



127 Years of Elkdom

PORT HURON ELKS LODGE 343 EXPOSITOR

PHONE: (810) 982-8531 • FAX: (810) 982-8743 • PRO SHOP: (810) 984-1204

ISSUE NO. 334

JANUARY, 2024

Monthly Publication



2ND ANNUAL WILD GAME DINNER January 20th

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Members still have time to register for our 2nd Annual Wild Game Dinner. The proceeds will help support our Veterans in St. Clair County. We have an exciting line-up of Live and Silent Auctions, Games, Raffles and more. Chef Rob will be creating an amazing meal featuring Wild Game and traditional dishes.

LIMITED TICKETS LEFT!!!!

Sponsorships are also available. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NIGHT OF EVENT FOR TICKET SALES, SERVERS & AFTER EVENT CLEAN-UP.** Questions? Contact any member of the Wild Game Dinner Committee. Chairmen Jerry Thibodeau, Co-Chairs, Scott R. Harris PER, Joe D. Miller, Stephan J. Tebay & Aliena Drummond and they will assist you.

58th Annual Blood Drive Monday, JAN. 29th - 12-5:45pm

ELKS LODGE 343
DADDY
DAUGHTER
Dance
9th February 2024
6pm-8pm
3292 Beach Rd,
Port Huron MI 48060
RSVP: (810)982-8531 Ext.4
\$35 per person
Join us for a fun night of dancing!
Taco Bar, Candy Bar, and Prizes

Club 343 is the Place to Be! Saturday, Jan. 13th 5pm

In the downstairs Social Quarters. Club 343 will be hosting the first get together of the New Year!

Theme:

Wear your favorite "Winter theme", shirt or sweater to welcome the new season of Club 343.

So you ask, "What new fundraising idea does Club 343 have for the new year ?

Well.....let me tell you, it's Supermarket Sweep time. For just \$20 dollars you can win the opportunity to have 5 minutes to fill a shopping cart with up to \$500 dollars in food and sundry items from "Vinckier Foods in Wadhams". Event will take place after the store has closed for the evening.

Tickets will be available at various Elk social events, at the downstairs bar and Friday evenings from 5 to 7pm in the social quarters.

**To reserve a table call or text
Penny @ 810-357-8322 or
Kim @ 810-434-7886**

SAVE THE DATE! PER Super Bowl Party & King of the Hill Pool Tournament Sunday February 11th

Early registration sign-up sheet has been posted on the Lodge Social Quarters bulletin board. Registration will conclude at 12:45pm on the 11th with the pool tournament starting at 1pm sharp. Horse Races will go on thru the afternoon. Super Bowl Party - Kitchen will be open.

COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!



In Remembrance of our Departed Members

Richard Kretchman #10797

Initiated: 4-7-2017

Born: 11-1-49 Died: 11-12-23



In Sympathy

Our prayers to the families who have
lost loved ones...



Thomas & Louann Jobbitt - Loss of Brother
Julius & Gloria Traub - Loss of Sister
Scott & Janette Bennett - Loss of Brother
Jerry & Sue Oden - Loss of Brother-in-Law
Orv & Simone Reid - Loss of Brother-in-Law

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

PER Marvin Ohrling • Tim Meikle • PER Scott Harris
John Stewart • Frank Swarts • DJ Westrick

Welcome NEW Members...

New Member

Robert Greene 11305
Stephen Hill 11306

Proposed By

Edmund Gratz 10939
Susan Hudy 11171



Please welcome, US Army Veteran, James True. James is currently in charge of General Motors Corporation Veterans committee and our newest Elk for November

December The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 initiated a two new Elk Members into our Fraternal Order during our most recent initiation ceremony. Please welcome, (below left to right) Steve Hill and Rob Green.



Exalted Ruler's Message



Hello again brothers and sisters, hard to believe the holidays are already upon us. Time to spend with family and friends and be humbled by what we have in both. It's been a great month so far with our "Elks" family, Club 343 knocked it out of the park again, and teamed up with the PER Tom and Jerry Party for a great day of fun and comradery. The best part is the two came together and raised over \$1000.00 for the PER Association

to put into our holiday food baskets, and future scholarships. Special thanks to Gary & Penny Osburn, and PER's Bob Fritch, Steve Peters, Greg Hudy, and Paul Torres for running the show. Last year we did a record number of baskets and this year it looks like we will surpass it. Thank you also to the members who have donated so much for the baskets, like I said at Club 343, you're the greatest membership because every time we ask you for anything you deliver!

