



# Derby Lodge of Elks #571

## THE LODGE OF THE VALLEY

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

Home Lodge of David Robinson, PDDGER STCEAC

**Volume 127 | Issue 4 | April 2026**

73 Elizabeth Street. PO Box 266, Derby, CT 06418

Lodge: (203) 735-1142 Office (203) 734-0571 <https://derbyelks.org>



### LODGE OFFICERS 2026-2027

#### Board of Directors

<b>Exalted Ruler</b>	Maria Blackwell
<b>Esteemed Leading Knight</b>	Adam Pacheco
<b>Esteemed Loyal Knight</b>	Paul Blackwell
<b>Esteemed Lecturing Knight</b>	Pat Mastrianni
<b>Secretary</b>	Sheila Parizo
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeaneen Buchanan
<b>Five Year Trustee</b>	Dave Savage
<b>Four Year Trustee</b>	Blake Stine
<b>Three Year Trustee</b>	Mike Wuchek
<b>Two Year Trustee</b>	Mike Rinaldi
<b>One Year Trustee</b>	Cheryl Pereiras
<b>Inner Guard</b>	Joe Hoefflinger
<b>Tiler</b>	Linda Bayusik
<b>Esquire</b>	Sonia Barbieri
<b>Chaplain</b>	Kevin Barbieri

#### \*\*\*\*\*HOUSE COMMITTEE\*\*\*\*\*

Chair: David Cox

Kevin Barbieri | Paul Blackwell | Mark Inderdohnen  
Adam Pacheco | Mike Wuchek | Dave Savage

#### \*\*\*\*\*ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE\*\*\*\*\*

Chair: Janice D'Agostino

#### \*\*\*\*\*LODGE MEETING NIGHTS\*\*\*\*\*

- 1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 7:30 p.m.**
- B.O.D. Meetings:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m.
- PER Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday, *directly after* Lodge Mtg
- House Committee:** 1st Thursday @7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

- Elk of the Year** David Bayusik
- Officer of the Year** Adam Pacheco
- Citizen of the Year** Marc Garofalo
- GER Commendation** Anita Dugatto and David Cox

#### NEWSLETTER STAFF

Rachael Kenyon, Editor | 203-751-2001 |

[Rachael.kenyon89@gmail.com](mailto:Rachael.kenyon89@gmail.com)

**MESSAGE TV** Our message TV in the Antler Lounge is updated regularly. Contact [Jeaneen Buchanan](mailto:Jeaneen.Buchanan) with information, events, picture, etc. at [lodge571derby@gmail.com](mailto:lodge571derby@gmail.com)

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#### **Lodge Hours**

**Monday – Saturday: 4pm – 10pm**

**Sunday: Noon – 6pm**

### Exalted Ruler's Message



Greetings Members,

This month we welcome our officers who have been installed on March 28th. We thank them for their time and dedication to our lodge, and their leadership. I am honored to serve this lodge as Exalted Ruler for a second year. We have done so much together in the past year and I hope that we can continue to "Be the Difference" to others during the next twelve months.

Don't forget that your new membership cards (purple/green) will be activated April 1st to open the front door. We have a new Ring/Video security system in place that I have emailed members about. Please use your cards when you need to enter the lodge. Bartenders have been instructed to only open the door to non-members if they are there to meet a guest or have an appointment with someone at the lodge. If you are bringing in a guest, please do not forget to sign them in at our guest book. Please make sure that you have your membership card with you at all times. Safety and security is first and foremost.

April brings with it a lot of activities and events. The House Committee will be selling Fisherman Platters for only \$15 from 5:30-7:30pm on Good Friday, April 3rd. The Activities Committee will be having a Free Dessert & Game Night with a free chocolate fondue, free ice cream bar and games on April 11th at 6pm. We will also be selling smash burgers and fries that night from 5-7pm. Don't forget to join us for Gift Card Bonanza that will take place on April 25 at 7pm. There will be a Kentucky Derby Hat Decorating workshop on April 26th at 1pm to prepare for our Kentucky Derby/ Cinco De Mayo Party on May 2nd. We will end the month with Line Dancing and Elks Riders Eggplant Parm Sandwiches on April 28th. Please try to attend our District Deputy Clinic at West Haven Lodge#1537 on April 26th at 9am to learn more about Elkdom. Also, trivia has been changed to the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm from now on.

Please note that the lodge is closed on April 5th (Easter Sunday). Let us also take a moment to reflect on gratitude, kindness, and the importance of helping others. Thank you again for your continued support and commitment to our Lodge. I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events this month.

Happy Easter and Happy Spring!

Maria Blackwell

Exalted Ruler

[mjblackwell@snet.net](mailto:mjblackwell@snet.net) | (203) 751-1709



### NOTE FROM THE LODGE SECRETARY'S DESK

P.O. Box 266, 73 Elizabeth St, Derby, CT 06418  
571sec@gmail.com

#### POSTED HOURS FOR SECRETARY:

Beginning January 1, 2026

Mon – Sat: 8:30am – 10am via email, text or phone.

