



The SARATOGA-WILTON ELK

A Fraternal Organization

Celebrating our 123rd Year

Vol. 69, No. 4

Saratoga Springs, New York

April 2025

Spring Cleanup Day
Saturday, April 12, 2025 @ 9:00 am

PER Super Raffle Drawing Party
Sunday, April 27, 2025, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

A Message from the Exalted Ruler



Dear Members and Friends of Saratoga-Wilton Lodge #161,

WELKome to the 2025-2026 Elk year. The officers and I are looking forward to working with all of you to deliver for our community in the year ahead. The incoming slate of officers has a lot of familiar faces. Leading Knight Pat Gross, Loyal Knight Miranda Loachamin, and I are all serving a second term in our roles, Marge Leabourne will continue as Inner Guard, and Gerard Ketchum remains our Tiler. Holly Drew is joining us as Chaplain, and we look forward to welcoming a new Lecturing Knight and Esquire in the near future. Serving as Trustees will be Tom Curley, PDD, John "Doc" Shaw, Gerry Conboy, PER, Mike Cummings, PDD, and Steve Dorsey, PDD. Our Organist is John Keene.

On behalf of everyone at Saratoga-Wilton #161, I extend heartfelt appreciation to Lester Cole who has served as Trustee for the past ten years, Jean Brunelle, who has been our Chaplain for the past 6 years and served as Chaplain on the District Ritual Team, and Erwin "Dom" Dominguez who is stepping down as Lecturing Knight and Veterans Services Chair to spend more time with his family. Thank you all for your contributions to our lodge.

The months ahead are going to be busy. We'll start with Spring Cleanup on April 12th and welcome families from the Backstretch Community for an Easter celebration on April 13th. We will celebrate Youth Week May 5-9 with a proclamation from the Mayor of Saratoga Springs and will award our Outstanding Youth in Service to Community Scholarship and our Teenager of the Year award in a ceremony before our meeting on May 6th. June will bring our Flag Day Ceremony, the 56th Annual Elks Flag Day Parade, a celebration of the 250th birthday of the US Army, the Kids Fishing Derby on June 15th, our lodge golf tournament on June 18th, Family Fun Day and our lodge Soccer Shoot on June 21st, and our District Golf Tournament on June 22nd. There will be a lot of opportunities to get involved. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

Thank you all for what you've done and what you continue to do in our lodge and in our community.

Fraternally,

Kathy Jackson, Exalter Ruler



Elk of the Month Lester Cole, Jr.


Our Elk of the Month for April is Lester Cole. An Elk for 49 years, Lester is a Past Exalted Ruler, has served as a Trustee for the past 10 years, and has been our lodge's scouting liaison for decades. While we may not see him at Board of Director meetings, this year, he continues to work Bingo on Monday nights and help in the kitchen with multiple Pub Night teams. Lester, thank you for all you've done and continue to do. We appreciate you.

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SARATOGA-WILTON ELKS
A Fraternal Organization

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

SARATOGA-WILTON LODGE B.P.O.E. NO.161
A Fraternal Organization

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 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 swelks161@yahoo.com

Chartered August 14, 1902

Kathy Jackson, PER.....Exalted Ruler
 Patricia GrossEsteemed Leading Knight
 Miranda Loachamin.....Esteemed Loyal Knight
 Barbara Ash.....Esteemed Lecturing Knight
 Robert D. Lounsbury, PER.....Secretary
 John Shaw.....Treasurer
 Thomas J. Curley, PDDGER.....Trustee 1 Year
 Michael D. Cummings, PDDGER.....Trustee 2 Year
 Geraldine Conboy, PER.....Trustee 3 Year
 Stephen Dorsey, PDDGER.....Trustee 4 Year
 Matthew J. Dorsey ESQ.....Trustee 5 Year
 Matthew J. Dorsey ESQ.....Justice of Subordinate Forum
Esquire
 Holly Drew.....Chaplain
 Marge Leabourne.....Inner Guard
 Gerard Ketcham.....Tiler
 John Keene.....Organist
 Jean Spencer-Lane.....Soloist

The Saratoga-Wilton Elks Bulletin is a monthly publication prepared for Saratoga-Wilton Lodge B.P.O.E. No. 161 P.O. Box 3111, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-8005 - A non-profit fraternal organization.



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Saratoga Shout-outs 

- Huge thank-yous and warm appreciation to:
- To our members who serve at the food table and in the kitchen for events like the Ancient Order of Hibernians' FEIS and the toy shows. While the events are run by non-Elks, having our volunteers manage the kitchen ensures safe food handling practices while raising funds for our lodge.
 - To our new members, Peggy, Sandy, Ceil, Marge, and Steve, WELKome to Elksdom.





