



# THE LEGEND

## Newsletter of the Kinderhook Elks

November 2023



### Exalted Ruler's Message

To my Kinderhook Elks family and friends,

You can never stop learning, and I'm not just talking about reading books and furthering your education. I am constantly learning about people, and at the same time learning about myself. A member once told me that I had changed because of my role at the Kinderhook Elks. At first I thought, WHAT? REALLY? Then I stepped back and actually thought about it, and they were right. I have learned to be more confident, I have learned to listen, and adjust my way of thinking to better understand the situation and I have so much more self control. I don't always think that's the best thing for me, but I'm adjusting and moving forward.

I had a meeting with a new member the other night and was given some insightful information from their perspective. When a person joins the Lodge, it is one of the responsibilities of the proposer to help get them involved. As the proposer you saw something in them that you thought would be an asset to the Lodge, and in turn the Lodge be an asset to them in their life. Take the time to bring them in, introduce them to other members, explain how things work and how everyone is different. As a new member coming in, you're apprehensive, withdrawn, feeling-out the waters before jumping in. OK well most are. There are some that just can jump right in and a swim a marathon, but not many.

It's overwhelming at times. They said, "I feel like fresh meat in a sea of piranha" OMG! That's not what we want. Yes we ask for help with parking cars because it is the biggest fundraiser of the year and there are six days and multiple shifts to choose from that all need to be covered. However every time someone asks you to help with a function, it's OK to say no. You shouldn't feel pressured or bullied into helping out. Do what makes you comfortable and what fits into your schedule. Your membership should add to your life not take away from it.



Continued on page 2



We don't want members staying away because they are afraid they will be asked to do a function and feel bad when they have to say no. We all work differently, we all have different personalities, different perspectives, different styles. Could you imagine if we were all the same? No fun in the same old same old.

There are core groups that work well together, it doesn't mean they aren't open to letting others into that group. ASK!!! If you want to work on a function that you weren't asked to but want to, ASK! if you want to see something happen at the Lodge and just need some guidance or advice, ASK! This is not only my lodge, it's your lodge, it's our lodge, it is what we make it. Volunteers are always needed and always appreciated.

We all make mistakes, believe me I've made a ton, I do not walk on water, I sink like a rock, but I'm willing to put myself out there to make a difference, not only for our lodge but the community we serve. ARE YOU WILLING TO DO THE SAME?

Thanks for reading, and if there is ever anything I can do please do not hesitate to reach out. I won't have all the answers but I'm willing to work with you to find them.

Thank you for everything you do for the Lodge and the community we serve. God bless.

ER/PER

Anne Marie Leiser

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Kinderhook Elks

# DART *Night*

Thursday's starting November 16th

6:30pm - 9 Innings of Baseball

Come on out for a night of fun and laughs.  
Would you like to learn how to play?  
Let's learn together!

Contact Tammy for any questions at 518-704-1866

For Members and their guests



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## New Members

On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, two new members were initiated into the Benevolent and Protective order of Elks as part of our annual visitation. In keeping with the Kinderhook tradition, the ritual was performed entirely from memory.

After the ritual, we were treated to an autumnal dinner of roast pork, stuffing, acorn squash, and mash, with a choice of apple or pumpkin pie for dessert. This was made possible by the hard work of Sandy & Rick LaCrosse, Mike Gagliardi, Maureen & David Mooney, Robin Butcher, Tammy McDermott, Annie Leiser, Darci Hover, Rob Warner, Kelly McGiffert, Jim McKay, Abby & Jerry Shook, and all those that worked in the background to prep food and setup & clear up the kitchen and dining room.

The visiting District Deputy was our own John Piddock, who was accompanied by State Vice President Ron Barner from Rensselaer Lodge #2073.



**Front L-R:** Lecturing Knight Kelly McGiffert, new member Cassandra Ramirez, Exalted Ruler PER Anne Leiser, new member Shannon Cheney, Leading Knight Darci Hover, Chaplain Sharon Deck

**Rear L-R:** Chris Bellingham (Esquire), Secretary Jerry Shook PSP, PER John Utley (Leading Knight), Tiler Larry Knott, Trustee PDD Christopher Akers, Treasurer Joe Laviano, Trustee Thom McDermott, Trustee John Sundwall, Trustee Chairman Ben Lasher, PDD Leo Buell, District Deputy John Piddock, PER Joel Dyslin (Loyal Knight), State Vice President Ron Barner.

