



SILVER CITY ANTLERS

MERIDEN LODGE #35
CHARTERED DECEMBER 12, 1886
BIRTHPLACE OF ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION (ENF)
www.meridentelks35.com
June 2021 ♦ Volume XXIX ♦ Issue 1

Rich Doolittle ♦ Antlers Editor

A message from Meriden Elks Lodge 35 Exalted Ruler, Bill McGovern

My Brother and Sister Elks,

This last year has put a significant strain on us all and the Elks was not spared. Following the operational restrictions from the State made it challenging to stay open. Understandably, many members did not wish to visit the lodge either because of the move downstairs or the risk of exposure. I wish to thank last year's House Committee lead by Sarah Stack in navigating the "Covid Year" by dealing with the Health Department and keeping us compliant with the restrictions from the State. We slowly have returned to some of the scaled down events we have become accustomed having on an annual basis. Credit to the Polish and Irish Committees for adapting the delivery of each event with seating constraints by providing take out meals. These are two examples of the resiliency of our members to keep us moving forward.



We have been stressed with new mandates for the Grand Lodge in reporting structure, proposed \$2000 liquor permit, and overall, with limited ability to provide the great charitable and community projects we have been known for. The permit, while going up, is not the initial proposition from the State. Our programs will come back this year as constraints

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Come on down, The lodge is open!

Flag Day June 14th

Regular Lodge Meetings are the second & fourth Thursday of the month @ 7:30 pm EXCEPT July & August when they are the fourth thursday ONLY & November/December when they are the second & third thursdays of the month.



Current lodge hours

Wednesday 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm
Thursday 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm
Friday 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Patriotism has characterized the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America since the early days of the organization. Allegiance to the flag of our country is a requirement of every member.

In 1907, the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks designated, by resolution, June 14 as Flag Day. The Grand Lodge of the Order adopted mandatory observance of the occasion by every Lodge in 1911, and that requirement continues.

The Elks prompted President Woodrow Wilson to recognize the Order's observance of Flag Day for its patriotic expression. But it was not until 1949 when President Harry Truman, himself a member of the Elks, made the proclamation that thereafter June 14 would be a day of national observance for the symbol of our country.

It was through his Elks Lodge in Independence, Missouri, that President Truman got the idea for a national observance of Flag Day.

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are eased in the future.

I would like to congratulate the new officers that have been elected this year. Thank you to all the PERs performing the installation ceremony Lead by Dick Calvanese PER(Exalted Ruler). These include; Chris Baril PER (Leading Knight), Andrea Ruimerman PDD (Loyal Knight, Treasurer, Chaplain), Doug Parker PER (Lecturing Knight), Keith Stocking PER (Trustee), Michele Stocking PER (Tiler), Steve Maheu PER (Inner Guard) and Visiting PER Mike Ruimerman (Secretary).It was nice to have an installation that wasn't held virually.

I also want to thank last year's Leading Knight Rich Doolittle and Loyal Knight Karen Ligamari for their service to the Lodge and I know they will continue to support our efforts in the future.

Thank you to Jen Maheu as our grant chair. Updates on the 2020 grants are as follows:

The Beacon Grant to support the recently opened Hanover Apartments Veteran Housing. Through the Veterans committee we were able to supply furnishings for the complex community room. This was a challenge with the delays in deliveries because of the pandemic. Kudos to Rich and Theresa Doolittle for their persistence in getting this completed.

The Gratitude Grant was geared to assisting Covid delivery programs. We selected to provide support to the Meriden Soup Kitchen located at the First Baptist Church on Broad Street. Our \$2000 donation will be used assist the group's delivery of 140-170 meals a day. The group has a need for soup year-round and we will be setting up periodic containers for donations throughout the year.

Also, because of our members generous donations to the Elks National Foundation, we were able to provide an ENF grant for the Meriden Police Cadet program. We assisted them in the past but the last year has put a huge burden on the group. The donation is going towards purchasing camping equipment for the group. It has been reported that our donations to ENF this year have already reached our goal for the year. Thanks to Michele Stocking PER for her continued work with ENF and our membership for your donations to this great cause that has roots in our own lodge.

We hope to close these up soon and apply for 2021 grants and apply for the 2022 Grants as soon as possible. Please forward any ideas you may have.

Other restricted attendance events included our own required "in house" Flag Day ceremony secondary to the limited American Legion's Fire Watch event. We also had a very respectful but smaller Elks Memorial Service. A big thank you to Doug Parker PER for the continued work on this special day so members are never forgotten, never forsaken.

