

West Des Moines Elks Lodge #2752

March 2026 Newsletter

2060 NW 94th St Clive, IA 50325
www.wdmelks.com 515-252-1717



Message From Your Exalted Ruler



As we turn the page to March, I find myself writing my final article as your Exalted Ruler. What an incredible honor it has been to serve this Lodge over the past year. Standing together in charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity has reminded me why our Order is so special.

This year has been filled with meaningful moments — Each one reflects the true spirit of Elkdom. None of it would have been possible without the dedication of our officers, committee chairs, and especially our volunteers, the backbone of our lodge, who show up and quietly handle details behind the scenes, and our members who show up time and time again. You all are the heart of this Lodge.

To name everything we have accomplished this year would truly take pages. Here are just a few highlights that showcase the strength of our Lodge...

Our membership continues to grow. We currently stand at 555 members!

We met — and exceeded — our Elk's National Foundation (ENF) goal.

Sunday Breakfast and bake sale continues to raise thousands of dollars that are donated back into our local charities.

We proudly hosted and recognized our Law Enforcement Professionals of the Year.

We collected 115 deer hides that were donated to Veterans for their crafting program.

The Veterans Christmas Giving Tree Project provided gifts for 38 children.

Grant funds were secured and put to work right here in our community.

Hundreds of dictionaries were delivered to 3rd grade students throughout our area.

The Patio Committee is making progress on their exciting project.

ER Message continues on next page...

2025-2026 Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler..... Chryssy Ellis
exaltedruler@wdmelks.com

Leading Knight..... Rich Kreitzinger

Loyal Knight..... Frank Dunn

Lecturing Knight..... Dwight Taylor

Esquire Open

Tiler..... Kevin Marean

Inner Guard..... Nina Steele

Chaplain..... Andy Hansen

Treasurer..... Craig Crossland, PER
treasurer@wdmelks.com

Secretary..... Toby Charloe
secretary@wdmelks.com

Trustees

1 Year Trustee..... Jeff Garrison, PER

2 Year Trustee..... Greg Weinschenk, PER

3 Year Trustee..... Becky Young, PER

4 Year Trustee..... Roger Fiori, PER

5 Year Trustee..... Michael Buckley, PER



The West Des Moines Elks Newsletter is published monthly, Edited by Greg & Terri Osby. All articles must be submitted by the 20th of each month. Please submit your articles to news@wdmelks.com

Message From Your Exalted Ruler, continued...

Our LAC leadership continues bringing in fresh activities that have been well received and well attended. Our Elk's Riders have truly gone above and beyond — riding over 1,200 miles, volunteering more than 900 hours, and raising and donating \$7,870 to worthy causes. Cliff Morris and his dedicated committee led an outstanding golf outing that raised over \$17,000, thanks to the incredible generosity of their sponsors. With the help of many contributors, our Silent Auction brought in over \$5,000.

The truth is, we have had so many accomplishments this year that it's difficult to capture them all. What I can say with certainty is this: our Lodge is strong, active, generous, and making a real difference. Serving as Exalted Ruler has deepened my appreciation for the work that happens behind the scenes. It has also strengthened my belief that when we work together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish. I am so proud of what we have achieved this year and grateful for the support, encouragement, and friendships that have meant more to me than I can say.

As my term comes to a close, it is my great pleasure to welcome our incoming Exalted Ruler, Rich Kreitzinger. Rich brings dedication, leadership, and a strong commitment to our Lodge's future. I have every confidence that under his guidance, our Lodge will continue to grow, serve, and thrive. Please join me in offering him your full support and encouragement in the year ahead. Leadership may change, but our mission remains the same. Let us continue to support our veterans, our youth, our community, and one another. Let us continue to show what it truly means to be an Elk.

Thank you for trusting me with the privilege of serving as your Exalted Ruler. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life.

In Fellowship,
Chrissy Ellis, Exalted Ruler

TRUSTEE CORNER

March marks notable events including Daylight Savings Time (March 8th), St. Patrick's Day (March 17th), the arrival of Spring (March 20th), and the anticipation of warmer, sunnier days. Additionally, March signifies the conclusion of the Elk year.

During the 2025-2026 Elk year, the Trustees dedicated significant effort to repairs and upgrades such as restoring the back Bingo room, addressing the front patio, and managing unexpected replacements and maintenance for HVAC systems and equipment. Although our current location is relatively new for us, the building itself has stood for several decades and now requires ongoing maintenance.

