



ELKLINER

JANUARY 2025 | Madison Elks Lodge 410



OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler **Sherie Sasso**
Leading Knight **Phil Doll**
Loyal Knight **Mike Verveer**
Lecturing Knight **John Skillrud**
Secretary **Dan Curd**
Treasurer **Renée Lauber**
Esquire **Patrick Fitzpatrick**
Chaplain **Laura MacIsaac**
Tiler **Christopher Klinge**
Inner Guard **Geoff Gaston**
Organist **Lois Hoornstra**

TRUSTEES

1 Year **Tya Lichtie**
2 Year **Lindsey Lee**
3 Year **Kristopher Steege-Reimann**
4 Year **Don Geier**
5 Year **Jim Schuessler**

Membership meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and also the 4th Wednesday in February, March, and April.

ELKLINER

Editor **Dan Curd**
Photographer **John Lorimer**

If you would like to submit something for publication or place an advertisement, please email:

secretary@madisonelkslodge.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE ER

Happy New Year! I hope you all had happy, safe Christmas and Hanukkah celebrations.

The last two weeks of my December were filled with luncheons with friends and family and I loved every minute of it!

I have to comment on Holiday Music Bingo. It was truly amazing! Thanks to Michelle Braithwaite and the Entertainment Committee for going all out this year. We were sold out – over 200 members and guests came to the Lodge to participate! We had a basket raffle with several interesting selections. We also had a booze basket raffle and, of course, because we're Elks, we had a 50/50 raffle whose winner won over \$900. I wish we could have that kind of turnout for Music Bingo every month!

Thanks, too, to our bar manager, Kaycie, and front of house manager, Meadow, for staffing the bar and restaurant so perfectly. With the place as full as it was, I didn't hear any complaints about the service, and the food flying out of the kitchen looked wonderful. So, thanks to Rotilio and Desmond and our brand new dishwasher, Jeremy, for their hard work that night. It all came together beautifully and was a fun night for all.

This is the time of year we always make a plea for those members who don't fly south for the winter to try to come into the bar and restaurant a little more frequently. January and February are pretty lean months for us.

Need a New Year's Resolution? How about signing up for the Elks National Foundation Fidelity Club? The ENF provides thousands of dollars in grant money for us to use in the community (thanks to Lynn Aspinwall, our grant writer extraordinaire). The Fidelity Club is an easy way to contribute every month. You can pledge as little as \$5 monthly on a credit card or direct withdrawal from your checking account. It's super easy to sign up. Go to Elks.org, log in (upper right corner), then click on Elks National Foundation and then "giving options" and choose monthly giving. (Or, here is a [LINK](#) that will take you to the page.) I hope you will do it today!

Here's wishing all of you a happy, peaceful, safe, and healthy 2025!

In Elkdom,

Sherie Sasso

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As one year begins, another draws to a close. In Elksdom we have begun to prepare for our new fiscal year that begins April 1, 2025. This means you will be receiving your dues statement for next year in the mail this month. Once you receive it, we hope you will send us a check in the reply envelope enclosed or pay with a credit card using the link printed on the statement.

Beside your mandatory dues (local, state and national assessments), each year the statement offers you a way to make optional donations. The optional amounts listed are suggested donations, but we welcome your contribution of any amount! Please note that donations made to the Wisconsin Benevolent Fund (providing aid to the sick, disabled, youth, and unfortunate), State Major Project (Camp Wawbeek Easter Seals Respite Camp), Elks National Foundation, and Madison Charities are all tax deductible contributions.

Paid members can expect to receive new membership, spouse identification, and key card starting in mid-February. However, your new key cards will not be activated until after April 1st so continue use your current green key cards until then. Identification cards to widows and widowers will be mailed in early March. Don't forget to sign your membership and identifications cards.

Election of new officers will take place at the February 26 membership meetings. Members in good standing can be nominated at the January 8 and February 12 meetings.