We also were able to continue bringing in new members. We hope that those who have taken a leave from the lodge over the last year will return soon.

A special thanks to the Trustees. They have helped adjust budgets and make necessary repairs to the building. There are several large projects including roof repairs and a current concern over one of our Lodge room windows. Thank you to Jim Nettleton for his work as last year's trustee chairman and congratulations to Keith Stocking PER for chairing the 2021-22 group.

One of the events that was lost to the pandemic this year was our Elk of the Year. The past Elks of the year recipients understandably chose not to have an event with limited attendance and inability to have dignitaries.

However, an Officer of the Year was selected for 2020 that recognizes an Officer that has committed numerous years to our Lodge. He is a PER, current Trustee and past Chair, and has guided our investments through tough times. While he always quietly goes about his work and shies away recognition, please take some time and congratulate Rob Sadlowski as Meriden Lodge #35's 2020 Officer of the Year.

Our new House Committee, led by their Chair Paul Amenta, is looking at receipts and trends and have been adjusting our Lodges hours. They have placed dinner specials on Wednesday along with an interesting weekly trivia that has everyone laughing. The House will continue roll certain things back to normal. The House is looking at a fall reopening upstairs after some much needed updating to the lounge.

Well, the light is at the end of the tunnel. With the May 19th Governor changes

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we will see some more “return to normal activity”. We can now call our Friday gathering, our Friday Night Socials!!! We will continue to advertise these through the weekly email blasts and Facebook postings. We hope to have return events such as the golf tournament, bus safari and those other get togethers we have grown accustomed to before Covid.

Please be patient as we continue moving forward and contact me if you are interested in participating in any of the numerous committee opportunities that the Elks provide. In the meantime, stop on down and visit old friends and make new ones. If you have any questions or concerns please email me at 2021erelks35@gmail.com. Be safe and look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours truly in Elkdom,

Bill McGovern PER

Exalted Ruler

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Flag Day Celebration

It is to be expected that an organization dedicated to patriotic service should seek to promote a proper knowledge of, and respect for, the American Flag, and all that it represents. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has done this in many ways. Perhaps the most effective of its prescribed activities is the Flag Day Service. Each Subordinate Lodge is required to conduct this service annually on June 14th, the anniversary of the birth of the American Flag.



Please join us at the lodge

Sunday morning June 13th at 10 A.M.
For our ceremony and observance
Of Flag Day

This Event Is Open To The Public



June Birthdays

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Jules Awdziejewicz | 14 Chris Baril | 22 Wesley Huxley |
| Tim Budwitz | Chris Waleski | Robert Sadlowski |
| 3 Raymond Mainville | 16 Matthew LaFayette | 23 Joseph Casserino |
| 5 Kathleen Augustyn | 17 Debra Belancik | Jameson Korab |
| Ronald Goglia | John Fazzolari | 25 Michael Zakrzewski |
| Robin Carter | 18 Robert Kosienski | 28 Judy Boyd |
| Daniel Jakiela, Jr | Mark Merliss | 29 Chistopher Maslar |
| Herold Scully | Ernest Percope | Matthew Maslar |
| 7 Richard Roccapiore | 20 David Carney | 30 Jim Harkins |
| 10 David Luft | Melvin Amador | |
| 11 Nate Rivard | Riss Crann | |
| | Sahriann Kroeber | |
| | Timothy Howes | |
| 12 Douglas Roy Downey | 21 Paul Fitzgerald | |

Veterans

We Elks are American citizens who enjoy living life by the golden rule and contributing to the lives and well-being of those around us. We promise also that as long as there are Veterans, we as Elks, as citizens who would treat others, I dare say even BETTER than we would have them treat ourselves, shall not turn our backs to them, but instead seek them out, especially those in need, and offer whatever we can to improve their lives in some small way, as they through their service have improved ours.

Elks pledge "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Promising service to our nation's veterans and military members, with a special focus on service to those in need.

We will give generously of our time, energy and resources to serve veterans and military members each day, to ensure that pledge is not an idle one.



Having heard of such an opportunity, in the nearby construction of Hanover Place in Meriden, a nine unit development providing housing for homeless Veterans or those at risk of being homeless, we reached out to fellow Lodge 35 Elk, the Real Estate & Special Programs Director for the Meriden Housing Authority, Eddie Siebert, we set up a meeting to tour the facility. We learned other civic groups had already gotten involved as well furnishing the future residents with towels, toiletries, cleaning products, small appliances, etc, enough donations that it filled an entire community room, a community room that needed to be furnished for the residents to relax in and meet with visitors, VA workers, or just wait for their laundry to finish.

