



# ELKLINER

MARCH 2022 | Madison Elks Lodge #410

## OFFICERS

Exalter Ruler **Bridget Esser**

Leading Knight **Don Geier**

Loyal Knight **Mike Verveer**

Lecturing Knight **Geoff Gaston**

Secretary **Dan Curd**

Treasurer **Scott Thornton**

Esquire **Patrick Fitzpatrick**

Chaplain **Laura MacIsaac**

Tiler **James Maas**

Inner Guard **Michelle Herring**

Organist **Lois Hoornstra**

## TRUSTEES

1 Year **Kristopher Stegge-Reimann**

2 Year **Lance Lattimer**

3 Year **John Skillrud**

4 Year **Tom Lyons**

5 Year **Michelle Braithwaite**

*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 email:*

[secretary@madisonelkslodge.org](mailto:secretary@madisonelkslodge.org)

## TIME TO MAKE THE MEATBALLS!



Madison Elks Lodge #410

### ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER & RAFFLE

Saturday, March 19, 2022

4 – 8 p.m.

#### WIN CASH!

**\$600, \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100 and twenty \$50 prizes will be given away.**

Homemade Spaghetti & Meatballs (2) or an Italian Sausage (or plant-based Italian Sausage) with Salad & Garlic Bread

**\$12 for Adults, \$6 for Children (6 to 12)**

Extra Meatballs \$1.50, Extra Sausage \$3

Cannoli \$4.75

**Open to the public!**

Please support your Lodge! This is our major fundraiser held only once a year and we were unable to have it in 2021. Its success depends upon your generosity. Please come to dinner on Saturday, March 19 and bring your friends. The spaghetti dinner is open to the public and this is a great opportunity to introduce the Madison Elks Lodge to our community.

We mailed you raffle tickets which we hope you will be able to purchase. If you did not receive them, they are also available for sale at the bar and at the dinner. Ticket sales generates nearly all the revenue we make from this event – we intentionally keep the price of the food low so everyone can enjoy it. (Continued)

(Continued) We also need volunteers. We only have limited staff working that night to reduce our overhead. Each year, the Duck Committee volunteers its help and talent to make delicious meatballs. We thank them and all those who have signed up to help serve the members and guests. We still need help. Please consider signing up for one of the two-hour shifts before and during the dinner (the sign-up sheet is at the bar). It's a great opportunity to get to know your fellow Elks!

Dinner will be served between 4 and 8 p.m. (there are no reservations). The raffle drawing will be at 8 p.m., but you do not have to be present to win. The bar will remain open until 10 p.m. With your help, we look forward to another successful Spaghetti Dinner!

### **HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?**

The current year of Elkdom expires on March 31, 2022, and so does your membership. You should have received in the mail a dues statement from the Grand Lodge. If you did not or misplaced it, please contact the Secretary and he can email or mail you a copy: [secretary@madisonelkslodge.org](mailto:secretary@madisonelkslodge.org).

We are grateful that about half of the members have already returned their statements and payments for 2022-2023.

If you are delinquent – have never paid your dues for this current year (April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022), you will receive a final notice in the mail. If we do not receive your payment by March 31st, per the rules of the BPOE, you will be dropped for nonpayment. The letter will explain your options if you are dropped. We don't want to lose any members. If you have a problem that prohibits you from making payment by the deadline, please contact the Secretary.

If you need to “pause” your membership, but may want to return at some future date (or join another Lodge), please contact the Secretary about applying for an Absolut Dimit. You must do this before March 31st!

For those who have paid, you can expect to receive your new membership and key card (yellow) in the mail midmonth. Early in April the locks on the doors will be changed. We will notify you via the Elkliner and email the exact date. Until then, please continue to use your red key card.

Later this month, widows and widowers will be mailed complimentary ID cards. They have the opportunity to receive a key card if they mail the Lodge \$2 and a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Despite all the curve balls the pandemic has thrown us, your Lodge is still on track to see an increase in membership this year. Let's all work together to guarantee we grow even more during the coming year! Please encourage your friends and business associates to join the Elks. Applications are available from the Secretary.

### **VO5**



*Live at the Lodge! Saturday, March 5. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Concert and dancing begin at 8:30 p.m., plus food and drinks available for purchase. Tickets are on sale to the general public for \$30. But, members can still buy tickets for \$25 with the Promo Code: 5VIP410. Go to the website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vo5-prom-night-tickets-26038127640>*

## P.E.R. ASSOCIATION

Chairman **Richard Olson** (2015-2017)

Secretary **Sherie Sasso** (2019-2020)

Treasurer **Lynn Aspinwall** (2017-2019)