## **Upcoming events**

### **Stuff the Bus**

November 4<sup>th</sup> is Stuff The Bus from 8am to 12pm. ICC is providing the bus. Stuff The Bus will be accepting food, new unwrapped toys, hats, mittens, glove, new blankets, baby items, diapers etc. and of course money.

### **Special Needs Prom**

The Special Needs Prom will be held November 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme is a nightmare before Christmas. We are requesting dessert donations for the event.

### **Boy Scout Collection Day**

Boy Scouts collection day is November 11, from 9-1 in the parking lot at KJ's Gymnastics so fill a Scouting for Food bag and bring it over. Remember you're helping out your community, your neighbors, your friends, and maybe even your family.

### **Veterans Day Dinner**

On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm there will be a Veterans day dinner consisting of roast beef, potatoes, vegetable and dessert. There is no charge for Veterans and their spouses.

### **Members Party**

The members party will be held Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Gordie and crew will be serving beef, a potato bar, salad and dessert. A sign up sheet will be on the table in the lounge. There will be a \$1 reduction of bar beverages. Darci Hover will head the clean up committee – please contact her if you are able to assist.

### **Marion Stegmann**

December 9<sup>th</sup> is delivery day for Marion Stegmann. Volunteers are needed to deliver food and Christmas gifts. There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge on the bulletin board.

### **Soup Sale**

Rick LaCrosse will be hosting Cabin Fever Soup on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>. The soup will be sold for \$10 a quart, \$5 per pint and \$3 per bowl starting at 1pm. Anyone interested in donating their favorite soup contact ER Annie Leiser.

### **Chili Cook Off**

John Piddock has scheduled a chili cook off contest for January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Kinderhook Elks

# TRIVIA NIGHT

DEC 15TH @ 7PM

Join us for some fun and games  
Pick your brain on movies, music, and more

Prizes for the top winners

Contact Tammy for any questions at 518-704-1866

For Members and their guests

**STUFF**  *the bus*  
*for the Marion Stegmann Fund*



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# Veterans

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## **Ice cream at the VA**

Kinderhook Elks will be serving ice cream at the Stratton VA on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **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.

Donations are tax deductible.

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



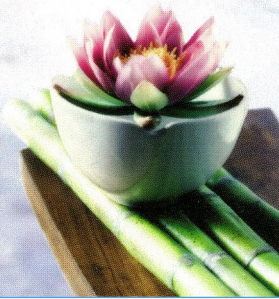
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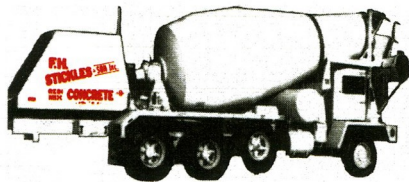
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# Calendar

**Friday Evening** Menu 5pm – 7pm. Reservations required call Anne at 518-758-2196  
Queen of Hearts at 7pm. Purchase tickets in the lounge  
or call Dave at (518) 669-0155

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

**Lodge meetings** Please join us!  
Members: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm  
Board of Directors: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

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

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Philly cheese steak, fries, au jus available upon request - \$13 – Bar menu available
- 10<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry, served with coleslaw, French Fries or Onion Rings - \$12 – Bar menu available
- 17<sup>th</sup> Spaghetti with meatballs or sausage, garlic bread, salad and dessert - \$15
- 24<sup>th</sup> Trim-A-Tree – bring a dish to share

## November Events

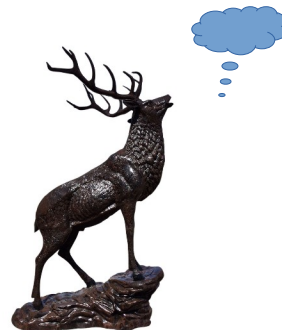
- 4<sup>th</sup> Stuff the bus
- 4<sup>th</sup> Special Needs Prom
- 11<sup>th</sup> Boy Scout Collection Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran’s Day Dinner
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dart Night
- 18<sup>th</sup> Members’ Party
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Dart Night
- 30<sup>th</sup> Dart Night



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# Lodge Contacts

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## Phone Numbers

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

## Officers

Exalted Ruler: Anne Leiser 758-2196  
Leading Knight: Darci Hover 755-3879  
Loyal Knight: Terri Brew 461-2327  
Lecturing Knight: Kelly McGiffert 545-0022  
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

## Mailing Address

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## Trustees

Ben Lasher (Chair) 784-2032  
John Sundwall Jr. 610-5630  
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 DD 758-2842  
Tammy McDermott 704-1866  
Larry Knott 758-7618  
Rick LaCrosse 929-0299

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## Newsletter

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

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

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