



THE LEGEND

Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

September 2026



Exalted Ruler's Message

Fellow Elks,

As summer gradually gives way to fall, we welcome one of the most beautiful and exciting times of the year in Columbia County. The start of a new school year brings fresh opportunities, new beginnings, and renewed energy throughout our community. Soon the leaves will begin to change, the days will grow a little cooler, and we'll gather with family and friends to enjoy the traditions that make this season special. Fall reminds us of the importance of community, fellowship, and supporting one another, values that are at the heart of our lodge.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members for the year continued dedication to Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530. Whether you have volunteered your time, supported our events, attended meetings, worked on committees, or simply stopped by the lodge to enjoy fellowship with friends, your involvement helps make our lodge stronger. Every contribution, no matter how large or small, plays an important role in the success of our organization.

With the arrival of fall also comes one of our largest annual undertakings: **Fair Parking**. This event remains one of our most important fundraisers and requires an incredible team effort from our membership. The success of Fair Parking depends on the willingness of members to step up and volunteer their time, often working long hours to ensure everything runs smoothly. I want to thank everyone who has already committed to helping and encourage anyone who has not yet signed up to consider lending a hand. When we work together, we not only support the financial health of the lodge but also demonstrate the spirit of teamwork that makes our lodge so special.

After the hard work is done, we'll have an opportunity to relax and celebrate at our **Workers Party on September 12th**. This event is our chance to recognize the many volunteers whose efforts throughout the year make our programs and fundraisers possible. It is also a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship, share some laughs, and thank one another for the countless hours contributed to the success of our lodge. I hope to see many of you there.

I would also like to remind everyone about the New York State Elks Association's Fall Conference, taking place September 24th through September 27th at the Hilton Albany Downtown. With the conference being only about thirty minutes from Kinderhook, this is a rare opportunity to participate in a State Conference without extensive travel. The conference offers members the chance to learn more about the organization, hear updates on statewide initiatives, exchange ideas with fellow Elks from across New York, and strengthen the bonds that unite us as members of the Order. I encourage anyone interested to consider attending and proudly representing Kinderhook Lodge.

I would also like to recognize our officer, committee chairs, volunteers, and staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Much of the work that keeps our lodge operating smoothly is rarely seen by the membership, but it is always appreciated. Their dedication, commitment, and willingness to serve help ensure that our lodge continues to thrive.

As we move forward onto this busy and exciting season, let us continue to embrace the values that define us as Elks: Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. Together, we can continue to support our community, welcome new members, preserve our traditions, and build an even brighter future for our lodge.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. I wish all of our members and their families a wonderful start to the fall season, a successful school year for our students and educators, and an enjoyable month filled with friends, fellowship, and community spirit.

Kelly McGiffert

Exalted Ruler

Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530



The following is a proposal for replacing the asphalt black top pavement in the driveway/ parking lot. It was read on the floor during the August, 24th meeting. This proposal will be voted on at this month's members meeting on Monday, September 28th. If you have any questions about this proposal, please contact either Chris Akers or John Piddock.

Proposal to Replace the Asphalt Black Top Pavement
of the Lodge's Driveway/Parking Lot

Purpose: The current driveway/parking lot will be excavated and removed, as well as the necessary extent of the sub-base therein. Bottom area and upper incline to be dug out to receive 12" of compacted item - 4 and top area dug out to receive 3 inches of compacted item - 4.

- 1) placement of item - 4 stone upon bottom area and incline, compacted to 12"
- 2) placement of item - 4 stone upon top area compacted to 3" base.
- 3) saw-cutting and removal of pavement transition line at the exchange with the remaining parking lot pavement.
- 4) placement of dense binder asphalt upon all areas, compacted to 2" base.
- 5) placement of type 6 asphalt upon all areas compacted to 2" finish.

Then the remaining portion of the parking lot will be resurfaced with new asphalt which will be approximately 35,000 sq. ft. and entails all prep work including the remediating approximately 650 sq. ft. of combing areas of failed pavement areas. This will be followed by a shim layer of asphalt applied accounting of inconsistencies in the way of cracks and low areas, followed by a type - 7 top layering applied and compacted to 2" finish.

