



Eleventh Hour News

West Haven, Connecticut

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS • LODGE #1537, CHARTERED 1928 • Vol. 49, Issue No. 11/12 • NOV/DEC 2020

Veterans Day recognizes military families



New members were welcomed into Lodge 1537 recently. Shown above L-R: Dave Beaton PER, Lori Dubel, Eileen Tierney, Roberta Garlock, Donna Erickson, Exalted Ruler Donna Rzasa and Esquire John Misthal.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has long committed itself to honoring and supporting our country's military service members and veterans, and in these times that commitment has never been more important.

It was perhaps in the wake of the Second World War that the practice of honoring those who served in our nation's military was most intense. Parades and a variety of other events were staged to recognize those who offered themselves in the defense of our nation and its interests. While that fervor may have diminished for some over the years, the Elks have stood firm in continuing to recognize the men and women who serve this nation.

But, while as Elks we are familiar with the importance

of November 11 as Veterans Day, when special attention is paid to honor our nation's veterans, some may not know that since 2016 November has been recognized as National Veterans and Military Families Month. Indeed, it is important we be mindful of not only the men and women who volunteer to serve in defending our nation, but also of their families who must endure hardship, emotional turmoil and deprivation while supporting them.

As Elks, while concern for our military is a year-round commitment, it is fitting we look for ways to support their families as well. Consider planning an event: Invite the family of service members to an event at your Lodge as

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STAY SAFE FOR THE HOLIDAYS! JOIN US AT THE LODGE!



**WEST HAVEN LODGE OF ELKS
No. 1537**

265 Main Street
West Haven, Connecticut 06516

The ELEVENTH HOUR News
is published monthly by the
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
Lodge #1537 of West Haven Connecticut

Paul J. Rapanault
Editor

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All articles, notices, ads or photographs can be
dropped in the newsletter mailbox in the
clubhouse or e-mailed to
paulrap1@yahoo.com

OFFICERS 2020-2021

Exalted Ruler	Donna Rzasa
Leading Knight	Richard Sharron PER
Loyal Knight	Debbie Collins
Lecturing Knight	George Clini
Secretary	Paul J. Rapanault
Treasurer	Stacie Hurley
Chaplain	George H. Monahan
Esquire	John Mistical
Tiler	Joe Palmucci
Inner Guard	Ray Sayers
5 Yr. Trustee	Mike Southworth PER
4 Yr. Trustee	David Beaton PER, Chair
3 Yr. Trustee	Gerald Walters PER
2 Yr. Trustee	Lou Ross PER
1 Yr. Trustee	Keith Sweeney PER
Lodge Permittee	Albert Andreoli
House Com Chair	Keith Sweeney PER

EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Donna Rzasa



I hope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health. **WE ARE OPEN** so please come enjoy a pizza and a cocktail at your lodge. I ask that you please maintain social distancing in the lodge and follow the postings so that we stay in compliance with the Governor's mandates.

As you may have noticed the wall has begun to be rebuilt. Brother George Clini worked on it all day on Labor Day. Thank you George for all your hard work. I'd would also like to extend my thanks to Deb Chrostek for her generous donation of disinfectant wipes and masks and Tom Green for making some long over due repairs to the Lodge's roof. I urge all members to get involved in our lodge and our community. Our food drive is November 1st from 8-3 so please contact me if you would like to volunteer. I have reached out to Tom McCarthy to see what community project the West Haven Elks can become a part of. Volunteers are always needed and all committees should be encouraging members to get involved.

Our newsletter will keep you up to date on all the upcoming events going on at our lodge. Please consider switching to receive newsletters via email. This is not only cost effective but since our newsletter is bi-monthly now you can be updated on any events that were not in the newsletter. If interested please email Paul Rapanault at whelks1537@sbcglobal.net. Don't forget to check us out and like us on our Facebook page, West Haven Elks Lodge #1537. We have recently started another Facebook page, West Haven Elks #1537 Events and Information, to keep members up to date on the upcoming dinners and events. Please like and follow our new page as well as our current page.

The by-law proposal has passed through our membership and is being sent off to the Grand Lodge. There shall be **no** smoking of any sort allowed within the confines of the lodge. I have formed an event committee to run events at our lodge so we can raise much needed funds. The committee has been putting together dinners for dine in and to go. I thank them all for their time, dedication and hard work. A much deserved shout out to

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ELK of the MONTH
NOVEMBER 2020 DECEMBER 2020



Gerry Walters PER



Dave Beaton PER

**2020
IN MEMORIAM**

Charles Sarzynski
Andrea H. Moore
Patrick H. Sisk
Chief William S. Johnson, Jr.