There are a few new additions to the social quarters this month, Charlie Kott's pool table is set up and ready to go. It also functioned as the Charlie Kott Memorial Race Track for the PER Santa races. Scott & Cindy Perkins, along with Jeanette Bennett (Social Quarter Furniture Committee) have purchased some new furniture for in front of the fireplace. It looks great and is very comfortable (tested it today). Also, thanks to Shelly & George Murdick for decorating the social quarters, it looks fabulous with its holiday season decorations.

Now for the fun stuff! Budgeting for 2024 has already started and we are in the middle of looking at profit/loss for the 2023 season. I will soon be meeting with the golf committee to discuss rates for next year. The good news is we made money on the golf side, the bad news is not what we had planned or forecasted. This summers constant rain saved us a bunch on irrigation but not much else. I believe every league had multiple cancellations because of weather and every one of those league nights missed really hurts. We also lost an entire weekend without power in prime golf season. Add up all those missed days and it sure hurts the budget. On the other hand, we made more money this year on golf outings then we have ever made and that offset a lot of the loss. I know members don't always like all the outings (especially on the weekends) but they saved us this year. The good news is gross sales were up about 10% over last year, but we are still number crunching on costs of goods and labor. All in all, with better budgeting, and better management we are in a better place than last year going into the winter slowdown. That being said, please come out and support our lodge as much as you can during the winter months. We have a bunch of events planned over the winter (Wild Game Dinner, Wine and Meat Bingos, Wine, Bourbon and Beer tastings, a Murder Mystery, and many more) so please read your expositor and come out as much as you can to support our events.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the officers and PER's that helped with the Memorial Service on December 3rd, especially Scott Harris PER who read the eulogy and Scott Perkins PER, who did the 11 O'clock Toast. But most importantly, thank you to all the members, and the family members of our departed members who attended. We were honored and humbled to have you join us in remembering not only this year's 17 losses, but remembering all of our brothers and sisters who have passed through the valley of shadows into the light of eternal morning.

In closing again, I ask that we strive to be good to each other, hold
continued on page 3

continued from page 2

each other up, be reminded of our oath, and practice the cardinal principles of our order, Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. After all, "who's got it better than us, Nobody!"

Fraternally yours,
Gary L. Nesbitt II, Exalted Ruler

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

Attention all members in good standing. This message is to notify you of our upcoming elections for the 2024-25 Lodge year. If you would like to become an officer, please read the following section from our Local Lodge By-laws. You can contact Exalted Ruler Gary Nesbitt or Secretary Greg Hudy to volunteer yourself for an open position.

ARTICLE VII NOMINATION, ELECTION, AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Nominations for offices to be filled at the annual election in Lodges shall be made in the order in which they appear in Section 2 of Article VII of the Constitution of the Order at any regular meeting of the Lodge on or after the 1st day of January if meetings are held monthly, or otherwise after the 1st day of February and prior to the date of the annual election. If no nomination for a particular office shall have been made prior to the date of such election, or if all candidates previously nominated for a particular office shall have declined or withdrawn, nominations for that office may be made on the date of election. If a Member has been nominated for more than one office, they must declare that they accept one nomination and withdraw from the other nomination before the close of the last regular meeting of the Lodge prior to the regular meeting at which the election is to be held, and if they do not do so, they must accept only the first nomination. No Member, unless nominated in accordance with this Section, shall be eligible to election at any such annual election. Only a Member in good standing shall be eligible for nomination to office in the Lodge of which they are a Member.