Your generous donations to the Elks National Foundation and Madison Elks Charities made this gift of \$15,000 to Custom Canines possible. Custom Canines is a nonprofit organization of dedicated volunteer professionals and individuals who create and support lasting partnerships between highly skilled service dogs and Veterans and those with disabilities.

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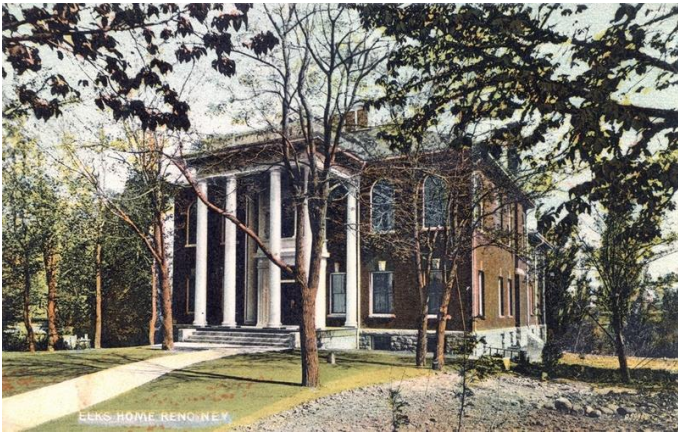
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"Supporting Elks Over 40 years"

POSTCARD FROM THE PAST



Reno Lodge #597 chartered in 1900, dedicated its new clubhouse on April 23, 1904. Located at 50 North Sierra Street, the new building had the appearance of a grand private residence. Through the entry portico and main glass and mahogany doors, a grand central hall opened to large reception rooms on either side. A great stairway led upstairs to the spacious lodge room, finished throughout in mahogany with fine carpets.

Between 1904 and 1957 the Reno Elks Home was flooded twice by the Truckee River and also survived a small fire. On February 5, 1957, however, the luck of the building ran out when the edifice was destroyed by a disastrous explosion on Sierra Street that set the building and many neighboring structures on fire. Seventy-four members had to be evacuated from the lunch and card rooms. Only minor injuries were reported among the Elks, although the building had to be razed soon after.



ALBERT "AL" KOCH

Albert Earl "Al" Koch was born on May 7, 1909, in Richland County, Wisconsin, the son of William Earl Koch and Winnie Eliza Button. He was raised on a farm in Buena Vista Township established by his pioneer great-grandparents. Al attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the law school in 1942. Upon completion of his service in the U.S. Army during World War II, he returned to Madison to practice law. In 1952 he married Florence Agnes Piazza.

Albert, a Lifetime Member of the Madison Elks Lodge, was the first to serve as Exalted Ruler at the Jenifer Street location that opened in April of 1965. During his one-year term the new building was broken into twice. The first burglary occurred on August 3 when the robbers made off with \$1,300 in cash. The second happened only five days later. Unsuccessfully able to break into the safe, they left empty-handed. That safe is still in use today and has quite a colorful history. With great effort it was brought over from the original clubhouse downtown. In 1983 robbers stole the entire safe which was later found empty along Highway 151 between Verona and Mount Horeb.

1909 -2000

Exalted Ruler

1965-1966

Albert Koch's first love was always the family farm to which he resided on for most of his life. He was also the owner of the Bank of Lone Rock, a Richland County Supervisor, and a member of the American Legion. Albert and Florence Koch left a bequest to the University of Wisconsin that endowed the ophthalmology research fund that bears their name. He died in Spring Green on February 7, 2000, and is buried with his wife who preceded him in death in the Button family cemetery in Buena Vista Township.

ELECT

ALBERT E. KOCH

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR
FOR BUENA VISTA TWP. AND VILLAGE OF
LONE ROCK.
District XII

Born, raised, owns and lives on Home Farm in Town of Buena Vista — Homesteaded 1849.
Attorney at Law
World War II Veteran
Your local government is increasingly important.
Good Government begins at the grass roots.