Looking ahead, the 2026-2027 Elk year finds the Trustees actively preparing for further improvements. Plans include painting the exterior, treating exposed wood beams, replacing kitchen ceiling tiles, and cleaning and reorganizing storerooms. Collaborative efforts with the outdoor committee are underway to enhance outdoor spaces, and additional projects will be addressed as needs arise.

We appreciate your patience as we continue these improvements. While some tasks may be completed promptly, others may require additional time due to prioritization and resource allocation, similar to the experience of home ownership.

The Trustees' responsibilities extend beyond building maintenance; they also oversee daily operations of the lodge. Significant hours are devoted to ensuring efficient bar and kitchen management, optimizing facility functionality—including lighting, televisions, Wi-Fi, and cameras—and coordinating with repair services, deliveries, and other vendors.

Thank you for your continued support.

You can now PAY DUES ON LINE!

Membership Dues payments are due on April 1, 2026 or the 2026-2027 ELK year! Door Keys will be shut off on May 1st for those that have not paid!

- Regular member dues \$147 ·
- Life member \$57 ·
- Associate Member \$20 ·
- A door card for a spouse or widow(er) is \$20 per year
- If you are an Elks Rider include fee of \$25

Thank you to the majority of our members who have already paid their dues! If you have not paid yet — please do so as soon as possible to save the Lodge the expense of additional mailings!

You can pay;

- With a check or cash, (by mail or put remittance in “Secretary box” by the front door.)
- Pay Bartender with a credit card or
- Now you can pay ON LINE!!

To pay online; Enter: <https://secure.directbiller.com/search/elks-lodge/> Start Typing “WEST”—and you will see our lodge appear at the top of the list, click on it and then click “Go to ...” **No Need to create an account!** You don’t have to “Register”, you can click on “Make a quick payment.” When it asks for member number be sure to include the zeros at the beginning of your number.

Please watch for your new card in the mail.

Toby Charloe, Secretary
(918) 533-2267

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Welcome to our Elks Family! New Members initiated on January 26th, 2026!



Left to Right: Chad Kleppe, Secretary Toby Charloe,
Exalted Ruler Chrissy Ellis, and Sam McCune.
(not pictured Becky Pool)



**When you see
a new face
introduce yourself!**



Breakfast

PANCAKE BREAKFAST BUFFET AND BAKE SALE



West Des Moines Elks Pancake Breakfast Buffet and Bake Sale

Our February 8th, 2026 our Pancake Breakfast Buffet and Bake Sale was well attended serving 148 guests, members and friends. We also served 22 complimentary breakfasts to three Clive Firefighters and 19 Veterans who were transported to our lodge from the Des Moines V.A. Hospital (domicile). We welcomed them to our lodge and thanked them for their service.

Our “fantastic” volunteers continue to be “fantastic”: Forrest Laidlaw, Neil Davies, Alice Jensen, Rosie Surber, Gloria Riesberg, Brian Becker, Beth DuPuy, Ted DuPuy, Toby Charloe, Nina Steele, Doug Laird, Ann Bobo (bar), Larry Cramer and Mark Bergmann. Thanks, guys, for your continued support.

Our February 8th Freewill Bake Sale brought in \$301 which will be donated to the Clive Food Pantry. Thanks again to our bake sale volunteers: Nancy Newcomb, Jen Becker, Brian Becker, Gloria Criswell, Nina Steele and to our many lodge volunteers who provide the delicious pastries, pies and cookies.

Our next Sunday Breakfast will be March 8th, 2026.

West Des Moines Elks continues to support the youth in our community

Our Sunday Breakfast held on February 8th 2026 the Bondurant Renegades (1st and 2nd graders) 8U Baseball team (13 kids) participated in a fund raiser by selling Hy-Vee Coupon Cards. The funds will be used to purchase uniforms, equipment, field rentals and tournament cost.



Not pictured; Reece Martens, Rob Martens, Courtney Strike, Jess and Kris Enos, and Travis and Cassy Finch.

The kids enjoyed their selling experience and our Lodge was proud to have the opportunity to support the Bondurant Renegades.

Enjoy your upcoming season.

Left to right: Rhys Finch, Camdon Enos, and Callen Strike.



Our special guests were the grandchildren of Kate Schaller, (pictured left to right) Joplin Hutton and Leah O’Deay who enjoyed their Valentines by Ted and Beth DuPuy.