Mon – Sat: 6pm – 8pm at the Lodge (unless away or ill)

Sunday – day of rest!!!

As you know, the membership dues drive is in full swing. To those of you who have already paid your dues, I wanted to let you know that I have processed each one and have either mailed the cards out to you, or if you are local to our Lodge, your card awaits you at the bar! PLEASE!!! Do not dispose of your current card (which is pink) as it is good until April 1, 2026. Your NEW card for 2026-2027 is purple and is not activated until April 1, 2026. You may purchase additional laminated key cards for \$1.00 - also at the bar, but in order to purchase it, you must present your new purple card.

For those of you who have not paid yet, I would like to offer a couple of suggestions:

1. If paying by check or cash, you may either mail or drop your payment in the Secretary's box next to the Pull Tab machine -

**PLEASE PUT YOUR PAYMENT IN AN ENVELOPE**

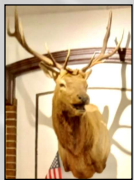
2. Never mail cash (it's illegal)

**3. Please do not forget the \$.50**

Thank you for your generosity in giving to Elks National Foundation, CT Elks Major Projects and/or our Lodge Maintenance and Repairs as part of your dues remittance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sheila Parizo, Lodge Secretary  
571Sec@gmail.com or 203-231-4971.

## Where's Moe??



Can you find Moe on the Message TV slide show in the Antler Lodge?

Find him somewhere *in the slides* and **win a free drink!**

Keep looking, Moe will pop up somewhere new each month!

Report your Moe sighting to Dave Cox or Jeaneen Buchanan and win!

Jeaneen Buchanan can be reached at:  
lodge571derby@gmail.com

## Living or Dead, an Elk is Never Forgotten, Never Forsaken



Come into the Lodge to celebrate your

### APRIL BIRTHDAY

and receive a complimentary beverage!

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Fran Robinson      | 14 Fernando Goncalves |
| 4 Greg Droniak       | 15 Joseph Sullivan    |
| Bo Kicak             | 16 Donna Wargo        |
| 5 Patricia Robarge   | 17 John Marcucio      |
| 7 Philip Cocivi      | 18 Keith Wortz        |
| Rebecca Dinice       | 24 Dave Cox           |
| Maria Lajeunesse     | 25 Judy Nicolari      |
| 9 John Mongillo      | 27 Frances Voight     |
| 10 Jonathan Poole    | 29 Nicholas Larocca   |
| 11 Joseph DeFillippo | 30 Arthur Martin      |
| Edward Spooner       |                       |



## In our hearts & prayers

Keep our members always in your thoughts. If you are aware of someone who is ill, experiencing hardship, or who has suffered a loss, please let us know so that we can reach out to them.

### Tony Gorlewski

Please contact anyone here at Derby Lodge if you are aware of someone who is experiencing sickness or distress.

**Pat Mastrianni, (203) 213.6325**

**Adam Pacheco, (860) 593.6019**

# APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1  APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2 House Comm. Meeting 7p	3 Fisherman's Platter 530-730p	4
5  WE WILL BE CLOSED Easter Sunday	6	7 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Meeting 730p	8	9	10	11 Burgers 5-7p Dessert & Game Night 6p
12 Breakfast	13	14 Trivia Night! 6p	15	16 Activities comm. meeting 6p	17	18
19	20	21 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Meeting 730p	22  Earth Day	23	24	25 Gift Card Bonanza 7p
26 Breakfast DD Clinic 9a (West Haven) KY Derby Hat 1p	27	28 Elks Riders Dinner 5-7p Line Dancing 7p	29	30 Dinner Club		

**Smash Burgers + Fries**  
Then  
**Desserts & Game Night**  
Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>  
Burgers: 5-7pm | \$10  
Desserts and Games: 6 PM | Free!  
Come and enjoy different desserts and chocolate fondue and play Cornhole, Left Right Center & other fun games!



**Gift Card Bonanza**  
Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm  
10 games / \$20.00 to play all games  
Additional cards - \$2.00 per set  
Friends, family, neighbors welcome!  
Feel free to bring your own snacks!



**Kentucky Derby Hat Project**  
Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> | 1 pm  
Come make a hat for our Kentucky Derby/Cinco De Mayo Party (5/2)  
Bring your own materials and use your creativity to create a winning hat.  
A dessert will be provided.



**Fish Fry Friday**  
**Fisherman's Platter**  
Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> | 5:30-7:30 pm | \$15  
Each platter will have flounder, shrimp, and clams served with coleslaw and fries  
We look forward to seeing everyone!



# Announcements

Derby Elks Lodge is Hosting



April 14<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup> | 6pm | hosted by Dave and Steph!

Free to play | Up to teams of 4 | Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>!

## Elks Riders Dinner

April 28<sup>th</sup> | 5-7 PM | \$12



Eggplant Parm Sandwich, Side & dessert

Event supports Elk Riders Charities

Following Dinner will by Linda's Line Dancing!