PRIMARY ELECTION 1st Tues. in March - March 5
SPRING ELECTION 1st Tues. in April - April 2

PAID ADVERTISEMENT: Authorized and paid for by Albert E. Koch, R. F. D. No. 1, Lone Rock, Wisconsin 53556.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

By Jim Schuessler

The Building and Grounds Committee is happy to report that we are making progress on the women's restrooms. The lower level restroom has new lighting and paint as well as a new textured ceiling. We are waiting on the new mirrors and floor coverings to be installed. In the next *Elkliner*, we plan to publish before-and-after photos. We'd like to thank those who have generously donated funds to make this project possible. Soon, we will be moving onto the main level women's restroom. As we are working within a tight budget, financial support from members would be appreciated. You can help by donating to the Capital Campaign.

Another project you may have noticed is that we've got the Wisconsin Room tidied up. We've relocated the gaming machines and poker table and gotten both televisions in that room working on cable. The room is now much more welcoming to parties and events of all kinds.

We want to thank Lynn Lee for beautifully decorating the bar for the holidays. His design skill is always appreciated. The winter months tend to be a quieter time for our committee activities. We are however looking at doing some painting to further help freshen up our Lodge.

Our Building and Grounds Committee is focused on saving costs and improving our Lodge for our members and guests to enjoy. For more information, contact Jim Schuessler at jschuessler@starkhomes.com or call or text me at (608) 445-0766.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

By Lindsey Lee

We had three great banquets this past December which brought many new people into the Lodge. This included a plated dinner for a formal black-tie gala. Over a hundred members and guests attended the Latino Professional Association's annual holiday social at the Elks. Finally, various local boating clubs – both open water and ice – had parties in the upstairs Wisconsin Room. All three organizations reported being very happy with how the Lodge hosted their events. This was especially true of the food that we prepared for their guests.

If you or someone you know might be interested in hosting an event at the lodge, please email banquets@madisonelkslodge.org or call 608-333-5694. We would love to share our beautiful space, food, and hospitality with you!



P.E.R. ASSOCIATION

Chairman **Richard Olson** (2015-2017)
Secretary **Sherie Sasso** (2019-2020)
Treasurer **Lynn Aspinwall** (2017-2019)

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Kevin Pohlkamp (1989-1990)
Jim Mueller (1990-1991)
Ed Ledwidge (1994-1996)
Chuck Hoornstra (1995-1996, 2001-2002)
Kristi Barbian (2011-2013)
Steve Sasso (2013-2015)

AUXILIARY

President **LaVerne Schwengel**
Past President **Gloria Simley**
Vice President **Donna Campanelli**
Secretary **Jeanette May**
Treasurer **Michelle Braithwaite**

BOARD MEMBERS

Ann Bailey
Carol Rohde



Hosted by:
DJ John Sherman

**3rd Wednesday
Every Month**



Based on 30 players,
minimum payout \$10.00

	Payout
Game 1	\$ 50.00
Game 2	\$ 50.00
Game 3	\$ 50.00
Game 4	\$ 75.00
Game 5	\$ 100.00
50/50 Drawing	
Game 6	\$ 125.00

6 game packets \$25.00
Single sheets for games 3-6 \$5 each

**50/50 Raffle
Tickets**

**\$5.00 each or 5 for
\$20.00**

Madison Elks Lodge #410
711 Jenifer Street
Madison, WI 53703

Live! @ the Lodge
Thursday's 5:30 - 8:30

Jan 9th - Back 40
Get ready to sing along with Heather and Dave to all you favorite oldies and county songs!

Jan 16th - Rusty Bumper
Popular crossover music (classic rock & country favorites) from the 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's. Bring your favorite music requests!