Lodge Activities Committee

LAC Meeting Minutes

No Meeting in February

Next Meeting is Monday, March 16th at 6:30pm

Upcoming Activities for March:

March 5, Thursday. Thirsty Thursday/Burger Baskets.
March 8, Sunday. Breakfast/Bake Sale
March 12, Thursday, Wine Night 6:30 pm
March 14, Saturday. St. Patrick's Corn Beef and Cabbage dinner
March 19, Thursday, Bourbon Night 6:30 pm
March 20, Friday, New Event. Trivia Night. 7 pm.
March 24, Tuesday. B-day Night 6 pm
March 27, Friday. Installations of Officers 6 pm

Mark your Calendar for April:

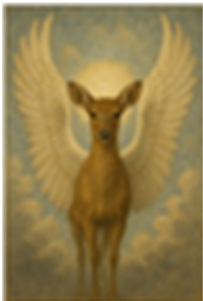
April 2, Thursday. Thirsty Thursday/Burger Baskets
April 4, Saturday. Easter Egg Hunt 10 am (Easter Bunny)
April 5, Sunday. Lodge Closed Easter Sunday
April 9, Wine Night 6:30 pm
April 11, Saturday. Fashion Show 10 am - 3 pm
April 12, Sunday. Breakfast/Bake Sale
April 16, Thursday. Bourbon Night
April 18, Saturday. Spring Clean up Lodge 8 am
April 18, Sat - Elk Riders Fundraiser/Blue Star Moms.
April 24th & 25th. Spring Convention

Next LAC Meeting: March 16, 6:30 pm
Julie Kafer, LAC Chair



**2026 INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS!**
In & Out Party!
Friday,
March 27th
at 6pm

Please join us to celebrate to show your support and celebrate our incoming and outgoing Officers!



ELKS ANGELS

Tuesday March 10th at 1pm
lunch at Jesse's Embers,
3301 Ingersol Ave. Des Moines

Parking is available behind
the restaurant. See you there.
Marge (515)371-3158



ELKS Riders Meeting

Tuesday March 10th
at 6:30pm

The **SUPER FOOD DRIVE** on Super Bowl Sunday was a Record Setting Success!

We really "scored!" exceeding all previous records.

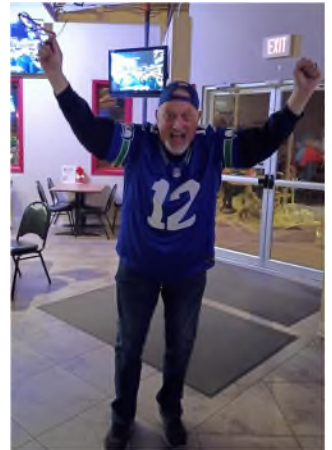
Our Elks Lodge collected and delivered over \$1000.00 In food items to the Clive Community Center Food Bank!

Elks Care - *Elks* Share



SUPER BOWL PARTY

What
a
SUPER PARTY
it was!



Firsty Thirsty Thursday!



Thursday, March 5th!

Firsty Thirsty Thursday is ONLY on the first Thursday of the month...
\$2.50 Well Drinks all evening.

We will be offering our **Hamburger or Cheeseburger Basket with fries** for only \$8. We will also have **Chicken Tenders Basket** or **TRY our NEW Chicken Tender Salad**.

Other appetizers will be available for purchase.
Food served from 5pm until 7pm. **Yummy!!**



**Join us for our Breakfast Buffet
& Bake Sale on Sunday March 8th!**
and enjoy a delicious Elks Breakfast serving 8am to noon.

Our delicious breakfast buffet still includes: Biscuits and Gravy, French Toast, Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Sausage patties, Cheesy Potatoes, and of course all you can eat Pancakes (including Blueberry and Chocolate chip pancakes), Orange juice, Milk, and Coffee. Enjoy a Bloody Mary or Mimosa - only \$3.50.

Only \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

All proceeds support our Hoop Shoot Program and other youth activities !

*Please Join Us
Thursday Night
March 12th at 6:30pm*

MARCH WINE NIGHT
Madness Mystery!



*Only \$15 Per Person
Includes 1 glass of wine and samples!
Light appetizers provided!*

March Madness and Mystery Wine Tasting

**Two things that March is known for:
March Madness Basketball and St. Patrick's Day.**

**We can't wait to share the Mystery
of what wines we will be tasting.**

Wear your green or face the penalty of getting pinched!

As usual, bring a friend and get a new wine charm.

*We will offer light appetizers, but always
welcome you to bring something tasty to
share.*



*Join us to relax
and enjoy some wine!*



West Des Moines ELKS **Annual** **St. Patrick's Day** **Celebration**

Saturday March 14th, 2026

The celebration will begin at 5:30 with the
Foy School of Irish Dancers!

They will be performing at 5:30 P.M. for about 20 minutes.