## Mother's Day Service

May 5<sup>th</sup> | After the Lodge Meeting

Please join us in celebrating the special women in our lives

### Mothers Day Breakfast

Hosted by your Derby Elks Lodge #571

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>



A complimentary breakfast will be served for all moms who are members, or wives of members, of Lodge #571

**IT'S BACK!**

### Jukebox Match Up!

May 16<sup>th</sup> | 7pm | \$20

Match the song on your card  
(you do not have to know the song, the name will be given!)

Come and win fun prizes!

## Annual Fishing Rodeo

Hosted by

**Derby Elks Lodge 571**

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> | 8 – 11 am | Osborndale State Park

Free for kids ages 15 and under

Trophies! Prizes! Family Fun!

Bacon, Egg, and cheese sandwiches available for nominal fee

Don't forget to bring your own bait and fishing poles!



# MAY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Kentucky Derby/Cinco De Mayo Party- 6pm-7p
3	4	5 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Mtg 730p Mother's Day Service following	6	7 House Comm. Meeting 7p	8	9 Fishing Rodeo
10 Mother's Day Breakfast	11	12 Trivia Night! 6p	13	14	15	16 Jukebox Matchup 7p
17	18	19 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Mtg 730p	20 Basic Self Defense Class 7p	21 Activities Comm Mtg 6p	22	23
24 Breakfast 31	25 Egg Sandwiches Lodge open 7:30am- 1:00PM	26 Elks Riders Dinner 5-7p Line Dancing 7p	27	28 Dinner Club	29	30

**Kentucky Derby & Cinco De Mayo Party**

May 2<sup>nd</sup> | 2-6pm | \$10

We will be serving:  
Tacos, Nacho Bar, Mexican Street Corn & Tres Leche Cake

**Self Defense Class**

Hosted by Mike Rinaldi

May 20<sup>th</sup> | 7pm | Free!

Sign ups required

Come and learn some basic self defense for all ages and skill levels

**Memorial Day Parade!**

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 am – 1 pm

Offerings available:  
Bacon, egg, & cheese sandwiches for sale! \$6!

Come watch the parade with the best seat in the house and cheer our Derby Elks on as they walk by!

**Elks Dinner**

May 26<sup>th</sup> | 5-7 PM | \$12

Pulled Pork Sandwiches, coleslaw & dessert

Following dinner will by Linda's Line Dancing!



# Photo Gallery



## AWARDS

## DINNER



### Corned Beef Dinner and Comedy Show Night



# Wall of Honor

# Elk of the Month!

## Attention Members!

We are in the process of putting together a "Wall of Honor" for our veterans in the Lodge. Currently, we have 30 known veterans who are members of our Lodge.

We need the following information:

- If you are a veteran and have not informed the Lodge - please let me know (branch, rank @ discharge, date of discharge)
- If you have children or grandchildren who are active in the military, please let us know as we would like to honor them as well on our wall (branch and rank)

~\* Our Elk of the month \*~

Lou Martines



Our Elk of the Month is Lou Martines, who works quietly behind the scenes but makes a tremendous impact on our lodge every single day. Whether it's fixing equipment that is broken, improving what's worn out, or stepping in whenever something needs attention, his dedication to maintenance and repairs helps keep our lodge safe, welcoming, and running smoothly. His willingness to give his time, skills, and effort, often without recognition, truly reflects the spirit of Elkdom. We are grateful for his hard work, reliability, and pride in taking care of our lodge.

## Let us celebrate our "of the years"



From left to right:

**Officer of the Year**, Adam Pacheco | **GER Commendation**, David Cox | **Elk of the Year**, David Bayusik | **Citizen of the Year**, Marc Garofalo | **GER Commendation**, Anita Dugatto | **Recruitment Award**, Linda Bayusik

Please continue to support our members and local businesses



**Sheila M. Parizo**  
Justice of the Peace  
Wedding ceremonies.....Vow Renewals  
203-231-4971  
[sparizo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sparizo@sbcglobal.net)  
Notary Public



**Denise DeFrancisco**  
Executive Director  
[Denise.A1HC@yahoo.com](mailto:Denise.A1HC@yahoo.com)  
Office 203-712-7163  
Fax 203-513-8611

96 Kings Hwy • Shelton, CT 06484

JAMES T. TOOHEY  
1923-1998  
EDWARD J. TOOHEY  
1953-2010



ELLEN S. TOOHEY  
EDWARD J. TOOHEY, JR.

*James J. Toohy & Son*  
- FUNERAL HOME -  
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Rentals

Do you have a Special Event coming up?  
Birthday Parties, Baby Showers, Retirement Parties, etc.

For details and current pricing information,

Please call:

Al Minopoli: 203-906-6768  
or Derby Lodge: 203-735-1142



Full Service Salon  
2 Division Street  
Derby, CT 06418  
203-734-HAIR (4247)

Contact Lodge Secretary

Sheila Parizo

for information on placing your business ad in our Monthly Bulletins.

[571sec@gmail.com](mailto:571sec@gmail.com) | 203-734-0571

