



ELKTOWNER

EDITOR - STEVE BRAWITSCH

JUL/AUG 2016
NEWSLETTER

YORKTOWN LODGE # 2324
MID HUDSON DISTRICT # 6180

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from Exalted Ruler Paul Egan

Members,

Isn't it great to be an Elk! This was the same thing our Grand Exalted Ruler, Robert Pruitt, stated in the March of 1965 edition of the *Elks Magazine*. It was also Grand Exalted Ruler Pruitt who signed our Dispensation for a Lodge in that same year, which still hangs on our wall today. That's not a question - it's a statement. Let's get that straight! We've done a lot of great things for our Lodge, our membership, and community that should make every member proud! We partnered with the local Boy Scouts and helped clean up our town. We honored members of the local law enforcement community with awards and recognition. We presented scholarships to students of three different high schools. Our Lobsterfest was a huge success, yet again. Veterans from Montrose came to see our Flag Day Ceremony, but more importantly, we used our Beacon Grant to feed them and purchase items that they desperately need. If our government, whether federal, state, and/or local, chooses to ignore these men and women, then this Lodge is proud to take the first step in helping them. It is unconscionable to push these people aside after everything they have done for us, and forget about them. No other organization is as patriotic as we are. Elks are the ones who ignite the torch that lights our glorious constellation that stretches from coast to coast. Elks *do* care!

We have so many great things going on and future events in the coming months. For those members who haven't been around the Lodge, feel free to stop by. See the changes that have happened. Mark your calendars and attend some of the upcoming events. If you can, help out and volunteer your time. This is your Lodge and there are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved. Most of all, when you become active, you see the benefits of your membership and realize how great it is to be an Elk!

Respectfully,
Exalted Ruler Paul Egan

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Bingo Every Thursday
Doors Open at 5:45pm**

**Friday Aug 5th 9am
Elks Annual Golf Outing
Mohansic G.C.**

Next General Meeting is on Wed July 20th at 8pm

300 Club Sunday October 9th at 1pm

Dart League Beginning Fall 2016 Tuesdays at 8pm

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Quotes on Summer

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken." - James Dent

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under the trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the blue sky, is by no means waste of time." - John Lubboce

"Summer is a promissory note signed in June, its long days spent and gone before you know it, and due to be repaid next January." - Hal Borland

Lodge Major Project — Special Olympics

On May 21, the Annual Spring Games were held at Somers High School, and as usual, our volunteers manned the Turbojav/softball throw event. We thank the following for their efforts which helped make the program a success: **Bruno Bagala, Vic Bonci** and grandson **Dominic, Marty Flannery, John Gravanese** - his wife **Eileen** and daughter **Lauren, Jim Hamilton, Jim Morrison, Charlie Scheld, and Don Smith.**

This concludes our annual volunteer effort which began last September. During that period, we served at 5 events; two less than in previous years, because those major events were cancelled for inclement weather (the Annual Regional Golf Competition and Time Trials East). Our thanks go to the following members and friends for their service during that time: **Mike Adamovich, Bruno Bagala, Mary Blackadder, Vic Bonci** and his grandson **Dominic, Paul Egan, Marty Flannery, John Gravanese** – his wife **Eileen** and daughter **Lauren, Matt Hager, Jim Hamilton, Bob Kramer** and his son **Daniel, Bobbie Leifels, Danny LoPresti** and his grandsons **Sebastian** and **Spencer Virga, Jennie Menton, Lori Moore, Jim Morrison, Joe Pikula, Tom Pikula** and his daughter **Emily, Charlie Scheld, Don Smith** and **Jim Vignola.** Most of our volunteers served at multiple events, and statistically, we can be proud of our participation in this great program. The data shows that at those 5 events: a total of 46 Elk Members and 13 friends, spent 285 hours and traveled 1062 miles while serving 804 program participants. A very Special Thanks go to **Bruno Bagala,** who served at all 5 events; to **Danny LoPresti, Marty Flannery** for serving at 4, and especially to **Charlie Scheld,** who also served at four and led our group during the last three events.

Thanks Again: we look forward to seeing you and all others who wish to join us in serving a group of very special people in an very special program when it begins again in September.....**Have a Safe and Happy Summer Vacation**—Joe Pikula, Chairman

Flag Day Ceremony and Veterans' Barbecue

On June 14, 2016, the Lodge held it's annual Flag Day ceremony. This year was different from previous years, due to the fact that over 40 veterans from the Montrose VA Hospital came to our Lodge as our audience. We qualified for a \$2,000 Beacon Grant and this money was used to purchase food for a barbecue and the rest was used to donate almost \$1,400 worth of personal care items. These items included socks, underwear, t-shirts, playing cards, toothpaste, and shaving cream. Thank you to the following members who made this event so successful: **Bill O'Reilly, Bobby Vijacki, Don Smith, Joe Pikula, Anthony Venditti, Jay Zeif, Rob Nethercott, Jody Cole** (music), **Tony D'Amato,** and **John Vize.**