Jan 23rd - The Steve & Mark Band
The biggest hits of folk, country rock and rock with music from the 50's, 60's and 70's including artists like Neil Diamond, Jimmy Buffet, The Beatles and more... Bring your dancing shoes!

Jan 30th - Remember with Randy
Come out and hear songs of the 50's and 60's featuring artists such as Buddy Holly, Roby Orbison, Ricky Nelson, Elvis Presely, Chuck Berry and many more.

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**Trivia
Night**

Prizes and Giveaways
Bring your team

**FIRST WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH
STARTS 6:30PM**

**FREE SIGN UP
FOOD AND BEVERAGES
AVAILABLE**

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Because of New Year's Day, Moved to January 8th!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Claim your free birthday drink at the bar during your birthday week.

- 1 Chandru Solraj, Timothy Strait
- 2 Joseph Saelens, Lu Vail
- 3 Katherine Gomez Phillips, Tony Hernandez,
David Sarbacker
- 4 Harold Coltharp, Lorraine Hylkema, Jerald Wirth
- 5 Nicole Bookhout, Robb Kahl, Joe Mortier
- 6 Gary Gotzion, Ted Valenza
- 7 Dan Brinkman
- 8 Mary Ann Doll, Gregg Topoleski
- 9 Nancy Asenjo-Shropshire, Susan O'Dell,
Sandi Statz, John Weidner
- 10 Nathaniel Feldner, Joseph Klein
- 11 Michael Laskis
- 12 Mary Beth Arnold, Melissa McKee
- 13 Joe Tisserand
- 14 David James Gronski, Roger Wright
- 15 Ryan Bittner, Kathleen Conn, Kimberly Feasel,
Glen Fischer, Damon Hinkle,
Richard Hubanks, David Mays
- 16 Daniel Desmidt, atharina Heyning,
John David Myer
- 17 Colleen Dubin, Thomas Schaller

- 18 Thomas Goff Beach
- 19 Timothy Koob, Dwight Kruse, William Schumann
- 20 David Bradford, William Orosz
- 21 Laurence Jensen
- 22 Gary Swan
- 23 Mildred Thousand
- 24 Donald Damon, Lori Murphy, Carol Ripp
- 25 Wendy Fritz, Donald Imhoff
- 27 Bryan Davis, John Lottes, Kenneth Oasen
- 29 W. Richard Gordon
- 30 Eric Gordon
- 31 David Duchow, Daniel Fose, Dan Lafleur,
Matthew Mayrl, Mark Redsten

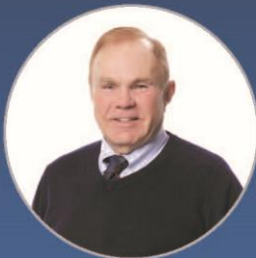
WELKOME NEW MEMBERS

Alex Dogaru
Lorraine Hylkema
Madeline Meier
Jody Rasmussen
Thomas Schaller
Donald Strayer

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ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

By Allison Cooley & Samantha Linden

The Entertainment Committee tied a bow around 2024's fun with a hugely successful Holiday Bingo event on December 18th. The Lodge overflowed with good cheer and the sounds of holiday tunes, disco grooves, classics from the '70s and '80s and Motown favorites. Make a note to join us next year to share the holiday spirit with your fellow Elks. Special thanks to Michelle Braithwaite who did the planning for this event and all the other folks who made it a success.

Speaking of sharing spirit (and time) with and for our fellow Elks, we took the night of December 14 to recognize all the amazing volunteers who have made our events so successful this past year. Many of us aren't aware of the impact volunteers make in the life of our Lodge and this was a chance to celebrate their contributions and engage with other like-minded Elks. Please consider making a commitment to volunteer for at least one event in 2025 so we can continue to offer music, meals, and merriment at the Lodge that we all count on and enjoy.