Spring Cleanup

Bring your rakes, gloves, and smiles on Saturday, April 12th, to help us clean up around the lodge. We'll get started at 9am and work until noon. Lunch will be provided. Many hands make light work, so please join us. Please sign up in the Lounge.



Wellspring Donation

On March 24th, our Lodge used \$2,200 of a \$10,000 Elks National Foundation Impact Grant Renewal to donate 25 security bars, (20) \$25 gas cards, sheets, cleaning supplies, mattress and pillow bed bug covers to Wellspring. Pictured are (from left) PER Dora Lee Stanley, Charles Borden, lodge member, Stevie Fellows Wellspring Director of Philanthropy and Community Engagement, Pat Gross, Lecturing Knight, PERs Susan and David Waghorn, PER Gerry Conboy and Yolanda, Ph.D.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Thanks to all the early birds who have sent in their membership dues. Lifetime members who received new cards with the wrong dates listed will be receiving the corrected cards. Sorry about the error! If you have any issues with your card or membership dues, please get in touch with me. Enjoy Spring – it's been a long wait!

Barb Ash – 518-879-8713 (cell) or
swelks161@yahoo.com



Foreverly House Donation

Presenting a check for \$2000 to Foreverly House Representatives are left to right: Ceil Nelson, Sharon Chandler, Marian Eck of Foreverly House, Judy Tirelli, Diane Nazzaro of Foreverly House, Corinne Scirtoco, and Judy Dalbey. The Auxiliary raised \$2000 on raffle baskets at their recent Sweetheart Dance and we were proud to donate for housing of homeless women veterans with children.

Auxiliary Last Hurrah

Our Last Hurrah, Ladies Auxiliary Dinner was held on March 25th. Ceil Nelson was awarded our Volunteer of the Year. We also recognized Jean Spencer Lane and Jan Bennett who are the two longest standing-ACTIVE Auxiliary members and Past Presidents.

Fay Carter, Judy Tirelli and I will be continuing to chair the Indoor Monthly Craft/Garage Sale beginning September 7, 2025. We need fellow Elks to make donations of soups and crock pot food to sell during the sales. Speak to both of us to support this fundraiser.

On March 18th, Peggy Lounsbury, Sandy Hennigan, and Ceil Nelson were initiated into the Saratoga-Wilton Elks #161. Congratulations ladies and I look forward to resuming our activities as the Red Rose Committee joining with member Elks.

The Auxiliary made donations to the Foreverly House, Saratoga Hospital Foundation for cancer patients' support, Veterans Horse Therapy of Saratoga, sponsored the Band for Saratoga County Mental Health Fundraiser April 26th at the Saratoga-Wilton Elks Lodge, and supported a few other local charities. Our last donations of \$1000, and \$2000, respectively, were made to the Elks for Major Projects, Cerebral Palsy, and for Capital Improvements to the Elks Lodge.

For years the Ladies Auxiliary has provided 4-6 workers with bag dinners and salads for weekly curbside dinners. Beginning April 1st, we need Elks to volunteer about once a month to pack the dinners. Please contact Debbie at 518-226-5595 to sign up to help. This is a successful fundraiser for the Elks, but it needs your support.

Be the Reason Someone Smiles today!

Sincerely,
Debbie Ozolins, Past-President
Ladies Auxiliary

Doc's Corner

The National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism defines heavy drinking as four or more alcoholic beverages per day or greater than sixteen per week.

It is widely understood that alcohol consumption is directly related to the development of liver cancer.

Fewer people understand alcohol's linkage to other types of cancer.

Heavy drinkers have five times the risk of oral cavity cancer and 2.6 times the risk of laryngeal cancer. (moderate drinkers 1.8 and 1.4 times respectively).

The risk of esophageal (squamous cell) cancer is also increased.

There is a direct link between alcohol use and chronic pancreatitis which is a risk factor for pancreatic cancer.

LESS WIDELY KNOWN FACTS

Risk of breast cancer increase by a factor of 1.25 to 1.8 and Colo-rectal cancer of 1.2-1.5.

In women alcohol increases the risk of breast cancer by altering estrogen metabolism and thus estrogen levels.

Combined data concluded that the optimum number of alcoholic beverages to consume per day is ZERO!

Even though you already know this tidbit of info

I'LL SAY IT

Combined use of heavy alcohol consumption and tobacco abuse increases the risk of cancer development exponentially.