### ACTIVE MEMBERS

**Dan Aspinwall** (1971-1972)

**William Aspinwall** (1986-1987)

**Kevin Pohlkamp** (1989-1990)

**Jim Mueller** (1990-1991)

**Ed Ledwidge** (1994-1996)

**Chuck Hoornstra** (1995-1996, 2001-2002)

**Kristi Barbian** (2011-2013)

**Steve Sasso** (2013-2015)

**Lupe Montes** (2020-2021)

### LADIES AUXILIARY

President **LaVerne Schwengel**

Past President **Gloria Simley**

Vice President **Donna Campanelli**

Secretary **Tammy O'Brien**

Treasurer **Helen Duncan**

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Ann Bailey**

**Carol Rohde**



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Game 3	\$ 50.00
Game 4	\$ 75.00
Game 5	\$ 100.00
50/50 Drawing	
Game 6	\$ 125.00

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## POSTCARD FROM THE PAST



Many of the early Lodges spared no expense on the accoutrements for their Lodge room. Pictured here is one that served Walla Walla Lodge #287. Built in 1913, the structure burned in 1970.

## THE RITUAL

The BPOE adopted several fraternal traditions similar to the Masonic Fraternity. An altar, decorated with the Holy Bible, is found in the center of every Lodge throughout Elksdom. Old Glory served as the altar's drapery until 1956, when it was given its own distinct place of honor to the right of the altar. An Exalted Ruler governs each Elks Lodge as the Worshipful Master does in a Masonic Lodge.

Traditionally, Elk officers wore tuxedos during the initiation ritual and other ceremonial functions of the Order. Some Lodges continue this practice today. In 1874, the Exalted Ruler and officers of every Elks Lodge began wearing the new Elks regalia, composed of a purple velvet collar with a small, fawn colored roll and a jewel with an Elk's head with a gilt edge on the collar.

The Tiler (also a position in the Masonic Lodge) guards the entrance of every Elks Lodge, and this officer prevents all outsiders from entering a Lodge without proving themselves to be an Elk in good standing. The Esquire is the sergeant-at-arms and maintains ritual decorum and carries out the orders of the Exalted Ruler. The Esteemed Leading Knight is the vice president, second in command, and presides in the absence of the Exalted Ruler. The cardinal principle of their station is Charity. The Esteemed Loyal Knight is the third chair officer of the Lodge. The cardinal principle of their station is Justice. The Esteemed Lecturing Knight is the fourth chair officer of the Lodge. The cardinal principle of their station is Brotherly Love.

The BPOE originally utilized a two-degree ritual; the second degree was discontinued in 1890. In fact, the Grand Lodge has outlawed any side degrees. The solemn and dignified initiation of today is vastly different from the one once performed by Lodges. The early minutes of several Lodges describe a far different rite.

Part of the joining process for an early candidate was a required physician's certificate of examination. The male prospect had to be in top condition to even be considered. Once the candidate had met that criteria and was in the Lodge room, he was blindfolded. Instead of dimmed lights and beautiful words, he was subjected to hazing. The minutes of Ashland Lodge No. 384 describe in detail how their candidates were forced to wear shoes with lead soles, designed to make them walk as though intoxicated.

The old Ritual Book spells out other trickery, with members agreeing with the Exalted Ruler's declaration that the candidates be "shaved." This was an era when most males sported facial hair of some sort. After this decision was made, a "barber" appeared before the blindfolded candidates. With



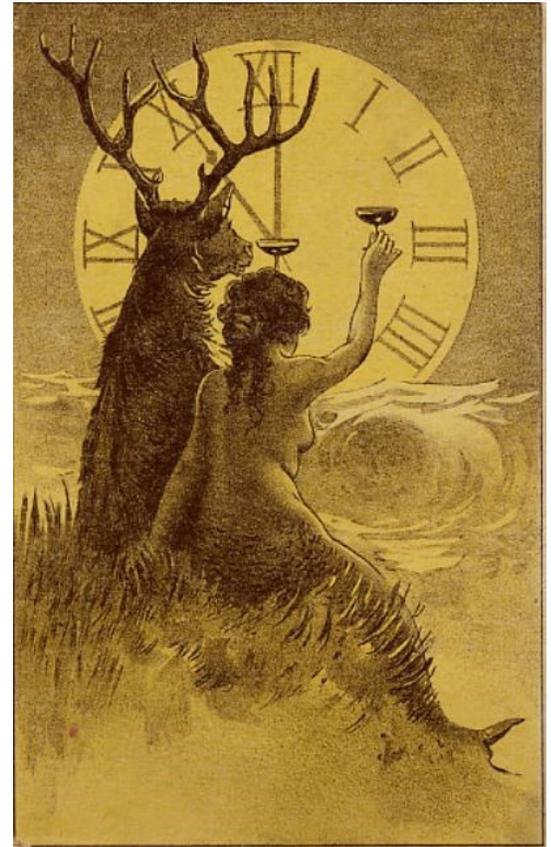
George W. Thompson became the first Exalted Ruler of New York Elks Lodge #1 in 1868. This was during the infancy of Elksdom when members wore aprons during their meetings and rituals. He was born in Brooklyn, and died of blood poisoning caused by an abscess on his finger. Some of his writing still appears in parts of the initiation ritual today.

a dull file simulating a straight razor, he literally scraped the faces of the men, pretending to shave them. A few other jokes, all of which were contained in the Ritual Book, described each ordeal in great detail, such as “walking on broken glass,” actually egg shells. It even required the session end with real guns, loaded with blanks, being fired off behind the now-weary and very confused new members.