EXPOSITOR PATRONS

Kenneth & Deborah Adams
Michael Adams
David & Vicki Allen
Larry & Doris Allison
Debbie & Terry Anderson
Bill Angerbrandt
John & Elaine Bacheller
Michael & Susan Bacheller
Joseph & Cathy Badley
Robert & Gigi Bailey
PER Joe & Kay Barbe
Mike & Susan Barnes
Michael Basey
Marie Belkiewicz
Judy Bettinger
Ken & Char Biessel
Horace Boddy
Cary & Kim Bowman
Jeff & Debra Brabender
Jay & Marcy Brueggeman
Jim & Jackie Bryer
Tom & Leslie Buckingham
Linda Bullis
Randall & Lynn Burgett
Marianne Campbell
Ignacio & Jean Cardenas
John Cardenas
Chad Carlisle
Pam Carlisle
Mark & Marcy Caza
Pete & Sandra Cervini
John & Laura Chambless
Hank & Kim Chmielewski
Beverly Ciani
James Coleman
Tom & Nancy Coleman
Ron & Patty Cooley
Jim & MaryAnn Cowden
Jim & Roberta Crandall
Dave & Ann Crimmins*
Willard Cripps
Sean Culler
Bev Cummings
John & Tamara Cuthbertson
Ann DeBell
Dave & Colleen DeLong
Rick & Vickie Dionne
Kathleen Dodge
Nancy Doehring
Richard & Mel Doehring
Stephen Draper
Mike & Cathy Duncan
Jim & Krystal Dunn
Joseph & Debbie Eagen
Larry & Barbara Eagen
Pat & Jamie Eagen
Shawn & Shylah Eagle
Kenneth & Deborah Eastman
Keith & Mary Jo Eisen
Joe & Nancy Falk
Gregory O. Farley
Jim Feher II
Claudia Ferguson
Chuck & Laura Finnie
Lou & Deb Flanigan
AJ & Flory Foster
Ann Freese

Tim & Ruth Frikken
PER Bob & Brenda Fritch
Bill & Dolly Frizzle
Dan & Judy Frizzle
William & Donna Galbraith
Thomas & Nancy Ganley
Dan Gilbert
Don & Jeanette Goddard
Poppy Goddard
PER Gerry Goodwin
Robert Goodman
Joseph Goodman
Craig & Sandy Gordon
Gary & Cheryl Granger
Tom & Kathy Green
Jim & Patty Greuber
Michael & Bonnie Grider
Michael A Halifax
Jim Hall
Pamela Hall
Jim & Sandy Harder
PER Scott & Karen Harris
Donna Hazlewood
Jeffrey Hedberg II*
Joel & Brooke Heimbach
David & Vicki Heino
Butch & Judy Hills
Bernice Howard
Patrick & Valerie Hudgens
PER Greg & Sue Hudy
Tim & Sharon Hutchinson
Gerald & Carol James
Thomas & Louann Jobbitt
Randy & Bev Johnston
Dennis Kandler
Keith & Kimberly Kargol
Harvey & Carol Kecskes
Bob & Linda Kempf
Mike T. & Sandy Kerr
Michael D. & Robin Kerr
Bob & Jamie Kersten
Mike & Lanae Kettlewell
Lori Keyes-Vinckier
Connor Kilbourne
Daniel & Jennifer Kilbourne
Larry & Carol Klink
Loren & Jenni Klug
Jim Koob
Sandy & Erin Korich, Jr.
Pat Korth
Alan & Kim Krug
Sue Lamb
Mike Larzelere
Dave & Sandy Lashbrook*
Randy & Anne Lashbrook
Tim & JoAnn Linehan
Darin & Laura Magneson
Ken & Beth Mareski
PER David & PER Gail C. Marquis
Ted & Kelly Marsh
Carlo Massobrio
Nico Massobrio
Janet Maxwell
W. Jon May
Glen & Julie McCoy
Laurie McGee-Kowalski

