

New London Lodge of Elks No. 360
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IN GOD WE TRUST

NEW LONDON ELKS LODGE No. 360



Celebrating 125 years!
January 20, 1897

BULLETIN – APRIL 2021

LODGE MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

Regular Mtng - Thursday, April 8th, 7 pm

Regular Mtng - Thursday April 22nd, 7 pm

Directors Meeting Monday, April 5th, 6:30 pm

The Whaling City Lodge
A Fraternal Organization

Exalted Ruler's Inaugural Address

This may very well be the first time many of you have seen me at this podium. There were limited chances in the year past to see me at my station. In fact many of these chairs, filled today with the officers who have stepped forward to serve as the stewards of their station and its motto, were empty as well. The benches on which you now sit, also empty. However, even though we were not able to gather together in our normal fashion, we as a lodge persevered. Leaving us all to stand here today on the cusp of our 125th anniversary.

It would have been very easy to give up, to say that "Oh well we did our best. We couldn't have seen this coming." It would have been easy to walk away from our task to focus on our families and jobs. Nothing seemed like a safe and surefire option. There was no plan in by-laws or statutes for a global pandemic. What were we supposed to do? Well to the officers, PERs, and a few of our members the answer was simple. Nothing had really changed for us. It was time to get to work. Now, more than ever, people needed our help. It was time to show the community our brotherly love through action, our justice in remembrance that they were still human even though they needed help, our charity in not only what we

could give but our time, our selves, and our home, and our fidelity to them as brothers and sisters that we have not met yet.

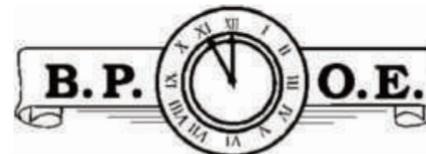
For John Graham, he knew that even though there were fewer people within its halls that the lodge still needed care and work to welcome its members when the time came. For Andrew, he knew that funds were needed to keep our mission going and that a capital campaign would be in order. For Erika, the grants weren't going to write themselves and the groups that we support needed them. Kellie knew that there were kids that still needed socks and boots. She also knew that the new FRS system wasn't going to learn itself. Bless her for that. Melvin knew we needed a roof and boiler and put his head down to find us grants to restore them. His work is still ongoing. Stuart knew we needed to be on our ps and qs about our dollars and dimes. Josh kept us on our toes and made sure we didn't forget the important things. He continues to share what the lodge is doing with the membership through the bulletin, a painstaking process, and for that I thank him. Henry and Cooper stood as voices of reason when the chair officers needed it.

Newsletter Advertisements for Sale

Statements will be sent soon for advertising in the newsletter. Please patronize our newsletter sponsors and let them know that you saw their advertisement here.

Costs are \$100 for 1 inch, \$200 for 2 inches, and \$300 for 3 inches for the year, include placement on our website under the newsletter page, and occasional shout-outs on Facebook. Ads are good for one year and may be tax-deductible as advertisement costs. Talk to your accountant.

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— LODGE AND BAR HOURS —

Thursday - Saturday: 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Hours: Check internet/social media/call

Notice: All closing hours are subject to change depending on functions and operating expenses.

Lodge Telephone: {860 442-0325}

Email Address: elks360@gmail.com

Join Us At www.elks360.org

Fundraising Update

So far almost 50 members have donated over \$18,000 toward our goal of \$32,000 for the lodge. We have established fundraising categories with rewards at each major level of donation.

DONOR RECOGNITION

Bronze - \$100 - 13 members

Silver - \$225 - 8 members

Gold - \$500 - 3 members

Platinum - \$720 - 9 members

Donations are cumulative until
March 31, 2021 and are:

Bronze: two free dinner tickets worth up to \$13 each

Silver: one front room booking good through April 2022

Gold: 360 Circle of Antlers Donor Pin

Platinum: one banquet room booking with bartender good through April 2022

All rewards are cumulative!

Monthly donation by credit card is a convenient way to donate smaller amounts over a longer period of time.

Contact us for more information.

860-442-0325 or elks360@gmail.com

A Tip of the Antler to all the Donors!

We will recognize each donor by name at the close of the pandemic. Let us know if you do not wish your name to be published.