Followed by our famous

St. Paddy's Day
Corn Beef and Cabbage
with Irish potatoes

(Only 12.00 Per Serving. Pre-sale of dinner tickets will be available at the bar)

We have ordered plenty of food but come early so you don't miss out. Join us at the Lodge and bring your neighbors and friends and have a jolly good Irish time.

We will serve until 8pm.

Note: We still need 9 extra roasters. If you have one bring it up to the Lodge.



BOURBON NIGHT

Thursday, March 19th

Bourbon Night will be once per month always on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

**Welcome Back
Bourbon Night!**

What a happy group of Bourbon Drinkers we had in January for our first Elks Bourbon Night of 2026!



Thank you to the committee;
Gage, Joe, Tammy, and Brian &
not pictured: Dwight & Vicky.

Thirty-five folks attended our relaunch of Bourbon Night!



Thank you for sharing such positive feedback to the committee ; Gage, Joe, Tammy, and Brian (missing Dwight & Vicky). Make sure you plan to spend another fun night sipping bourbon. If you have hesitated attending please know that we have a friendly group that consists of Men & Women / Younger & Older!

Unfortunately we missed our February Bourbon Night due to the snowstorm! So we plan to enjoy the February agenda including offering our take on a Valentine's Old Fashioned.

We will have a few appetizers, but would love if you decide to bring something to share (but not required).

GAME NIGHT

At The Elks!

Tuesday
March 3rd
and
Tuesday
March 17th at
6:30pm

We will be playing Sweep!

Plus, bring your favorite game - board games, cards, etc. Attendees will agree upon what games to play together!

Join Us!



Easter Egg Hunt!

Saturday

April 4th

at 10am



Come see the Easter Bunny!

Bring your children or grandchildren for a fun activity at the Lodge!

Collect a Golden Coin and win the Easter Basket too!



WDM
Elks
Lodge #2752

Breakfast

Join us for our Breakfast Buffet & Bake Sale on Sunday March 8th!
and enjoy a delicious Elks Breakfast serving 8am to noon.

Our delicious breakfast buffet still includes: Biscuits and Gravy, French Toast, Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Sausage patties, Cheesy Potatoes, and of course all you can eat Pancakes (including Blueberry and Chocolate chip pancakes), Orange juice, Milk, and Coffee. Enjoy a Bloody Mary or Mimosa - only \$3.50.

Only \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

All proceeds support our Hoop Shoot Program and other youth activities !



Join us
for a
FUN
Night of
Trivia!

Friday Night
March 20th
7pm till 9pm!

Join us
for a
FUN
Night of
Trivia!

BIRTHDAY NIGHT AT THE ELKS!

Tuesday, March 24th at 6pm

*All Members and their guests
are welcome to join us and help
celebrate all of this month's Birthdays!*

Appetizers & Birthday Cake are provided!

**IT'S MY
BIRTHDAY
MONTH**

Come Celebrate with me!

01 Robert Blank	10 Mark Joyce	22 Becky Pool
01 Rita Lans	10 John Schildberg	23 Brian Jarchow
01 Andy Wade	10 Randi Radosevich	24 Kathleen Bertness
02 Wesley Hall	11 Jim Dahlke	26 Cathy Menard
02 Aaron Rector	11 Melissa Nordell-Earp	27 Kandes Dalbey
02 Teresa Lynn Petersen	11 Stacy Larreau	27 Todd Myers
03 Julie Garrison	13 Mark Rhodes	27 Timothy Platt
03 Joshua Schindler	13 Dwight Taylor	27 Dana Ardary
03 Ralph Young, Jr.	14 Rich Kreitzinger	27 Jackie Holland
04 Michael Lucht	14 Daniel Peters	27 Trudy Wells
04 Michael McHenry	15 Diane Benoit	28 Sandra Walker
05 Patricia Eastin	15 Steven Pierce	29 Tony Maurath
06 Jeffrey Garrison	17 Beth DuPuy	29 Phillip Troge
06 Dewitt Jones	17 Curtis McCormick	30 Bret Wiltse
07 Jay Brewer	18 Barbara Day	30 Tony Betzer
07 Michael Halpin	18 Paula Neuser	31 Sheila Morris
07 Kevin Williams	20 Frank DeMarco	31 Sandi Mallory
08 Jim Seckington	20 Mary Jo Plutt	
09 Jennifer Becker	22 Anna Marie Nielsen	

*Wish these Elk Members
& Spouses a special
Happy Birthday!
when you see them*

*The individuals listed above can stop in for a free "birthday
cocktail, beer or soft drink" anytime during the month in
which they are recognized in our newsletter!*

If we missed your birthday – please let us know!

