What first started out as an idea became a project the day we initially toured this property in October of 2020. ER Bill McGovern was on hand for this initial meeting and we discussed a rough idea of what we thought we could do for them, after that it was off to the lodge floor seeking funding for the project. This project got its initial start through the suggestion of merging the Spotlight and Beacon Grants to get \$5,500 from Grand Lodge by Justin Fedler, PER. I will add here that it is only by the CONTINUED generosity of our members who donate to ENF that make us eligible for these grants, so thank you all for that. After getting approval on the floor it was sent to Grand Lodge by our Grants Committee Chair, Jen Maheu, without whom this would never have gotten done.

November 10th, 2020, the day before Veterans Day, the building was dedicated. ER Bill McGovern was on hand at the ribbon cutting, along with Lodge 35 member and Meriden Mayor Kevin Scarpati who bid the soon to be Veteran residents "Welcome home", as well as member CT Rep Hilda Santiago who said this project "will be a safe haven" for Veterans

Now it was time to get down to business. The community room was FULL of donations facilitated by Lodge 35 member Maureen Flynn who did an amazing job working with another organisation she volunteers for, we can still be proud of the good deeds of our members even though they may not be done in the name of Elksdom, it is in the same spirit by which they are done. An absolutely amazing crew of members met on the Saturday morning after Thanksgiving to help empty that community room and distribute those aforementioned donations to each unit. Many thanks go out to Jim Nettleton, Eddie Seibert, Mark Cartelli, Justin Fedler, PER, Jen Maheu, and Steve Maheu, PER would have taken longer than a day without all your help, and lastly but surely not least, I thank my wife Theresa Doolittle without whom none of this would have been possible, in so many varied and wonderful ways, you have all my love and all my thanks.

After many trips to furniture stores, one was selected and the furniture ordered. The original plan was for everything to be delivered at once, have a crew meet up at the community room and get this project done, however Covid delays made short (or shall we say LONG) work of that idea. The furniture was ordered at the end of November 2020 and the final pieces not delivered until the last days of April 2021, 5 months it took with multiple trips to the project, and multiple trips to the many stores. As the Veteran residents trickle in, and stop by to poke their heads in, they are excited by the way the community room has turned out and cannot wait to use it.

This project has involved MANY Elks, some directly and others indirectly, offering ideas, and advice. This is the kind of project we can ALL be proud of as Elks, as members of this community, and as Americans. While we may not have been out there with our Veterans, we will always be here for them.

Rich Doolittle Veterans Committee Chairman
elkscareaboutvets@gmail.com

ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE!



2021-2022 B.P.O.E. Meriden Lodge 35 Officers

Exalted Ruler.....Bill McGovern
Esteemed Leading Knight.....Wesley Huxley
Esteemed Loyal Knight.....Shannon Dwyer
Esteemed Lecturing Knight.....Sarah Stack

Secretary.....Andrea Ruimerman, PER
Treasurer.....Justin Fedler, PER
Esquire.....Pam DiPasquale
Chaplain.....Doug Parker, PER
Inner Guard.....Mark Cartelli
Organist.....Karen Coale O'brien
Tiler.....Theresa Doolittle

Board Of Trustees

1 YR Trustee.....Chairman.....Keith Stocking, PER
2 YR Trustee.....Danny Carter, PER
3 YR Trustee.....Rob Sadlowski, PER
4 YR Trustee.....Steve Maheu, PER
5 YR Trustee.....Jim Nettleton

House Committee

Chairman.....Paul Amenta
CO-Chair.....Terrance Ellingson
Secretary.....Joann Noonan

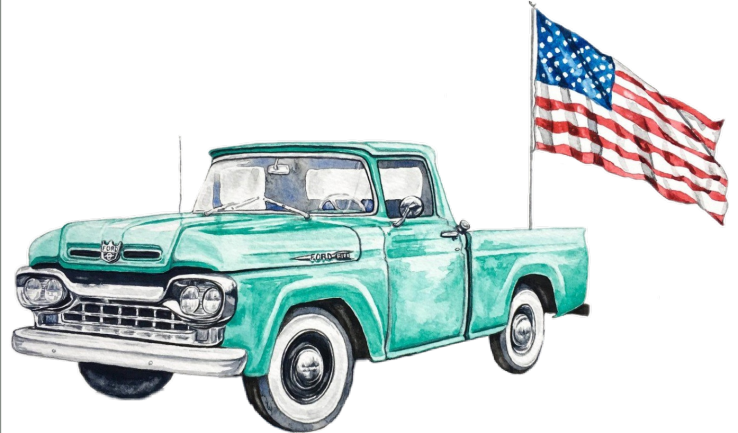


Bryan Courchesne, Pam DiPasquale, Terrance Ellingson, Carl Field, Marie Heck, Walter Kerr, Sean Quinn, Karen Vargas

