to recognize a young person who's already making a positive difference in our community.

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout—we're cheering you on as you head into your next adventure!



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Annual Kinderhook Elks

YARD SALE

Yard Sale Dates:
August 28, 29, 30th
2026 Open 9AM - 3PM

Location:
Kinderhook Elks Lodge
2570 Route 9H
Kinderhook, NY 12106-0514

Interested in Supporting the Elks ?
Clean and Saleable Items can be dropped off beginning May 1st . Furniture in good condition accepted. No Clothing or Books Please

Coming August 28th through August 30th

Big Selection

Unique Finds

Great Deals



Questions: Contact Rose - 845-902-8499



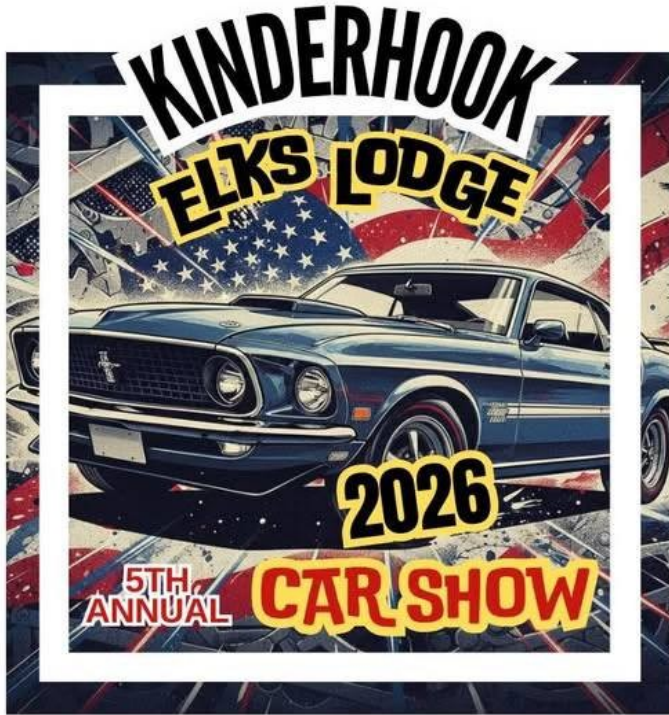
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Calendar

- 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 11^h at 7:30pm
 - Board of Directors: Monday 18^h at 7:30pm

May Menus – served Fridays from 5pm to 7pm

- 1st Philly Cheesesteak Sub, coleslaw, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu
- 8th Fish fry, coleslaw, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu available
- 15th BBQ Roasted Chicken– \$13 (*See page 6 for details*)
- 22th Chicken Cordon Blue Sandwich, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu available
- 29th To be announced

May Events

- 3rd Hall Rental; 2 to 6pm
- 6th Blood Drive; Noon to 6pm
- 10th Mother’s Day Breakfast
- 13th Camp Bristol Golf outing at Villa Roma - 11am
- 14-16th NYS Elks Convention – Villa Roma
- 24nd Pavilion Rental; Noon to 6pm
- 25th Memorial Day – Lodge Closed
- 29th Pavilion Rental; 4 to 8pm



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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:	Kelly McGiffert	545-0022
Leading Knight:	Open	
Loyal Knight:	Rosemarie Neckles	845 902-8499
Lecturing Knight:	Julia Johnson	
Esquire:	<i>Kristen Schiffer</i>	929-3490
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	776-9000
Ben Lasher	784-2032
John Piddock PDD (Chair)	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
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, John Piddock

Advertising/Circulation: Jerry Shook

Website: www.kinderhookelks.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KinderhookElks



Join the mailing list and receive news updates via email

Go to our home page, kinderhookelks.org and scroll down to **Mailing List** under **General Information**.
Click on **Emails**, complete the **three step process**, and your email address will be added to the list.