Charter Member Vincent Licenziato recognized by France

On Saturday, June 11, 2016, Yorktown Lodge #2324 Charter Member **Vincent Licenziato,** received recognition from the Government of France at a special Award Ceremony at the Mt. Kisco American Legion Post. A representative of the French Government, surrounded by Veterans of the French Army and members of the American Legion Posts of Mt. Kisco and Yorktown, presented Brother Vincent with the **French Legion of Merit Medal** for his outstanding service in the United States Army during World War II, thereby helping liberate the French people from Nazi Germany. Brother Vincent, a U.S. Army Staff Sergeant, began his service in France during the Allied Invasion at Normandy and served all across France until VE Day. Past Elk of the Year **Tony Masi** attended the ceremony with his wife Millie. Family and friends who were present included Brother Vincent's wife Josephine, son Vincent Jr., and daughters Carol, Joann and Peggy. All were extremely proud of him and for his service to our country. Also attending was Dina Tiani, Brother Vincent's sister-in-law and widow of Deceased Yorktown Lodge Charter Member, Jesse Tiani.

KUDOS KORNER**NOTES FROM ER PAUL AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIRMAN BOB KRAMER**

On Friday May 6, 2016 the Lodge held its annual Cinco De Mayo Party. Everyone enjoyed the food and bar specials for the event.

On Friday May 13, 2016 a group of members attended the Putnam/Westchester Boy Scout Breakfast at Putnam Golf Course. **Rich D'Andrea** was honored at the event and gave a great speech. Thanks go to **Charlie Scheld** for coordinating tables for Elks members to attend the event.

On Friday May 20, 2016 the Lodge held Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The event was chaired by **Jay Zeif**, who coordinated a great event. The food, bar specials and prizes were enjoyed by the large crowd that attended. Congratulations to member **Luke Oliveri** for receiving the Law Enforcement Award.

On Tuesday June 7, 2016 the Lodge held a ceremony to present scholarship awards to the following High School seniors: **Mark Brawitsch, Stephen Foley, Jenna Green, Kevin McCarthy** and **Sebastian Virga**. Each student received a \$500.00 award to be used towards college expenses. Good luck to the winners as they start their college journey.

Thanks go out to **Eddie Catalano**, who was a tremendous help in making the June 11, 2016 Lobster Bake a success. I would also like to thank Eddie for donating a group of tickets to the Lodge for the June 14, 2016 Mets/Pirates game.

Special Thanks to **Rob Nethercott**, who has donated the dartboard now in use in the Lodge's bar area.

The Annual 300 Club Drawing is scheduled for Sunday October 9, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Lodge. The event is a major fundraiser for our Lodge, and your participation in purchasing a ticket or tickets would be greatly appreciated. The prize money was increased this year. There will only be 300 tickets sold at \$25.00 each. There will be 32 cash prizes, so you will have a good chance of winning. The purchaser of a ticket gets a chance to win one of the following: (25) \$50.00 Prizes (5) \$100.00 Prizes (1) \$1000 Grand Prize (also \$100 Prize to the person who sells the winning Grand Prize ticket).

Everyone who buys a ticket, in addition to the chance of winning a prize, is invited to attend a one hour open bar (beer, wine and soda only) and an open buffet with assorted foods. Winners need not be present to claim a prize and you do not need to be a member to purchase a ticket. Tickets are available at the Lodge/Bar or by calling Bob Kramer at (914) 473-5594. Tickets can also be mailed to you if preferred. Anyone who sells 20 or more tickets will receive a free ticket for the drawing—Bob Kramer

Did you hear the good news?? The Lodge qualified for another \$2,000 grant! This money will be used to purchase teddy bears and distribute them to the patients of the Hudson Valley Hospital. The main purpose is to lift the spirits of the patients and make their stay more tolerable. The date is soon to follow.

It's an honor to announce that member **Bob Hill** has been awarded the 2015-2016 Elk of the Year Award. Bob became active right away after joining the Lodge last year. He provided musical entertainment at the Lodge numerous times, and as a result, he was appointed the Chairman of the Entertainment Committee. Congratulations to **Bob Hill, Elk of the Year!** —Paul Egan





CELEBRATION TIME



Members in July

Greg Bernard
Edward Catalano
Linda Clemenza
William Dunphy
Wayne Gorski
James Graham
Keith Hladek
Jeremiah Horgan
Michael Kalanz
Dennis Kivel
Jennie Menton-Grasso
Joseph Metrovich
Terrence Murphy
Robert Nethercott
William O'Reilly
Gary Raniolo
Michael Solazzo
Lawrence Zamolsky