Charity ★ Justice ★ Brotherly Love ★ Fidelity

George Monahan, Paul Rapanault, Dave Beaton, Rosella Crowley, Silvana Apicella, Suzan Beirne, Maureen Plouffe, Stacie Hurley, Tom Plouffe and Kathy Blakeslee. You have all stepped up when the lodge needed you the most. So far the events have been very successful and the donations have been very generous. Thank you to ALL who have come out to support those dinners. In between newsletters, members will be notified via email of any upcoming dinners. You can also check out our new Facebook page that I mentioned above. If you don't feel comfortable dining in you can order it to go and we will be happy to bring it out to your car. **YOUR lodge needs YOUR support.**

Steak and cheese subs will be back on November 16th. You must reserve your orders by 11/11 so that shopping can be done accordingly. Walk-ins will have to wait until all pre-orders have been filled. Please specify if you want mushrooms and or onions.

Brother George Clini has been chosen as the recipient of the Dick Moore award. A steak dinner to honor George will take place on **11/20/2020** and seating will be limited. The cost is \$30.00 per dinner and must be purchased in advance. Tickets will be sold at the Jolly Cork

We had initiated 9 new members in September and have many more coming in. Do you know someone eager to get involved in the Elks and their community? Consider proposing them for membership. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. **The consumption of alcohol during the meetings is prohibited.**

Brothers and sisters don't forget to mail in your dues.

Fall clean up is scheduled for 11/8 with a rain date of 11/15 starting at 9am. Please consider donating a couple hours of your time to help give the Elk's Lodge property a good cleaning. We have outside and inside cleaning that we must get accomplished. Too many is never enough. The more help we have the sooner we can get our lodge looking great. Outside cleanup we can use rakes, blowers, push brooms, loppers and chainsaws. Supplies will be provided for inside clean up and the inside clean up will take place rain or shine. PLEASE join us.

There has been a Toys for Tots box placed in the Jolly Cork. Please consider marking a donation.

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circumstances allow, even if their service spouse or family member is unavailable. A little special attention, support and recognition for their special contributions to our nation's defense may go a long way, and heighten awareness in your community of what Elks stand for.

The Elks Veterans Service Commission stands ready to do everything we can to support the Elks' motto, "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

I have chosen Gerry Walters, PER for the November Elk of the Month. I cannot think of a more fitting month to recognize Gerry. Gerry does an outstanding job year after year supporting our veterans. Gerry serves on the Fraternal Committee, the Flag Day Committee, The Elk's Memorial Day Subcommittee, the Veterans Services Subcommittee and serves as a Trustee for our Lodge. Gerry is also a veteran, so thank you Gerry for your service to our country. Please extend Gerry all the rights and privileges that go along with this honor. Thank you Gerry for all you have done for the good of our great lodge.

I have chosen Dave Beaton, PER for December Elk of the Month. Dave has given me great support this year offering his experience and guidance. Dave has been very helpful while we were closed in getting our lodge looking good. Dave does a very impressive job at the Soderman Ceremony, maintains the lawn care for our properties as well as being the master of ceremonies for almost all events. Dave is our Trustees Chairman and also sits on the scholarship board. Please extend Dave all the rights and privileges that go along with this honor. Thank you Dave for all you have done for the good of our great lodge.

In the interest of solidarity and unity within the club, I would like to ask members to refrain from political talk within the Jolly Cork. This is not meant to suppress anyone; it is intended as a way to show respect for each other's views and the club's camaraderie. All members are entitled to their own views and opinions, and they need not be subjected to a negative and hostile political atmosphere – there is enough of that going on in the media. The Jolly Cork is not the place for negativity and division, but rather a place for celebrating harmony within the club.

In closing I hope that you and your families all remain safe and in good health. Our lodge has many first responders and essential workers, may God keep you safe and well. We will continue to get through this together. I wish you all the best for the upcoming holidays.

**STEAK & CHEESE
SUBS**
November 16, 2020
5:30-7pm

The
JOLLY CORK
Room

Monday
4-9 pm
Tuesday - Wednesday
CLOSED
Thursday - Friday
4-9 or Fri til 11 pm
Saturday - Sunday
12 noon - ?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark your calendars and come out to enjoy your Lodge!

November 1 - Food Drive

November 8 - Fall Clean Up of the Lodge (rain date 11/15)

November 16 - Steak & Cheese Subs - "A Lodge Favorite"

November 20 - DICK MOORE Night honoring **GEORGE CLINI**

Month of December - Watch your email and Lodge notice boards.



FALL CLEAN UP

November 8
9 am

Bring a rake and some muscle

FOOD DRIVE

November 1

In Support of W.H.E.A.T.



Propositions for Membership

BRUCE HONORE, prop by ER Donna Rzasa
ILONAMARIE HONORE, prop by ER Donna Rzasa
DEBORAH FONDA, prop by ER Donna Rzasa
SAMANTHA DEGENNARO, prop by ER Donna Rzasa
STEPHANIE MORRIS, prop by ER Donna Rzasa
TERESA HENNEY, prop by PER Erin Sweeney
NICK CARONE, SR., prop by PER Vincent Morrissey

Dick Moore Night

Honoring



GEORGE CLINI

November 20
7 PM

Steak Dinner - \$30 per person

DATED MATERIAL - Please Deliver by NOVEMBER 1, 2020

HAPPY THANKGIVING / MERRY CHRISTMAS



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