Looking forward to the New Year, the committee will be working on several returning events and putting together some fun new events, too. (A luau this summer, anyone?). Hirt Alpert will return on February 8 and will feature a buffet dinner in addition to the show. On March 8 the disco ball and basement dance floor will be lit up when VO5 returns to the Lodge. Stay tuned for information about purchasing tickets and other details for these events. A bit later in the year, the much-loved traditions of the annual Easter Brunch and Mother's Day Brunch will be held April 20th and May 11th respectively. We'll also be hosting another Kentucky Derby Day on May 2nd, so mark your calendars for them as well. And don't forget about Trivia the second Wednesday this month and Music Bingo the third Wednesday. There is music every Thursday in the bar as well, so come on down to the Lodge to stave off Cabin Fever this winter. Starting this month, we will host a meat raffle every fourth Saturday through April.

The individuals who have volunteered recently and who we thank from the bottom of our hearts are Ann Braithwaite, Connie Rosemeyer, Dan Curd, David Luner, Geoff Gaston, Heidi Herziger, Jim Schuessler, John Lorimer, JR Sims, Karen Bosold, Kristopher Steege-Reimann, LaVerne Schwengel, Lindsey Lee, Lu Vail, Lynn Lee, Mary Bach, Michelle Braithwaite, Mike Knight, Mike Verveer, Phil Doll, Philip and Lisa Gilbertson, Samantha Linden, Sherie Sasso, Tara Boyd, Teresa Schaller, Theresa Knight, Traci Schroeckenthaler, and Tya Lichtie.

There are wonderful benefits of volunteering at Elks Lodge #410 in 2025!

- Unlimited fountain soda drinks while volunteering.
- One beer or rail drink after a volunteer shift (via token).
- After a minimum 3-hour volunteer shift, one burger or sandwich (if the kitchen is open) or if the volunteer event provides food, e.g., the spaghetti dinner, one complimentary dinner.
- The Lodge will list the names of volunteers in the monthly *Elkliner*.
- The Lodge will host a Volunteer Appreciation Night.

There are always events happening at the Lodge, so please frequently check the monthly calendar and the "This Week at the Lodge" emails. If you are not getting those weekly emails, please check your spam folder.

How do YOU see the Entertainment Committee impacting the Lodge and membership? Are there events you would like to see more of at the Lodge? Let us know by connecting with our members! You can also reach Allison and Samantha via email at alliecool1@gmail.com and samantha.linden20@gmail.com.



UNLEASHING GRITTY KIDS



Participants must advance through multiple rounds of competition, undefeated, to compete at the Wintrust Arena in Chicago. Only six win, and the rest leave with the even more powerful lesson of perseverance and the goal of returning next year!

Kids ages 8-13 are eligible to compete. Find the nearest contest at elks.org/HoopShoot.



The Madison Elks Lodge would like to invite you to its annual Hoop Shoot Contest for all kids ages 8-13, hosted by the Goodman Center at 2 Waubesa St, Madison, WI 53704.

Scan the QR code at left to pre-register! Or follow this url: <https://forms.gle/4AyUBiCPeSq9d6gE8>

Provide an email to receive an estimated time to arrive.

11
JAN

FREE THROW
COMPETITION

9
AM

For information:

608-620-4767 / ElksHoopShoot410@gmail.com

JAN 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			New Year's Day Trivia moved to January 8th	Hanukkah ends		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Lodge Meeting, 7 pm. Euchre, 5:30 pm. Trivia, 6:30 pm	♫ Back 40, 5:30-8:30 pm	♫ Lois at the Piano	Hoop Shoot, 9 am Euchre, 3 pm Prime Rib Special
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			Music Bingo, Bar, 6-8 pm	♫ Rusty Bumper, 5:30-8:30 pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Martin Luther King, Jr., Day			Euchre, 5:30 pm	♫ The Steve & Mark Band, 5:30-8:30 pm	♫ Lois at the Piano	Meat Raffle Open 2:30 pm
26	27	28	29	30	31	
			Lunar New Year	♫ Remember with Randy, 5:30-8:30 pm		



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BURT BACHARACH, AND ALL OF YOUR
EARLY SIXTIES GROOVY HITS!



