



The Elks Profile

Laconia Lodge #876

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B.P.O.E. ~ A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION

May - 2020

A Message from the Exalted Ruler

May 2020

All of us have been forced to deal with a temporary "new normal" in the community and in the world. Social distancing has become a necessity, even amongst family, friends and fellow Elks members. Many have been forced to be furloughed from their employment. In spite of these dark and challenging times, the spirit of Elkdom has continued to flourish and will not be stopped. Grand Lodge just reported that nationally Elks shattered records, raising almost \$6,700,000 for E.N.F during the fiscal year of 2019-2020. This is an all-time high! Our state contributed \$76,007 to this endeavor. Let's keep this momentum going in our lodge in the weeks and months ahead.

In order to continue with lodge business while not endangering the health and welfare of our members, it was decided that only one meeting would be held during the month of April. This meeting was held via ZOOM thereby enabling all to discuss matters at hand and remain safe. We discussed that in view of the recent health crisis the only grant that Grand Lodge is currently offering is the Gratitude Grant. In the past our lodge used this grant to assist the local shelter for battered women and children. After much discussion and pondering the suggestions of Grand Lodge, it was decided that this year the grant would be used for Got Lunch Laconia, a food assistance program. Currently there are more than the usual amount of residents in our local communities who are struggling to feed their families. The use of this grant epitomizes Brotherly Love and Charity, key values of Elkdom.

While the Lodge has been closed much work has been done inside and outside of the Lodge. Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, a thorough cleaning, organizing, and removal of debris has taken place. In April emphasis was put on overall yard work. A special thanks should be given to Jacob Caldwell, owner of Tall Timbers Tree Service, along with Parker Hoffacker, Mike Gilbert, Mark Roy, Jamie Roy, Rod Roy, Lenny Gardner, Steve Downs, Harry and Priscilla Bean, Jake Caldwell, Mark Milligan, Peter Hebert, Garrett Gilbert, Aaron Gilbert, Richard Gilbert, Jamie Laramie, Mike Buldoc, Demmison Chiasson. Your hard work and dedication have only improved and benefited our lodge. Additionally thanks is given to Bob Martin and Jamie Roy for mulching the garden beds and performing various exterior touch-up painting projects. Mark and Tricia Roy, our members appreciate your generous donation of a lawnmower. Donnie Lamontagne and Walter Bentley generously donated their professional painting services to paint and restore the window shutters of the Lodge, and the membership thanks you. All of you have shown the true spirit of Elkdom!



No doubt all of us are anxious to return to "normal life", sharing good times with our fellow Elks at the Lodge. We want to have more Wednesday night meals and Fish Fry dinners prepared by volunteers.



(L. To R. Jane Flanders, Ann Cemmano, John Cemmano, & Susan Clough)

(L. to R. Jim Gaillard, Jamie Laramie, and Jim Fenmore)

The last time we saw smiling, hard working volunteers in the kitchen was in February. Hopefully we will be able to return to our normal activities soon.

Due to State regulations and the uncertainty of the overall health situation of the State of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire State Elks Association along with the management of Loon Mountain have cancelled the State Convention that would have been held mid-May. The State Association is currently in discussions to create the safest means possible for the mandatory State Meeting to be held. As developments unfold, our members will be informed. Additionally the District Deputy Clinic which was supposed to have been held on April 25th was canceled, and other arrangements are in the works.

Even though the Lodge is currently closed and we are not certain of when it will be safe to re-open, membership dues NEED to be paid! These funds are required by Grand Lodge and enable our Lodge to continue functioning. Please send your checks to the Lodge immediately. The Secretary is continuing to work to process Dues and print membership cards. On Saturday, May 9th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the Secretary will be at the Lodge to distribute membership cards to those that have already paid. Stop by to get them. If you are unable, once the Lodge reopens members will be able to collect their membership cards from the bartender on duty.

Please keep in mind that when you look at the calendars for May and June, scheduled events are subject to change. We need to be flexible because of the health crisis that is affecting our nation and because of changing State regulations for overall health and safety concerns. To be immediately informed of updates please either look at and LIKE our Facebook page, LACONIA ELKS #876; or look at our website, LACONIA-ELKS876.ORG, and examine the calendar.

Some members who do not receive the monthly newsletter in the mail have said that they don't get to read the newsletter if they don't come to the Lodge often. This is incorrect. Anyone can read the current and past newsletters online. Simply go to LACONIAELKS876.ORG and click on "Newsletter". You can then decide what monthly newsletter you want to read.

As Elks we know that Elks Care and Elks Share! Let's continue to look out for one another, check on one another, help one another; and continue showing Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity to our fellow members and to our community. Stay healthy and stay safe. Soon we will return to our Lodge with smiles, with stories to share, and with renewed vigor to live each day as proud Elks that really make a vital difference in our community, our state, and our nation.

Exalted Ruler,
LISA SAUCEDA

Manager's Corner

"RULE 6" - please work hard to keep all vulgar and foul language out of the Lodge

Lottery Ticket Raffle!

\$5/ticket or \$20/5 tickets

All proceeds go to the Elks Painting Restoration Fund

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

Sign up on the volunteer sheets on the cork board. Ask Officers or Lodge Manager where help is needed

TRICIA ROY
Lodge Manager