DOC

Mark Your Calendars

Spring Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 12, 2025 @ 9:00 am
Lunch Will Be Provided

District Deputy Clinic

Saturday, April 19, 2025 @ Noon
Greenwich Lodge No. 2223

PER Super Raffle Drawing Party

Sunday, April 27, 2025, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Free Buffet and Two Free Drinks Per Ticket

PER Association Meeting

Sunday, May 4, 2025 @ 1:00 pm

New York State Elks Association Spring Convention

May 15-18, 2025 (Thursday through Sunday)
Villa Roma Resort & Conference Center
Registration Closes on April 4, 2025

Flag Day Ceremony

Thursday, June 12, 2025 @ 6:00 pm (New Time)

Flag Day Parade

Saturday, June 14, 2025 @ Noon
Broadway, Saratoga Springs
Picnic and Celebration of Army's 250th Birthday Will Follow at the Lodge

Father's Day Fishing Derby

Sunday, June 15, 2025, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Fraternal Order of Eagles #2586, 373 Crescent Ave., Saratoga Springs

Lodge Golf Tournament

Wednesday, June 18, 2025
Registration: 8:00 am Start: 9:00 am
Brookhaven Golf Course, 333 Alpine Meadows Road, Porter Corners
\$100 Per Person Includes Lunch and Dinner

Wilton Family Fun Day and Soccer Shoot

Saturday, June 21, 2025 @ TBD
Lodge Will Be Cooking Sausages

Colonial District Golf Tournament

Sunday, June 22, 2025 @ TBD
Cronin's Golf Resort, Golf Course Road, Warrensburg

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Lodge Meeting 7 PM	2 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM	3 Cornhole (H) 6-8 PM	4 Pub Night ----- McDermott Dinner 4-9 (H)	5 Private Party (H)
6 Toy Fair Paco N Dastyx Inc. (H)	7 Bingo (H)	8	9 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM	10 Cornhole (H) <u>6-8 PM</u> Board of Directors Meeting 6 PM	11 Pub Night	12 Spring Cleanup ADK Trout Banquet
13	14 Bingo (H)	15 Lodge Meeting 7 PM	16 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM	17 No Cornhole	18 Pub Night	19
20 Easter	21 Bingo (H)	22	23 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM	24 Cornhole (H) 6-8 PM	25 Pub Night	26 Mental Health Dinner (H)
27 Craft Sale (H)	28 Bingo (H)	29	30 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM			

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Cornhole (H) 6-8 PM	2 Pub Night	3
4 Toy Fair Paco N Dastyx Inc. (H)	5 Bingo (H)	6 Lodge Meeting 7 PM	7 Curbside Dinner Hand & Foot 6 PM	8 Cornhole (H) 6-8 PM	9 Pub Night	10



April Birthdays



1 Charles Hisgen	8 William McEchron	17 Timothy Donbeck	22 Danny Brooks
2 Edward Rudolph	9 Donald Braim	18 Kenneth Tubbs	22 Frank Dudla
3 Dawn Pallor	10 Mike Barry	19 William Milby	24 Jason Lange
4 David Harper	10 Susan Waghorn	19 Robert Wright	24 Michael Smith
4 Gary Paplow	12 Edward Bouleris, Jr.	20 Amy Calzonetti	25 Diana Bergeron
5 Nancy Douglas	12 Michael Davis	20 Robert Cogan	26 Elizabeth Sullivan
5 Michael Naughton	12 Roy McDonald	20 Kathleen Lungren	27 James Weaver
8 Leo Carroll, Jr.	12 Marianne Needham	20 Margaret Mohrmann	28 John Maier, Jr.
8 Michael Cummings	14 Peggy Lounsbury	21 Mark Winzer	28 Donna Nolin
8 Robert Ercole	16 Richard Magnell	22 Katherine Backus	29 Norma Fosdick
8 Michael Golden	16 Matthew Veitch	22 Susan Boehlert	29 William Pettigrew



Team Awards

On March 18th, Scott Stewart from Saratoga Rec presented us with plaques for our support of a boys basketball team and a girls basketball team. In addition to our financial support of the teams, both teams were coached by members from our lodge (Bruce Jones and Jim Leary) and both teams took first place in their respective divisions.

***Countdown to the 2025 PER
\$10,000 Super Drawing
On Sunday, April 27, 2025***

***Only 300 Tickets Will Be Sold
Less Than 100 Tickets Left***

Grand Prize: \$10,000

Second Prize: \$2,000

Third Prize: \$1,000

4th – 9th Prizes: \$500 each

10th – 17th Prizes: \$250 each



***17 Prizes In All Totaling \$18,000
Each Winning Ticket Will Be Returned
To The Drum For The Next Drawing***

Tickets Available in the Lounge or See a PER

***Proceeds To Benefit the Lodge's
Building Maintenance Fund***

***Come to the Lodge on April 27st to watch the drawing!
Each ticket holder will be entitled to
2 drink tickets and a free buffet!***

recipe



Elks Care - *Elks* Share
their favorite Recipes!