Char McLelland
Buzz & Becky McNash
David McNash
Larry & Jane McPhedrain
Tim & Lori Meikle
Joseph Mericka
PER Marcus Middleton
Sherry Middleton
Joe Miller & Stacey Weston
Frank Mitchell
Pamela Moran
Ron & Patty Morden
Ryan & Kristin Morgan
Michael & Lisa Motte
Suzanne Mrozek
Jim & Carolyn Munro
George & Shelley Murdick
Paul & Janice Naz
ER Gary & Laura Nesbitt
Richard & Carole Nichols
Randy & Margo Nunez
Mike & Jill O'Connor
Patrick O'Flanagan
PER Marv Ohrling
Frederick & Therese Ongie
Gary & Penny Osburn
Kris & Sandra Overly
Patrick & Sally Patterson
PER Steve & Tammy Peters*
Deborah Porter
William Potthoff
Barbara Praet
Marty Prevost
Billy Pruett, Jr.
Ed & Danielle Quain
Sean & Kory Quain
Lee Reaume
John & Margaret Reed
Kevin & Kimberlee Renno
John & Denise Reno
David & Susan Repp
James & Celeste Repp
Carmella & Greg Robbins
Don & Dottie Robertson
John Robson
Bob Roth
David & Sally Rushing
David & Margaret Rushton
Ray & Sue Ruszczyński
Kurt & Amy Satryb
Eric & Mindy Saunders
Scott & Kimberly Scandalito
James & Judith Scohy
Margaret Schott
Deborah Seely
Mary Seely
Shannon Sepsey
Mary & Dave Sermo
Ian & Kelly Shaw
Scott Sheldon
Timothy & Linda Sheridan
David & Sarah Simpson
Mal & Rae Ann Smith
William & Tricia Smith
Sharon Snyder
Dennis Sox
Mike Sprague
Margaret St. John

Carl & Evie Stieler
Chad Stocker
Kevin Sturtz, Sr.
Mark Sturtz
Sylvia Szabla
Bob & Barb Tarsi
PER Scott Tatro
Ted & Marilyn Taylor
Steve & Cathy Tebay
Katherine Thompson
Thurs. Men's Pool League
Mike & Judy Toles
Jesse Torres Jr.
PER Paul Torres
Jon & Julie Tovarez
David & Laurie Vandenbossche
Mark & Lynn Ann Vandenbossche
Mark & Caryn VanderHeuvel
Donn & Desiree VanHuylenbrouck
Ron & Patti VanTreese
Joan Vercnocke
Dianne Weaver
Ryan & Stacey Welsner
Paul & Lori Wessel
Bob & Helen Weston
Penny White
Dan & Sue Wilhelm
Ken & Lynn Wilhelm
Tom & Kathie Wittliff
Richard Wyllie
Chuck & Judy Zimmer
Stephen & Rosemary Zimmer
Bob & Sharon Zmolik
Steven & Janet Zurick

**Your
Name
Could
Be Here!**

If there is an asterisk behind your name, your patronage is expiring. To become a NEW patron please fill out coupon below and turn in with your \$20. **THANKS!**

Expositor Patrons, submit by mail or drop off at Lodge with \$20

Name(s) _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Mail to: PH Elks Lodge, 3292 Beach Rd., Port Huron, MI 48060



CLUB 343 WAS ROCKING

The Club 343 committee had just a wonderful time last month, with over 125 people gathering to eat, drink and bet on their favorite Santa. We always come away from Club night with such a proud feeling to be part of such a wonderful caring and benevolent organization.

A big thank you to Paula McVety for finding the cute Christmas trees to decorate the tables at our gathering.

Club 343's members and their families raised over \$400 to donate to the PER Holiday Basket drive. Club Winners were: Bob Hamilton \$100, Bob Fritch \$75, Emily Bomer \$50, Becky & Steve Branch \$50 and the last club winner of the night was Sandy Lashbrook \$100. The \$25 Gift certificate to the Elk's lodge for food or drink went to Tim Meikle.

Share the Wealth Drawing winners were: Sandy Harder \$150, Mike Kerr \$100, Don Allen \$75, Kathy Duncan \$50 and Cindy Perkins \$50. Door prize winners were : Melissa Lieberman (snowman & pull tabs) David Sears (shovel & pull tabs) Rayann Smith-Poinsettia, Kathy Duncan- Christmas cactus, Brenda Stokan- Poinsettia. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on January 13th, 2024. Club 343 committee says, "Thank You" and remember CLUB 343 IS THE PLACE TO BE !