Spouses in July

Marie Beers
Maureen Beyrer
Kathleen Brawitsch
Susan Deans
Gloria De Prado
Rita Dunning
Jenny Grasso
Christine Kramer
Lisa Hufnagel
Amy Solazzo
Laurie Vize
Arthur Scott Wingfield

Spouses in August

Lauren Cacciola
Sarah Lemma
Wilma Mann
Janet McDonald
Sandy Miller
Marijo Murphy
Patrice Nelson
Alicia Nicholson
Tracy Pagliuca
Muriel Sammon
Susan Taylor
Andree Zapka

Members in Aug

Sean Capshaw
Richard Cariello
Paul Colberg
Robert Cole
Timothy Curtin
Richard De Silva
Jerry Giovinazzo
John Gravenese Jr
Gary Guadagno
James Hamilton
Robert Hill
Noel Kaiser
Anton Kozlowski
John Morrison
John Murray
Edward Nicholson Jr
Joseph Occhipinti
Richard Paul
Brian Pavletich
Robert Pavletich
Thomas Pikula
Brian Shanahan

July Anniversaries

John and Connie Belotti
John and Eileen Gravenese Jr
Keith and Deborah Hladek
Michael and Sandy Miller
George and Susan Taylor
Stephen and Jaqueline Smith

August Anniversaries

Joseph and Kathleen Barletti
Glen and Melanie Bernardi
Gerald and Maureen Beyrer
Albert and Amy Durante
Lorin and Arthur Scott Guido
Adam and Victoria Lodewick
Louis and Serafina Mastro Jr
Patrick and Marijo Murphy
Joseph and Alfreda Pikula
Roy and Elizabeth Sokol
Michael and Amy Solazzo

TO ALL OF YOU, WE WISH YOU THE VERY BEST ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY



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2016 Elks Lodge #2324 Scholarship Winners (from left to right) Exalted Ruler **Paul Egan**, **Kevin McCarthy**, **Stephen Foley**, **Sebastian Virga**, **Mark Brawitsch**, **Jenna Green**, Elks **Bob Kramer** and **Bob Pavletich**

300 Club Returns

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- also \$100.00 Prize to person who sells the winning Grand Prize ticket

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The Yorktown Elks Lodge

Annual Golf Outing

FRIDAY AUGUST 5TH, 2016

Mohansic Golf Course

In Memory of Tommy "Pav" Pavletich

9.00am Shotgun Start \$140.00 per person

Includes. 18 holes of golf w/cart, lunch, dinner, open bar, prizes, raffles, Hole in One Contest, \$5,000 Putting Contest, and other giveaways.

Proceeds to help benefit Lodge Special Olympics, Youth Scholarships, Hoop Shoot, Cerebral Palsy and Veteran Programs

Golfers and Hole Sponsors Needed

For more information contact:

- Michael Littleton (914) 438-0332
- Paul Egan (845)667-6779
- Brian Pavletich (914) 391-1719
- Bobby Kramer (914) 473-5594



52 CLUB

There are 64 members in the 52 Club this year. The drawings will take place every Wednesday night. Weekly winners of \$50 for the year so far are as follows:

4/13/16 Max Ellsworth	5/11/16 Neil Ruocco	6/8/16 Bill O'Reilly
4/20/16 Charlie Scheld	5/18/16 Max Ellsworth	6/15/16 Jack Hufnagel
4/27/16 Lenny Rodriguez	5/25/16 Bill O'Reilly	
5/4/16 Danny Sepulveda	6/1/16 Anthony Cacciola	

Elks Lobster Bake



Yorktown Elks Lodge #2324 held a Lobster Bake on June 11, 2016. Steamed Lobsters, Raw Clams, Steamers, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Beer and Live Music by were enjoyed by all. Above left, **Paul Egan, Danny Raiola, Bobby Falco** and **Mike Mullins** have a good time at the Lobster Bake. Below left, the band RDQ performs. Below right, 2016 Elk Of The Year Award is presented to **Bobby Hill** by Exalted Ruler **Paul Egan**.



HELP WANTED

The Yorktown Elks hold Bingo every Thursday evening. Bingo is a Major source of revenue for our Lodge and help is needed each week to sell tickets and work in the kitchen. We also need general floor help and cleanup help later in the evening. If you can help out, please contact **Danny LoPresti** at dannylo426@yahoo.com.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you haven't paid your dues for the 2016-2017 year, please pay as soon as possible. Our fiscal year started April 1st, and the payment of your dues is required to enter the Lodge and use its facilities.



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ELKS HONOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

In 1962, President Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. Currently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

On Friday May 20th, Elks Lodge #2324 honored local Law Enforcement personnel, both active and retired, by celebrating Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Attendees were treated to free food and assorted beverages from 3-6pm. Guitar music was provided by Peter of The Shaves.