What you do

- **Select your favorite recipe**
(You may submit up to 5)
- **Email to:**
Colonialdistrict6200mp@yahoo.com
- **Reserve your copy** and help promote it to our members
- Each cookbook your lodge sells will receive the net profit for your Major Project yearly per member goal.

SAVE THE DATE



56th Annual Elks Flag Day Parade

Saturday, June 14, 2025, 12pm

Plans are under way for the 56th Annual Elks Flag Day Parade. The event will be a double celebration honoring

the Flag of our Nation

and

the 250th Birthday of the United States Army

Sponsors and participants are welcome. Please contact:

SWELKSPARADE@gmail.com or kjax.elks161@gmail.com





Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the Mardi Gras Murder Mystery Dinner a success. Together we raised \$2,000





Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH)

Our staff supported the AOH as they celebrated their Irish culture, music and food on March 8th.



Wellspring Donation



On March 28th, our Lodge donated \$334.00 to Wellspring from an ENF Impact Renewal Grant to provide critically needed (4) cellphones. Pictured are (from left) PER Dora Lee Stanley, and Loyal Knight Miranda Loachamin.

Volunteer Opportunities

Event or Committee	Day	Date	Time	# of people needed	Details	Contact
Bingo	Monday	Every Monday	5-7pm	Min of 15, optimum 20+	sell tickets, food, etc.	Roxane Major
			7-9pm		Bingo callers, cleanup	No need to sign up in advance. Just show up and ask for Roxane.
Spring Cleanup	Saturday	April 12th	9-noon	20-30	Bring rakes, gloves, and a willingness to work. Lunch will be provided.	No need to sign up in advance. Be sure to check in with Pat Gross to record volunteer hours.
Easter Dinner for Backstretch Community	Sunday	April 13th	5-7pm	6 plus kitchen crew	Decorate hall tables, stuff Easter Eggs, put together food baskets for families to take home.	Kitchen volunteers contact Patrick. Everyone else contact ER Kathy. 603-438-9470
Kids Fishing Derby	Sunday	June 15th	9am-1pm	20	Need folks for the food team (ice cream, hot dogs, etc); folks to register kids, hand out buckets, help with worms, teach kids to cast, take pics, assist Drug Awareness team	Committee Chair: Bruce Jones First organizational meeting is Friday, April 18th at 4:30pm at the lodge
Lodge Golf Tournament	Wednesday	June 18th	9am-4pm	6+	Check folks in, sell basket raffle tickets and mulligans, help with whatever Bob needs done	Chair: Bob Tuttle
Soccer Shoot	Saturday	June 21st	10am-1pm	12	Need help with set up, registration, judging, scorekeeping, and shagging balls	ER Kathy Miranda Loachamin Sign-up sheet will be in lounge
Veterans Services	Sunday	June 1st	tbd	6	Serve ice cream at the Stratton VA	Ray Gagnon 518-788-8228
Parade	Saturday	June 14th	10am-3pm	12	Marshals: assist with getting parade participants lined up where they're supposed to be	Mike Conley 518-312-2284
				4 to 6	Float: help design and decorate float	Donna Conley 518-312-2288
				6 to 8	Reviewing Stand set up and tear down	Linda Ford and Kim Companion
				12	Flag bearers to carry historic flags	ER Kathy Pat Kaniuka
				6	Assist with post-parade picnic and Army birthday celebration (not food team)	ER Kathy Donna Conley
				4	Elks Honor Guard	ER Kathy
				4 to 6	Banner carriers	ER Kathy
				4 or 5	People with convertibles who are willing to drive dignitaries	Pat Kaniuka



recipe

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- Each cookbook your lodge sells will receive the net profit for your Major Project yearly per member goal.



BAGS & BEERS
CORNHOLE

Come and have a great time!
\$5 per person.
Bring a dish to share!
Fun Fun Fun!

Thursday, April 3rd – Cornhole 6 PM
 Thursday, April 10th – Cornhole 6 PM
 Thursday, April 17th – ~~No Cornhole~~
 Thursday, April 24th – Cornhole 6 PM
 Thursday, May 1st – Cornhole 6 PM
 Thursday, May 8th – Cornhole 6 PM

This is for Members, their family, and their guests!

Saratoga-Wilton Elks No. 161
 P.O. Box 3111
 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