STATEMENT STUFFING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

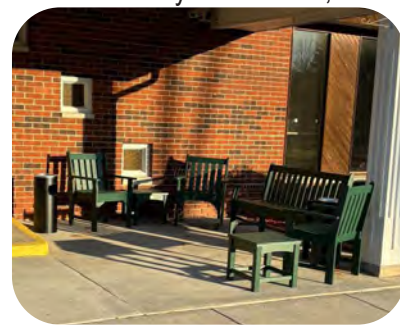
We will be stuffing the 2024-2025 Membership Dues Statements on Saturday, February 3rd at 9:00am in our Social Quarters. We have over 1000 Statements to mail, so, if anyone might have a couple of hours to spare in the morning . . . we could sure use your help again this year! Many Hands Make for Light Work Thank you! and Happy New Year!

810-982-8531 opt.2 Appreciate you! Sue

FLOWER COMMITTEE GIVES LODGE ENTRANCE A MAKEOVER!

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 main entrance has received a beautiful upgrade. Thanks to donations made by Ann DeBell, in honor of her late husband, long time Elk member Bill and our hard working volunteers of the Elks Lodge Flower Committee a few purchases were made.

Through their generosity, we've added a beautiful park bench, (3) patio chairs, (2) patio side tables and (2) outdoor ashtray, trash cans for our guest to use during an event. A beautiful improvement as you walk into our Lodge.



BEFORE - LEFT - AFTER - ABOVE

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE WEEKLY DOLLAR DRAW?

In case you haven't heard of the weekly Dollar Draw . . . to enter you pay \$1 and place your name on the Weekly Draw List hanging on the clipboard at the end of the downstairs Bar. You Must Enter Your Own Membership Number, No One Can Pay & Sign For You. Every Sunday at 11:00am a chip is draw with someone's membership number written on it. If you entered into the Draw AND your member number was drawn you win 75% of the pot. The other 25% goes to the Betterment Fund for the Lodge. If you did not enter that week, sorry, and the pot is added to the next week's draw. If the pot is not won prior to it reaching \$1000, that draw chips are pulled until a member wins. The key is to donate a dollar each week.

The Dollar Draw results for the past 4 weeks are: 11/19 #10460 Terry Thompson pot \$65 (not entered); 11/26 # 10912 Raymond Hill Jr pot \$90 (not entered); 12/3 #8738 Joe Mericka pot \$155 (not entered); 12/10 #10837 Michael Weber pot \$217 (not entered)

Will you be entered in the next Draw? Reminder: Each Member must enter your own \$1 and sign your own Name ONLY

Craft Show was a Success!

On November 18th the Port Huron Elks Lodge held its 9th annual Craft Show, and what a Show it was! We had approximately 950 attendees and many New Crafters! There was something for everyone, and sometimes too many choices to make (or not), if you know what we mean! Once again, we had so many of our Membership volunteer in so many ways! To the Craft Show Committee THANK YOU so much!! To Everyone who helped get the Craft Show Information out with an advertising yard sign at your home or Business; or hung a Craft Show Poster at your Business or place of employment, gave out the colored 4x6 colored fliers to friends, family, or co-workers, or passed the word by text, Facebook, or by the old-fashioned word of mouth, the Craft Show Committee Thanks You All! We couldn't be successful without each and every one of you helping the week before and the day of the Craft Show: (in no particular order) Thank You to Gary Nesbitt, Steve Peters, Dave Barber, Gary Niver, Bob Fritch, Gary Osburn for helping to move tables and chairs, as well as measuring and taping the floors. Brenda Fritch, Nancy Falk, Jane Dennis, Sandy Lashbrook, Sandy Gordon, Lori Allen, Penny Osburn, Gloria Traub, Bridget Smith, Jo Eisen, Sally Biernasz & grandson Liam, Charlene Biessel, Aliena Drummond, Halee Harwood, Greg Hudy, Alayna Hyslop Thank You All!!!

The Craft Show Committee made donations to:

- Elks Special Needs Adult Christmas Party \$300
- Young Marines of Marysville \$1000
- Tires and Treads \$500.

