



# ELKLINER

December 2020 | Madison Elks Lodge #410

## OFFICERS

Exalter Ruler **Lupe Montes**  
Leading Knight **Geof Gaston**  
Loyal Knight **Bridget Esser**  
Lecturing Knight **Vacant**

Secretary **Dan Curd**  
Treasurer **Scott Thornton**

Esquire **Patrick Fitzpatrick**  
Chaplain **Laura Mac Isaac**  
Tiler **Vacant**  
Inner Guard **Michelle Herring**  
Organist **Lois Hoornstra**

## TRUSTEES

1 Year **Vacant**  
2 Year **Vacant**  
3 Year **Cliff Fisher**  
4 Year **Denise Stromme**  
5 Year **Tom Lyons**

*Membership meeting held on the  
2nd Wednesday of the month.*

## ELKLINER

Editor **Dan Curd**  
Photographer **John Lorimer**

*If you would like to submit  
something for publication or  
place an advertisement,  
please mail:*

**secretary@madisonelkslodge.org**

## CHRISTMAS 2020

It's hard to believe that Christmas is almost here and a new year just a few weeks away. We all will remember 2020, and not always with the happiest of memories. We hope that you and yours are continuing to stay safe and well, weathering the pandemic – we want to see more of you in 2021! These times have been challenging for all of us, the Lodge included. Last month we discussed how the loss of revenue – reduced hours and capacity in the restaurant and bar, no social or fundraising events, no weddings. But it is not all doom and gloom and we are optimistic about the future. A Payroll Protection

Program loan helped us pay salaries and utilities. (We are one of a handful of lodges that successfully applied for this grant.) We continue to pursue other grants to support our charity work in the community. Many of the weddings and events canceled this year, have been rebooked for 2021 or 2022 and we receive new enquiries daily. Management and accounting which quite frankly were deficient are now being capably handled. We continue to work to make your Lodge a more attractive and welcoming place.

That said, we are not “out of the woods” yet. A fifty-five year old facility is starting to show its age and some needs cannot be postponed. The estimated cost for replacing two heat pumps is \$5,951, and a new exhaust fan is \$1,450. The light in the walk-in cooler needs to be replaced and the dumb waiter no longer works. The city originally accessed us \$3,200 for a traffic signal in front of the Lodge. Ultimately, we were able to negotiate a \$700 reduction. Trustee Cliff Fisher has also found new service providers that will significantly reduce some of our monthly expenses for services and maintenance.

We asked our members to contribute toward much needed landscaping in front of the Lodge and you responded. We received sufficient donations to undertake the project in the spring. The estimated cost for plantings is \$1,100, but we will need volunteer for labor. If you are interested in helping, please contact the secretary.

When you make your end-of-the-year donations, we ask that you remember the Lodge. A donation to the maintenance fund or Elks National Foundation that supports many charities will be appreciated.

(Continued on the next page)



## CHRISTMAS 2020 (continued)

Looking for a stocking stuffer? Buy Elks beer koozies at the bar for just a buck! Another way you can help the Lodge is by proposing new members – your friends will thank you for it!

*From the Board of Directors, Officers and Staff of Madison Elks Lodge 410 ...*

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## TRADITIONS

Our Lodge, founded in 1898, is obviously steeped in traditions. We strive to continue them as best we can under the current circumstances, hoping to see them come back in all their glory in 2021. Of course we decorated the Lodge for Christmas and it is beautiful! Many thanks to Office Manager Mary Bach and Treasurer Scott Thornton for their effort. Also, a shout out to Esquire Paddy Fitzpatrick for again shepherding the Toys for Tots gift collection drive. If you wish to donate an unwrapped gift you still may do so. The collection box is located just outside the dining room. Alas, we will be closed New Year's Eve this year, but ask you to give a toast to Elkdom and better days to come.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Each year the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks remembers and honors our departed members with a memorial service held the first Sunday in December. We are unable to hold this event this year on December 6. Instead we have placed a Remembrance Tree in our dining room and invite you to write the names of your lost loved ones on ornaments that you can hang on the tree. Ten-dollar donations received for the ornaments go to the Maintenance Fund. The tree will remain up and lit until the New Year.