WDM Elks Lodge #2752
 515-252-1717
 www.wdmelks.com

March 2026



All listings are tentative – watch for email updates!
 If you don't receive emails – Let us know!
news@wdmelks.com
 All Meals are \$11.00 and served
 at 6:15 pm unless stated otherwise.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Open Noon - 7pm Burger Baskets <i>Served 12-5pm</i> Play Pool - 1:30 Bingo 2pm Sell: JC Criswell Call: Patti Bond Team: Gloria Criswell Jen Chambers, and Ella Harban	1 Open 4:30 - 9:00  House/Board Meetings 6:30pm All Members welcome	2 Open 4:30 - 9:00  9 to 5'ers meet at Nine AM! GAME NIGHT 6:30pm Join Us	3 Open 4:30 - 9:00 No Scheduled Dinner Need a Team! Stop in and enjoy a pizza Team You?	4 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close Firsty Thirsty Thursday \$2.50 Well Drinks \$8 Burger Basket Grill Specials Bingo 7pm Sell: Nancy Newcomb Call: Roger Fiori Joyce McMickle, Mary Jo Plutt and Rita Lans	5 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close 6 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close	7 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close
Open 8am - 7pm Elk's Breakfast & Bake Sale <i>8am till Noon</i> Play Pool - 1:30 Bingo 2pm Sell: Paul Stiles Call: Roger Halbur J McMickle, Jen Chambers & Ella Harban	8 Open 4:30 - 9:00  Lodge Meeting 7:00pm All Members welcome	9 Open 4:30 - 9:00  9 to 5'ers meet at Nine AM! 1:00pm Elks Angels lunch at Jesse's Embers 6:30pm Elks Riders Meeting	10 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Italian Sausage Sandwich French Fries Salad & Dessert Team Murphy <i>Serving at 6:15pm</i>	11 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Wine Night 6:30pm Bingo 7pm Sell: Jason Larreau Call: Radar Weinschenk Checker/Concessions Joyce McMickle, Nancy Newcomb & NAV	12 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close 13 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close	14 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close St Pat's Corned Beef & Cabbage 5:30 Foy Dancers Serving 'till 8pm!
Open Noon - 7pm Burger Baskets <i>Served 12-5pm</i> Play Pool - 1:30 Bingo 2pm Sell: Carla Sanburg Call: Roger Halbur Team: Joyce McMickle Joy Droessler and Ella Harban	15 Open 4:30 - 9:00  Lodge Activities Meeting 6:30pm <i>Come share your ideas and get involved! Treats provided.</i>	16 Open 4:30 - 9:00  9 to 5'ers meet at Nine AM! GAME NIGHT 6:30pm Join Us	17 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Baked Ziti Salad, Focaccia Bread & Tiramisu Team Earp <i>Serving at 6:15pm</i>	18 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Bourbon Night! Bingo 7pm Sell: Paul Stiles Call: Larry Schweitzer Checker/Concessions Gloria Criswell, Nancy Newcomb & NAV	19 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close  TRIVIA NIGHT 7 - 9pm	20 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close 21 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close
Open Noon - 7pm Burger Baskets <i>Served 12-5pm</i> Play Pool - 1:30 Bingo 2pm Sell: JC Criswell Call: Patti Bond Team: Gloria Criswell Mashelle Bollie and Rita Lans	22 Open 4:30 - 9:00  Lodge Meeting 7:00pm All Members welcome	23 Open 4:30 - 9:00  9 to 5'ers meet at Nine AM! Birthday Night! 6:30 pm Join Us!	24 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Beef Taco Bar With all the fixings and Dessert Team Hawk <i>Serving at 6:15pm</i>	25 Open 4:30 - 9:00 Bingo 7pm Sell: Joe Bechen Call: Larry Schweitzer Checker/Concessions Gloria Criswell, Mashelle Bollie, and Nancy Newcomb	26 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close  Installation of Officers! Party - 6pm <i>Come support your incoming Officers!</i>	27 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close 28 Open 4:30 - 9:00/Close
Open Noon - 7pm Burger Baskets <i>Served 12-5pm</i> Play Pool - 1:30 Bingo 2pm Sell: JC Criswell Call: Patti Bond Team: Gloria Criswell Joy Droessler and Ella Harban	29 Open 4:30 - 9:00 30 Open 4:30 - 9:00	 INVITE YOUR FRIENDS EVERY MEMBER STARTS AS A GUEST	 Dinner Crews Needed! Could you help one Wednesday Night per month? Call Roger Fiori at 515-201-6707	 Bingo Volunteers Needed! Could you help at one BINGO Session per month? Call Nancy Newcomb at 515-681-0852	 Notice a FEW people doing a LOT of work? VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!	