In 1895, the Elks ceased the use of lambskin aprons during ritualistic work. In 1899, the password was eliminated. In 1902 the use of a badge was discontinued. In 1904, the secret handshake fell by the wayside. In 1911, the “Test Oath” was removed. In 1952, candidates were no longer blindfolded prior to their initiation.

At every meeting of the Elks and at every social function, when the hour of 11 p.m. tolls – the hour of recollection, the Lodge conducts a charming ceremony known as the Eleven O'clock Toast. In fact, the clock striking the eleventh hour is part of the BPOE official emblem, directly behind the representation of an elk's head in the emblem of the Order.

Regular meetings of local Lodges have always been held at night. In the earlier days, they were usually held on Sunday nights and were concluded about eleven o'clock. As the participants departed, the Brothers inquired about those absent and expressed sympathetic interest in why they were not there. It soon became a custom for a member to propose a toast to the Brothers not present. In the course of time, this custom was generally observed whenever a group of Elks were together at eleven o'clock. Eventually, the Grand Lodge provided for a specific ceremony and designated it as The Eleven O'clock Toast. Under this provision, whenever a Lodge was in session at that hour, the regular order of business was suspended for a few moments while the Exalted Ruler recited the prescribed ritual, concluding with the words: “To our absent Brothers.” Since 1995 when women were admitted to the Elks, the toast is now “To our absent Members.”



## TOP RECRUITERS

*Top Proposers of New Members in 2021-2022:*

1. Dan Curd (16)
2. Bridget Esser (6)
3. Cliff Fisher (5)
3. Lance Lattimer (5)
3. Scott Thornton (5)
4. Geoff Gaston (4)

## Euchre Tournament

Playing Euchre is a great way to meet fellow Elks members. You get a new partner every game! Bring your friends.

Please sign up at the bar so we can ensure proper staffing!

\$5.00 per person Buy In  
Prizes will be determined based on the number of entries

Come for cards, stay for dinner!  
Saturday features Prime Rib



Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>  
Register: 2:00 pm  
Playing Begins: 2:30 pm



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 James Boll, Orley Jensen, Daniel Leetz
- 2 Scott Arndt, Stephen Machotka, Douglas Swank
- 3 June Dalton, Aaron Frank, John Speropulos
- 4 Ray Wojtak
- 5 Fritz Carstens, Tim Geier, Andrew Johnson,  
David Johnson, Steven Westphal
- 6 Cathy Coyle
- 7 William Flesch, Walter Sauer, J Michael True
- 8 James Bachmann, Anthony Pullara, J Shannon Riley,  
Verne Vlack
- 9 Charles Deadman, Jr., Daniel Drye
- 10 John Fadness
- 11 James Henley, Jeffrey Kingston, Brent Ruhland
- 13 Alan Derus, Benjamin Jedd, Daniel Kelly
- 14 Kevin Karpelenia
- 15 Marilee Gardner, Jon Jenson, Kierfer Kleinschmidt,  
John Smail
- 16 John Yogerst
- 17 Lauren Taylor
- 18 Steve Thiel
- 19 Charles Deadman, Michael Steffen, Arthur Taggart
- 21 Michelle Herring, Leanne Tyska
- 22 Kimberly Wolf
- 23 Greg Bonnes, William Steckel
- 24 Ronald Ryan
- 25 John Gransee, John Sommers
- 26 Roland Beiswanger
- 27 Richard Christenson, Roy Swenson
- 29 Charles Baumann, Donald Kohn
- 30 William Jones
- 31 Nathan Geraths, James Marcks, Ryan Neerland,  
Louise Oasen

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Initiated February 9:*

Mathew Jon Cizik  
Katherine Davey  
Anita Krasno  
Kimberly Nelson  
Kelly Thompson



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Member

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**"Supporting Elks Over 40 years"**

# MAR 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
		Mardi Gras Mask mandate ends!				VO5 6:30 p.m. – Midnight, Lower Level
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Lodge Meeting 7 p.m.		Lois Hoornstra At the Piano, Dining Room	Euchre 2 p.m., Upstairs Private Event Lower Level
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Daylight Saving Time Begins			Music Bingo 6 – 8 p.m., Bar	St. Patrick's Day		Spaghetti Dinner 4 – 8 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Spring Begins			Lodge Meeting 7 p.m.		Lois Hoornstra At the Piano, Dining Room	
27	28	29	30	31	1	
				Dues Deadline!	Beginning of New Elk Year	

HAPPY  
St. Patrick's  
\*DAY\*

Come to the Lodge for friends, food and fun!



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

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 is open Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. The Dining Room is open Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. For reservations or carryout, please call 608-255-1644 ext. 1 **Mask mandate ends March 1!**

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

711 Jenifer Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

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