That brings me to the three officers I feel have done the most out of all of us. Without these three individuals, I am certain that New London 360 would not be standing as it is today. Chaplain Debra Sargent, Tiler Velvete Royal, and Trustee Keith Robbins. Without Debra and Velvete, we would not have been able to open the bars or the social quarters, which was instrumental in the resurrection of our revenue for lodge operations. Aided by PERS Torrance and Aaron, the four of them have kept our doors open for members to begin to come home to the lodge as they feel comfortable. Everyday I see more and more of the people we cherish as brothers and sisters, and I know that this would not have happened without the consistency and devotion that these ladies have given to the lodge. Keith knew what we had to give. He knew who we needed to give it to. He made sure it was given. Many of you by now know that Whalers Helping Whalers has been serving food to the community out of our lodge now for a year. In the past couple months, they have been running a food pantry out of the front room on Saturday mornings. Two weeks ago they added Tuesday evenings to that. As of March 6th, 20,085 cooked meals have been given out to families in need from this building. And, in

addition to that, 85,771 pounds of bulk food have been given out at the food pantries. Keith has been here at the lodge every day aiding them by opening the lodge, loading the cooler, and organizing us as well to make sure that we can coexist and continue both our missions. Without these three individuals, I know for a fact that we would not be standing here today to celebrate together and enjoy the day.

Roughly about halfway through my Leading Knight year, I was preparing for my wedding and my future husband looks at me and goes, "I should probably join the Elks." He had been coming to the lodge with me faithfully for sometime. Volunteering in the kitchen for several meals and helping me schlep things in and out of the building. Driving the truck in the various parades. During all that, it hadn't crossed his mind that maybe he might want to become a full fledged member. He said next "Well it would look a little weird if the Exalted Ruler's husband wasn't a member wouldn't it?" He has been my support during this tumultuous year and I would not have been able to do it without him. I'm sorry Keven, but round two is coming. And it's going to be even busier than before.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

The actions of all of our dedicated members has brought us to the beginning of a new lodge year, brimming with the promise of new and exciting things for the New London Lodge of Elks. The members have all been working hard to help us bring our mission as Elks to fruition in the community! Not only have you all been volunteering, repairing, and donating, you have been bringing new ideas to the table. Fresh and exciting events have been appearing in our calendar and bulletin. This progress and growth has given me such a strong picture of the future our lodge has to enjoy. It has also caused members who have been silent for years to speak up and offer their aid. The officers in this room can stand tall and proud and know that they have done an amazing job. And we will continue, joined by new faces as well, to do an amazing job. We only have to persevere in the forward direction that we have set for ourselves. We've charted the course, set sail, and the only thing we have left to do is endure.

Elizabeth McKee PER
125th Exalted Ruler

New London Safety Day Update

This year's "Lids for Kids" event (see page 6) will be bigger than ever and we need your help. The lodge has partnered with Lady Boss Productions and Bike New London to create a larger event. In addition to the 50 bike helmets we receive from Safe Kids, we're asking the community to donate additional helmets and even bicycles to give away. We have a donation form you can use to ask your local business or charitable organization to contribute.

We're also partnering with Chef Tomm and his enormous network of volunteers and connections to increase our outreach to those in need.

Of course we also need volunteers to help with the bike rodeo, giveaways, helmet fitting, and more on the day of the event. Any way you can help is appreciated. Contact Josh Gray PER if you're interested in helping out.
jpg118@gmail.com
860-718-6876

Friday, April 2nd

FISH & CHIPS

Coleslaw

\$10.00 A Person

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

NEW BRAND OF LODGE SHIRTS

ULTRA CLUB Performance

The following features:

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See Bartender For The Order/Envelope

Scholarship Applications

The Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship application will be live in just a month or two.

Check back soon for details!

FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH

STEAK DINNER

Garlic Mashed Potatoes,
Creamed Spinach, Green
Salad, Macaroni w/Red Sauce,
and Bread

Serving at 7:00 sharp

**\$25.00 - advanced
sales only!**

call 860-625-2377 and
leave a message.

*Dinner will be served in the up-
stairs ballroom. Attendees are
welcome to enjoy a cash bar before
and afterwards, and may bring ci-
gars to enjoy in the newly reno-
vated cigar lounge.*

***Bartenders
Needed!***

Bartender volunteers are needed most nights of the week, Thursday through Sunday. No training in advance is needed. Help the lodge keep its doors open during operating hours or at special events! Contact Keith Robbins at elks360@gmail.org if interested.

LODGE OFFICERS FOR 2021-22
Exalted Ruler.Elizabeth McKee PER
Est. Leading Knight.....A. Gilday PER
Est. Loyal Knight.....John Graham
Est. Lecturing Knight.Melvin Rivera
Secretary.....Erika Russo
Treasurer.....Kellie Graham
Tiler.....Velvette Royal
Esquire.....Joshua Gray PER
Chaplain.....Debra Sargent
Inner Guard.....George Hotchkiss
Organist.....Vacant
Trustee 1 yr...Michael Tranchida
Trustee 2 yrs.....Scott Donovan
Trustee 3 yrs.....Stuart Hanke
Trustee 4 yrs..Scott Cooper PER
Trustee 5 yrs.....Keith Robbins
Presiding Justice.Atty... Scott Sawyer

Dinner Events

Dinners are held each night we are open during COVID-19. Weekly notifications of upcoming dinners are sent by email. If you aren't receiving them, send an email to elks360@gmail.com to let us know.