## SUBSCRIBE TO THE ELKS MAGAZINE ONLINE

Switch to the online edition and begin enjoying bonus content unavailable in the print edition. As an online subscriber to *The Elks Magazine*, you will have access to online-only content, including photos, videos, feature article sidebars, and crossword puzzles. Plus, the online magazine is optimized for convenient viewing on your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

### To register for online access to The Elks Magazine:

#### 1. Log in on [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

Log in to your Elks.org member account by going to the website and clicking on “Member Login” in the upper right corner, or click “Register” if you have not yet created an account.

#### 2. Register for online access to the magazine

Go to [www.elks.org/elksmag/online](http://www.elks.org/elksmag/online) and click on the “Click here to register” button and complete the registration form.

#### 3. Save your online access account number

On the last page of the registration form, you will be given an account number. Make sure to save this number for future reference because you will need it to log in each digital issue of *The Elks Magazine*.



### CHANGES IN THE ENTRANCEWAY

The ladies have moved out of the cloak room! The past presidents of the Women's Auxiliary are now displayed opposite the P.E.R.s in the main hallway. Portraits of recent Past Exalted Rulers have been added to the wall as well. Elk gear for sale is on display in the glass case by the bar.



### MASK UP!

Like all businesses in Dane County, the Madison Elks Lodge requires you to wear a mask except when eating or drinking. Our enterprising bartender, Ann Braithwaite, daughter of our new member Michelle Braithwaite, makes and sells masks. There are many custom designs to choose from and 40% of the sales go to the Lodge. See Ann at the bar for more information.

### HOLIDAY HOURS

The Lodge dining room and bar will close for the holidays on Thursday, December 24 and reopen on Thursday, January 7. The office will be open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. excluding Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.





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## ELKS TOAST

*You have heard the tolling of 11 strokes.*

*This is to remind us that with Elks, the hour of 11 has a tender significance.*

*Wherever Elks may roam, whatever their lot in life may be, when this hour falls upon the dial of night, the great heart of Elkdom swells and throbs.*

*It is the golden hour of recollection, the homecoming of those who wander, the mystic roll call of those who will come no more.*

*Living or dead, Elks are never forgotten, never forsaken.*

*Morning and noon may pass them by, the light of day sink heedlessly in the West, but ere the shadows of midnight shall fall, the chimes of memory will be pealing forth the friendly message,*

*'To our absent members.'*

## ORIGIN OF THE TOAST

In regard to the Elks' 11 O'Clock Toast and its origin, we have to go back long before the BPOE came into existence. One of the main contributions of Charles Richardson – in stage name of Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian and founder of the American branch of the Jolly Corks – was to deliver into the hands of newborn Elks the rituals and traditions of a fraternal organization started in England around 1010 A.D., the Royal and Antedeluvian Order of Buffaloes, to which he belonged prior to coming to New York.

The RAOB, or Buffaloes as we shall henceforth refer to them, also practiced an 11 o'clock toast in remembrance of the Battle of Hastings in October of 1066. Following his victory, William of Normandy imported a set of rules, both martial and civil in nature, to keep control of a seething Norman-Saxon population always on the edge of a revolution.

Among those rules was a curfew law requiring all watch fires, bonfires (basically all lights controlled by private citizens that could serve as signals) to be extinguished at 11 each night. From strategically placed watchtowers that also served as early fire-alarm posts, the call would go out to douse or shutter all lights and bank all fires. This also served to discourage secret and treasonous meetings, as chimney sparks stood out against the black sky. A person away from his home and out on the darkened streets, when all doors were barred for the night, risked great peril from either evildoers or patrolling militia.

The hour of 11 quickly acquired a somber meaning, and in the centuries that followed, became the synonym throughout Europe for someone on his deathbed or about to go into battle: i.e. "His family gathered about his bed at the 11th hour," or "The troops in the trenches hastily wrote notes to their families as the 11th hour approached when they must charge over the top.

Thus, when the 15 Jolly Corks (of whom seven were not native-born Americans) voted on February 16, 1868, to start a more formal and official organization, they were already aware of an almost universally prevalent sentiment about the mystic and haunting aura connected with the nightly hour of 11, and it took no great eloquence by Vivian to establish a ritual toast similar to that of the Buffaloes at the next-to-last hour each day.