Committee Chairs

Drug Awareness: Justin Fedler, PER
ENF: Michele Stocking, PER
Golf Tournament: Wesley Huxley
Grants: Jenn Maheu
Hall Rental: Paul Amenta
Investigations: Shannon Dwyer
Lapsation: Rob Sadlowski, PER
Memorial / Orientation: Doug Parker, PER
Public Relations: Jenn Maheu
Scholarships: Andrea Ruimerman, PER
Sports Night: Paul Amenta
State Major Project: Andrea Ruimerman, PER
Veterans: Rich Doolittle
Irish Committee: Bill MCGovern
Polish Committee: Wesley Huxley
Italian Night: Paul Amenta, Jim Nettleton

◆◆◆◆ Committee chairs will be updated next issue ◆◆◆◆



A Statement From Our Meriden Elks Lodge # 35 House Committee

The house committee would like to let our members know that we have recently purchased a new POS system and is up and running. The system does have the ability to process credit cards in the very near future. We are currently discussing the best finance rates possible for the club. Over the next several weeks we will be working with NCR to utilize the Marking Tool in the POS system for specials for all members.

Wednesday trivia night has been growing and we look forward to seeing you there. The House Committee has been taking turns providing meal specials for Wednesday nights. Our bartenders have been busy working on new cocktails for you to try, Blueberry Lemonade, Southern Mule along with some summer surprises like Hazy Little Thing, All Day IPA, Arnold Palmer tea, Blue Hills cider, Bulleit Bourbon, Gosling Rum for the Dark & Stormy's along with all the normal staples.

I would like the members to know that the hall is available for rentals. The House committee has been discussing hosting a monthly event on an up coming Saturday. Possible Wine tasting, Movie Night outside on a bigscreen, Micro Beer tasting ETC. more to come.

We would like to thank all our members for your continuing support !!!

Sincerely,

Your House Committee Chair
Paul Amenta



June 2021



June 2021

Dates To Remember

- 02 - Wednesday Night Trivia
- 04 - Friday Night Social
- 09 - Wednesday Night Trivia
- 10 - Regular Lodge Meeting 730 PM
- 11 - Friday Night Social
- 13 - Sunday Flag Day Ceremony
10AM In The Lodge Room
- 16 - Wednesday Night Trivia
- 18 - Friday Night Social
- 20 - Sunday Fathers Day Breakfast
- 23 - Wednesday Night Trivia
- 24 - Regular Lodge Meeting 730 PM
- 25 - Friday Night Social
- 30 - Wednesday Night Trivia



Bar seating now available!
Wednesday-Thursday-Friday
5pm to 11pm

In Memoriam



*The clock of their day
 Has stopped
 And across its' dial the
 Motionless shadow marks the Hour of Eleven.
 The faults of our
 Members we write upon the sand, their
 virtues upon the
 Tablets of love and memory.*

To Our Absent Members

Advertise Your Business Here

Sickness & Distress

If you know of any member who may not be doing well, or has passed, please contact the Lodge by email at

LeadingKnightElks35
@Gmail.Com

Subject: Sickness & Distress



SUBMISSIONS TO THE ANTLERS



WE NEED YOU!

Please submit FINISHED articles, flyers, pictures, etc. by the 15th of each month. Your submissions should be completed using a word processor such as MS Word and should be thoroughly proofread. It takes time to complete the newsletter. Include whatever pictures or graphics you would like. Do not send an email with your article in the body because it doesn't copy well from an email.

Attach your document to an email and send it to:
Elks35Antlers@gmail.com

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Do you know of someone not receiving our publication?
Please email us with their information!
Elks35Antlers@gmail.com



Meriden Elks Lodge 35 Invites you to attend our.....

FATHER'S

DAY



BREAKFAST

SUNDAY

JUNE

20



Bring Dad to breakfast or come down yourself!

Enjoy a plate of the following:
baked french toast, potato casserole,
scrambled eggs, bacon, and sausage

FOR JUST....

\$10

Get There Early, When It's Gone, It's Gone!

Bar will be OPEN during the event
Have A Mimosa Or Bloody Mary!
Pre-Orders To-Go Orders Call Or Text
(203) 443-1475

7:30 - 11:30 AM