



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Green Bay Lodge 259

3195 S. Ridge Road
Green Bay, WI 54304

The ELKS CALL - April 2026

What we have been up to:

- ENF Grants & WEA Grants
 - We have applied for and received all new 2026-2027 grants
 - Saturday May 10th, Elizabeth will be delivering checks to the East and West GB booster clubs from our Gratitude grant. If you are not going to the Camp Wawbeek cleanup day and want to go with Elizabeth to deliver these checks, please reach out and let us know. 920-983-9259 or gbelks259@gmail.com
 - At our May 6th lodge meeting, we will be discussing the WEA Wisconsin grant and the WEA Youth Grant and what we want to do with this money. Last year we gave \$1250 to Laundry Love and \$500 to Badger Boys with the WEA Wisconsin Grant and we gave \$222 to Oneida Farmers Market Seeds to Table program (not sure if this is the exact name) we gave them potting soil, seeds, peat pots, etc to help kids learn how food is grown with the WEA Youth Grant. Do we want to do the same this year or change it up?
- Lodge and our community
 - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny was a huge success. The event gets bigger every year
 - We have card kits at the lodge for anyone who wants to make cards for our veterans. We have prepackaged what you need to make a dozen cards. You can make them however you would like and either use the supplies we provide or what you have. We will make holiday cards for specific holidays or thank you cards for months without a holiday. Once a month we will have a table at Milo C Heumpfner VA Center from 9-noon and we will hand out cards, candy and craft kits. We set up by the coffee table and this seems to be working out well. Please call or email the lodge if you want to join us. (920)983-9259 or gbelks259@gmail.com
- Camp Wawbeek
 - Saturday May 9th is Camp Wawbeek clean up day. It starts at 9am and goes until 1pm. We will be meeting at the lodge at 6:15am to carpool down or anyone who wants to attend. Please bring gloves. Camp Wawbeek is down by the Dells.
 - For the second year, we have decided (at the April 1st Lodge meeting) to send a child to Camp Wawbeek for the week. We will be sending Maxxwell Olson again. He had such a great time last year that he asked if he could go back. The lodge voted to send him again. This cost is paid for by our lodge, but we submit it to the WEA Disabilities committee and they pay 50% back to us in March of 2027. Also if they have enough in their budget at the end of the year, they pay more. Last year they paid 50% + 70% of what was left after the 50%, so it really did not cost us much at all.
- Scholarships
 - We handed out 3 Kerry Calba Scholarships, Addyson Simpson, Jordaan Cruz and Brady Bell, at \$500 each, a tech scholarship at \$2000 and we had 2 students, Addyson Simpson and Shaun

Huss, receive WEA state scholarships of \$4000 each. Addyson Simpson received this year's Legacy Scholarship for \$6000

- Membership
 - We have several people interested in joining the lodge and we are working with them to get them initiated.
- Lodge of Sorrow
 - It is with great sadness that I let our lodge know of the passing of another long time member. Russell Meyer passed away on Jan 31, 2026. He was a member of Green Bay Elks Lodge #259 for 71 years. To our absent member....
- Antlers Program - We are still looking into starting an Antlers Program. The Antlers Program is for children between the ages of 12-20. They will hold 2 meetings a month, one for fun and one for volunteer work. Antlers is a youth program of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. It is a program that promotes the support of our youth, our veterans, and our communities, and practices the principle of charity. Think of the Antlers as junior Elks members. The Antlers program focuses on teaching our young people about:
 - Patriotism
 - Respect of parents
 - Love of home
 - Good citizenship
 - Aiding a worthy cause

For more information consider attending the open house or reach out to the lodge at gbelks259@gmail.com

From the ER

- The year is getting off to a great start. All of our offices are filled, our grants have all been approved and we are moving forward and getting the word about the Elks into our community. We have been doing a lot more with Milo C Heumpfner VA Center, and this is helping us do so much more for our veterans. We get the opportunity to talk to a lot more veterans, we invite them to Soup for Vets and find out if there are any needs we can help meet. We are also getting a lot of Elks craft kits into the hands of our veterans who are homebound and only get out for medical appointments. Some are very lonely and this craft kit not only gives them something to do with their hands, but in the kits is a note asking if they would like a penpal. If they send the note in, they will match people up with a penpal.
- I am also wrapping up the year as VP for the Northeast District. It has been a lot of fun to work with all the lodges in our district, and I am hoping to be staying on with a role in the Wisconsin Elks Association and Grand Lodge by moving up to Esquire to the District Deputy. If all goes well I will be voted in on Saturday May 2nd.

From our Secretary

- Membership stats
 - Beginning membership 64
 - Deaths 1
 - Current membership 63
 - Delinquent 13
 - Waiting for initiation 1

Upcoming happenings at the lodge

- Mondays - Card Club 12-4pm
- Tuesdays - Scouts 6-7:30pm
- Thursdays - Dance 5:30-9pm
- Fridays - Red Cross Blood Drive 7-12:30
- 1st Mondays - American Legion Post 539 meeting
- 1st Saturdays - Accordion Club 6:30-2
- 2nd Fridays - Trivia 7-9pm
- 2nd Wednesdays - Soup for Vets 4-6pm

- May 2nd - WEA Spring Conference
- May 6th - Lodge Meeting 7pm and Social 6pm
- May 9th - Camp Wawbeek Clean Up day. Meet at lodge at 6:15 am to carpool to camp
- May 10th - Mother's Day Brunch 8-11am
- May 13th - Soup for Vets 4-6pm
- May 16th - Festival Foods Brat Barn 8-6pm - for Kerry Calba Scholarship Fund
- May 20th - Milo C Heumpfner 2KVA Fun Run - we will have table with refreshments 11-1pm
- May 20th - Board of Directors meeting 7pm
- May 25th - Memorial Day Parade - line up at 8am at West DP High School Parade 10am
- June 1st - Pizza Ranch Fundraiser East side location 4-8pm
- June 3rd - Lodge Social 6pm and Meeting 7pm

Elks Care - Elks Share

Thanks so much for all you do for the Elks and the Community. Kelly H Downard - Exalted Ruler