ELKS

LODGE
410

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
BUFFET AT 6PM, SHOW AT 6:30

BAR OPENS
AT 4:30

Euchre

Playing Euchre is a great way to meet fellow Elks members. You get a new partner every game! Bring your friends.

Please sign up at the bar so we can ensure proper staffing!

Come for cards, stay for dinner!
Saturday features Prime Rib

\$5.00 per person Buy In
Prizes will be determined based on the number of entries

Saturday January 11th

Register 3:00 pm – Play at 3:30 pm

2nd & 4th Wednesday's

1/8 & 1/22

Register 5:30 pm – Play at 6:00 pm

Madison Elks Lodge #410
711 Jenifer Street
Madison, WI 53703



SEE YOU AT THE LODGE

The office is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., or by appointment. Email: office@madisonelkslodge.org. The bar is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. The Dining Room is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.

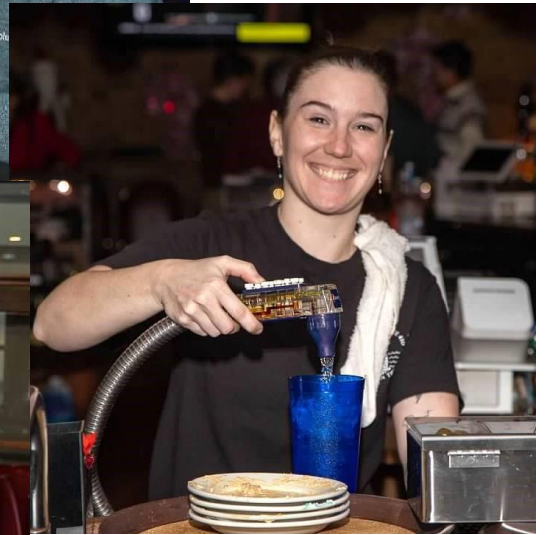


SEEN AT THE LODGE

**Celebrating
the Holidays**









Madison Elks Lodge #410
ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER & RAFFLE

Saturday, March 15, 2025

4 – 8 p.m.

It will soon be time to enjoy what has been a Lodge tradition for more than 50 years. Please mark your calendar now and invite your family and friends to join you! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Its success depends upon your support and generosity. We ask for your help in three ways:

1. **Buy and sell raffle tickets.** The cost of the tickets are \$10 each and the drawing is for a cash prizes. Please keep the portion that says “keep this stub” and return the rest with your check to: Madison Elks Lodge, 711 Jenifer St, Madison, WI 53703.

WIN CASH!

\$600, \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200, five \$100 and twenty \$50 prizes will be given away.

2. **Volunteer to work at the event.** You will receive an email via SignUpGenius or you can sign up in the bar (shifts: 2-4, 4-6 or 6-8 p.m.).
3. **Come to the Lodge to eat spaghetti.** Non-members are welcome as well – please tell your friends!

Food will be served from 4 until 8 p.m. (the bar will be open until 10 p.m.). The raffle drawing will be at 8 p.m. and you do not need to be present to win. Dinner choices include:

Homemade Spaghetti & Meatballs (2) or an Italian Sausage (or plant-based sausage)
with Salad & Garlic Bread

\$12 for Adults, \$6 for Children (6 to 12)

Extra Meatballs \$1.50, Extra Sausage \$3

Cannoli \$4.75 Red Wine \$4 per glass

We intentionally keep the price low because we want to attract as many people as possible, including potential new members. More information about this event will be posted in the *Elkliner*, via e-mail and on Facebook during the coming days. **PLEASE BUY RAFFLE TICKETS AND COME TO THE SPAGHETTI DINNER! WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! THANK YOU!**

Sherie Sasso
Exalted Ruler
Madison Elks Lodge #410