Dinners are subject to change. Unless otherwise specified, take out is always available.

Interested in cooking a dinner? Let us know! We're happy to help you get started.

**VOLUNTEER
COORDINATOR**

Please reach out to Volunteer Coordinator Kellie Graham at kelliegraham73@gmail.com or 860-859-7881 if you are in need of volunteers for Elks sponsored events or are interested in participating in a particular event here at New London Lodge. Be sure to check your email for volunteer opportunities. Thanks for your support!



May 29, 2021

10 am - 2 pm

(Please register for a time block for COVID safety, masks required)

New London Elks

81 Washington St. - Parking Lot

FREE Bike Helmets
FREE Bike Obstacle Course
FREE Family Activities

FREE Smoke Detectors
FREE Drawings for Bikes
and other prizes

Event Partners

Event Sponsors



Contact Lids for Kids Chair Josh Gray (jpg118@gmail.com & 860-718-6876) if you are able to volunteer for this event. Stay tuned for full details over the next few weeks posted at our website and Facebook.

SECRETARY'S CORNER

BY ERIKA RUSSO

Hello my fellow Elks. I know many of you may not know me, but I hope I can change that. I am your new Secretary here at the NL lodge 360. I joined the Elks about five years ago, and I knew then that I wanted to be the secretary of the lodge. I'm here to help and support... it's what I do! This job will be a difficult job, and one will give my all too. Henry Nichols has agreed to teach and mentor me, and keep me from drowning. Henry did an exemplary job for the lodge for many years and it will be difficult to fill his shoes, however I'm ready to try. Thank you Henry for instilling confidence in me.

Congratulations to Roger Matteau and George Hotchkiss Jr. for becoming new members.

REGULAR DUES \$120.00 — LIFE MEMBERS \$60.00

The lodge dues was increased to Regular \$99.00 and Life \$39.00 with an additional \$21 added on for the Grand Lodge assessment and State Dues.

GREEN KEY CARD

*The Card Lock will be changed **Sunday, April 11** on the front and back doors. Please continue to use your Yellow Key Card until then.*

Sick List

Convalescent Homes: Frank Perry in Bridebrook, Lee Balch in Pendleton Health & Rehabilitation.

At Home: Diana James, William Lacey, Noah Levine, Lou Lupica, Maureen Loughery, Richard Mallove, Kenneth McKenna, Carl Orsini, Mariano Pica.

Any member knowing of a member in sickness and distress should contact the Leading Knight Andrew Gilday, exalted ruler, lodge secretary or any officer, to see that they are taken care of.



Elizabeth McKee was sworn in as our lodge's 125th Exalted Ruler on March 20th together with her suite of officers.



Lodge Secretary Erika Russo (left), Inner Guard George Hotchkiss (center), and Kim Hotchkiss (right) enjoy a post-Installation celebration.



MELVIN KIRSCH

Born: January 31, 1929
Initiated: February 17, 1975
Life Member: December 22, 2005
Died: December 20, 2020

ROBERT CAMILLUCCI

Born: August 3, 1938
Initiated: June 14, 1962
Life Member: October 9, 2003
Died: August 28, 2020

The clock of their days has stopped and across the motionless shadows marks the hour of eleven. May they rest in peace.

Congrats to our 2020-21 Awardees

Citizen of the Year
Tomm Johnson

Officer of the Year
Loyal Knight
John Graham

Elk of the Year
Blythe Henry

Thank you for your outstanding service to your lodge and your community!

Save the Dates

2021 Golf Tournaments:
6/18 - New London Elks Golf Tournament
8/29 - Elks National Foundation Tournament
10/30 - Spooky Scramble Tournament

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ELKS CARE

APRIL 2021

ELKS SHARE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Passover closed	29 closed	30 closed	31 open	1 open	2 Fish & Chips 530-730 pm	3 Ham Dinner 630-830 pm \$12
4 Easter closed	5 Directors Mtng 6:30 pm	6 closed	7 open	8 Lodge Mtng 7 pm	9 Olive Oyl Chicken 6-8 pm	10 Sausage & Pepper Grinders
11 closed	12 closed	13 Golf mtng 630 PM	14 open	15 open	16 Steak Dinner 7 pm sharp	17 Italian Pasta 5-8 pm
18 closed	19 closed	20 closed	21 open	22 Lodge Mtng 7 pm	23 Cheesesteak 6-830 pm	24 Dinner TBD
25 closed	26 closed	27 closed	28 open	29 open	30 Prime Rib 6 pm	1 Dinner TBD

Note: food is served every night we are open. If blank, we do not yet know what will be served.

Eileen Firmin Michael Firmin



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