Amount
Expended: \$100,000

Indebtedness: None. Lodge will use some of its financial assets (i.e. CDs) to cover the cost and replenish those funds over a 5 year period.

Property to be
Mortgaged: None.

Persons
Authorized to
Represent the
Lodge: Kelly McGiffert (Exalted Ruler)
Jerry Shook, PSP (Lodge Secretary)
Joseph Laviano, PER (Lodge Treasurer)
John Piddock, PDDGER (Chair, Board of Directors)
Christopher Akers, PDDGER (Vice-Chair, Board of Directors)

Amount to be
Received by
the Lodge: The lodge will receive \$100,000 from cashing in, without penalty, part of its financial portfolio. These funds will be used to pay for the materials, labor, and installation of the new asphalt black topped driveway.

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





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🌐 Kinderhookelks.org
✉ advertising@kinderhookelks.org

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Wings and Things

We are excited to announce the **Wings & Things** is returning on Sundays for the football season!

A special thank you goes out to Rick Stegmann and Dave Mooney, who generously volunteered to take over Sundays. This is a once-a-week commitment throughout the season, and their willingness to step up deserves our appreciation and recognition.

We're also happy to share that **Larry will be jumping in occasionally to serve his famous mini-dogs**, giving everyone another great reason to stop by on football Sundays.

With Rick and Dave moving to Sundays, we now have an opening in our Friday night dinner schedule. Beginning in October, we are looking for a crew to take responsibility for the **third Friday of each month**.

If you are interested in helping, please contact a Lodge officer. Volunteering is a great way to support your Lodge and help keep our traditions strong.



Emergency Educational Grants

Emergency Educational Grants 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. Emergency Educational Grants aren't meant to cover a student's complete education, but they can help cover room and board, books, and tuition and fees.

For the 2026-27 school year, the Elks National Foundation has allocated over \$150,000. If you know any Elks children who may be eligible to receive this grant, please contact me - Colleen Quackenbush at 518-956-3998 or nursecq@hotmail.com.

WORKERS' Party

As a Thank You to all the dedicated volunteers who help make our Lodge successful throughout the year, we invite you to join us for our **Annual Workers' Party** on **Saturday, September 12th** at 5:00 PM

Enjoy an evening of **great food, games, raffles, and prizes** while celebrating the hard work and commitment of our Lodge volunteers. It's a fun opportunity to relax, connect with fellow members, and be recognized for all you do.

Please sign up at the Lodge.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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options available! Call
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an appointment



Friday @ The Lodge

Friday, September 4th – No Dinner due to Fair Parking

Friday, September 11th



Friday, September 18th



Friday, September 25th -



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

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

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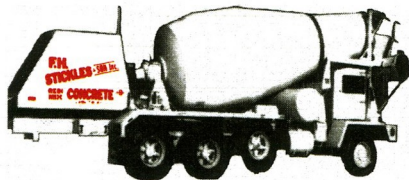
The newsletter committee is looking for someone to edit the newsletter. If you have basic word-processing skills (MS Word or similar) and would like to manage the layout of submitted articles and images in the newsletter each month, please contact one of the newsletter committee members (see last page).

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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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.

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!
- Board of Directors: Monday 21st at 7:30pm
 - Members: Monday 28th at 7:30pm

September Menus – served Fridays from 5pm to 7pm

- 4th No Dinner due to Fair Parking
- 11th Fish Fry, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu available
- 18th Autumn Supper – \$13 (*See page 7 for details*)
- 25th Hot Meatball Subs, choice of french fries or onion rings - \$13 – bar Menu available

September Events

- 2nd - 7th Fair Parking
- 12th Workers' Party 5-10pm
- 21st Board of Director's Meeting
- 22nd Chris Akers Birthday!!!!
- 23rd Camp Bristol Fall Golf outing
- 24th to 26th NYS ELks Association's Fall Conference
- 28th Lodge Meeting

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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	755-0404
Esquire:	Kristen Schiffer	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

John Piddock PDD (Chair)	281-2842
Ben Lasher	784-2032
Nina Kahn	755-0467
Chris Akers PDD	858-7134
Michael Delaney	495-9923

House Committee

Sharon Deck (Chair)	784-3482
Chuck Cotsonas PER	821-2367
John Piddock PDD	281-2842
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



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