The great variety of 11 O'Clock Toasts, including the Jolly Corks Toast, makes it clear that there was no fixed and official version until 1906-10. Given our theatrical origins, it was almost mandatory that the pre-1900 Elks would be expected to compose a beautiful toast extemporaneously at will. Regardless of the form, however, the custom is as old as the Elks.

## WHY AN ELKS.ORG ACCOUNT?

Earlier, we showed you how you can access *The Elks Magazine* online edition from your account at the Grand Lodge website, [elks.org](http://elks.org).

But, did you know that we have our own unique 410 page on this website as well?

To access it, just enter "410" in the search tab in the upper right hand corner of the home page.

This will take you to our page. By registering and signing in, members can access "members only" information such as minutes of the monthly membership meetings and the treasurer's reports.

Here we also post the latest need-to-know information about lodge hours, officers, and contacts.



## A POSTCARD FROM THE PAST



*Elks Lodge 410 Quartet, 1939. Left to right: Wally Litlesand, piano; Frank Ripp, bass; Tim Kelleher, Baritone; Jerry Ripp, 2nd tenor; and Joe Ripp, 1st tenor. Photo taken at the original Lodge located on Monona Avenue (Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.)*

## NEW HOURS, NEW MENU

The bar and dining room are currently open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. We have a new dinner menu that has nightly specials. On Thursday night we feature three tacos with beans and rice for \$10; on Friday, the famous Lodge Fish Fry with a choice of three pieces of fried lake perch or cod, French fries and coleslaw for \$12; and on Saturday, roast prime rib (8-oz. for \$14, 10-oz. for \$16, or 14-oz. for \$18) with a choice of potato and salad. Additionally, each night we offer a chef's special. Make reservations or order a carryout by calling 608.255-1644 extension 1.

### P.E.R. ASSOCIATION

Chairman: **Richard Olson**

Secretary **Sherie Saso**

Treasurer **Lynn Aspinwall**

### Active Members

Dan Aspinwall

William H. Aspinwall

Kristi Barbian

Chuck Hoornstra

Ed Ledwidge

James Mueller

Steve Sasso

### LADIES AUXILIARY

President **LaVerne Schwengel**

Past President **Gloria Smiley**

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## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dale K. Kripps, Michael A. Liethen, Denise Stromme
- 2 Michael K. Bullington
- 3 Laurine A. Carstens, Chester Frisch, Vivian Schmelzer, Sara Schoenborn
- 5 Charles J. Chvala, Donna M. Gray, John P. Palmer, Steven O. Whayland
- 6 Don Chambers, Gregory M. Chermak, Jane Morse
- 9 Lavern Birrenkott, Theodore J. Frank, Edward Kinney
- 10 Gary W. Stolen, Stephen A. Webster
- 11 Greg Curless, Edmund J. Gallagher, Kenneth E. Larson, Jim Maas, Richard E. Olson, Karen Weltzin
- 12 James H. Friedl, Chris Henderson, Robert C. Salisbury
- 13 Mary E. Bach, Richard S. Brown, Ken Felleron, William K. Young
- 14 Angela K. Maurer, Eugene Mortensen
- 15 Edward C. Lawry, Brian W. McKee
- 16 Charles J. Price, Kari Sasso Thompson
- 17 James W. Hoppe, Charles Polenz, Shelly Schmidt
- 18 Karen Bosold
- 19 Carol Aspinwall
- 21 Marc Eisen, Richard W. Hart, Donald L. Paulson
- 22 James C. Driscoll
- 24 Diann Kielley Corbett
- 25 Kristin Bohl, Michael Mann
- 26 Richard L. Adler, Lawrence Singer, Russ Tieman
- 27 Tom Aldrich, Thomas M. Urdiales
- 28 Steven Bethke, Doak Christenson, Patrick Fitzpatrick, James Mueller
- 29 Pamela Crawford
- 30 Aaron Freis
- 31 Eric Bagley

## WELKOME NEW MEMBERS

*Initiated November 11:*

Michelle Braithwaite  
Stephen Nelson



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## **WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE LODGE**

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Currently the office is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., or by appointment. Email: [office@madisonelkslodge.org](mailto:office@madisonelkslodge.org). The Bar and Dining Room are open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. For reservations please call 608-255-1644 extension 1.

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### **MADISON ELKS LODGE #410**

711 Jenifer Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

[madisonelkslodge.org](http://madisonelkslodge.org)