The Craft Show Committee is also looking to help donate towards replacing the rail along the sidewalk to the Handicap Entrance in Sylvie's. It won't be but a couple of months and we'll be planning for next year's show. Save the Date: November 23, 2024

2023 Craft Show Committee

Karen Barber, MaryFran Deachin, Sue Hudy, Carmella Robbins

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 held our annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 17th and it was a huge success with over 30 children in attendance. A coloring contest, Christmas craft making, face painting, Christmas music were the planned events. The children and families dined on Hot Dogs, Macaroni & Cheese, Potato Chips and soft drinks.

The party featured Santa and Santa's helper "Jingles the Elf" who paid a special visit with each child, while a present was waiting for them in the lodge Runyan room. Every table was set with placemat coloring pictures. The children had over 85 toys to choose from after meeting with Santa thanks to the Committee members, helpers, the generosity of DJ Westrick and our Elk membership through purchasing of the raffle tickets.



Raffle tickets for two Bicycles (boy and girl donated by Len & Kevin Balinski - Len's Pool & Spa Inc.), a Scooter, and the "Big" Red Stocking were sold. Proceeds from this raffle fund this annual event. Winners were Sue Hudy (boys bike), Randy Lashbrook (girls bike), Matt Peters (scooter), Jeanette Bennett (the BIG stocking).

A VERY SPECIAL thank you to Committee Chairs Tristin Balinski and Amber Garza! Also, thank you to Elks Lodge 343 members and helpers, Kevin Balinski, Brooke Nielsen, Daniel "DJ" Westrick, Marty Prevost, PER Bob & Brenda Fritch, PER Steve & Tammy Peters (Mac & Cheese), Jan Wyllie and Family (face painting), David Crimmins (Santa), Kaylee Harris (Jingles), Chef Rob & Amy Farrell (cooking hot dogs), Aliena Drummond & staff for event set up, and Melissa Lieberman for helping with the sale of (65) raffle tickets, along with everyone else who helped out behind the scenes, with this enjoyable children's event.



PHOTO ABOVE: "Volunteers with a Smile": Left to Right: Daniel Moore, Kaylee Harris (Jingles), David Crimmins (Santa), and Caroline Moore.

PHOTO RIGHT: Event Volunteers, Left to Right: Butch Hills, Sandy Hamilton, Lori Malinowski, Shelley Murdick, Caroline Moore, Judy Hills, Kaylee Harris (Jingles), Daniel Moore, and Donald Rutkofske.

SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 annual Special Needs Children & Adults Christmas Party took place on Sunday, December 10th. 32 guests arrived to enjoy a pizza luncheon, snacks and soft drinks. Each guest left the Christmas party with a special gift bag from Santa. Our guest enjoyed music & dancing, a visit, and a picture with Santa & Jingles the Elf and a relaxing afternoon. Everyone had a great time as always.

Thank you to Committee Chairs Butch & Judy Hills along with our event Volunteers, Donald Rutkofske (DJ), Lori Malinowski, Shelley Murdick, Sandy Hamilton, Daniel Moore, Caroline Moore, Kaylee Harris (Jingles), and David Crimmins (Santa). Also a big thank you to David Crimmins, Paul Torres, Rich Nichols & Aliena Drummond for setting up the room and dance floor. I have to say we sure missed our Elk Brother Otis Watson, as he loved helping out at this event.



VETERANS CORNER #37

Throughout this past month of November, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans committee started another Lodge 343 tradition by honoring our Veteran members with setting a separate POW/MIA table of honor "A Place Setting for One, a Table for ALL" in recognition of our prisoners of war and missing comrades in our Lodge Social Quarters. The idea of a table of honor was put in place at the end of the Vietnam War. Each item has a separate meaning while representing a table for one. The small table is set for one, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner. The table is round, showing our everlasting concern for our POW/MIA's. The cloth is white, symbolizing the purity of our men and women's motives when answer the call to duty. The single red rose, reminding us of the lives of these men and women, their loved ones and friends who keep the faith, while seeking answers. The red ribbon symbolizes our continued determination to account for them. A slice of lemon, reminds us of the bitter fate of those missing, captured and held as prisoners in foreign lands. A pinch of salt symbolizes the tears of our missing and their families who long for answers after decades of uncertainty. The Holy Bible, represents the strength gained through faith in our country, founded as one nation under God, to sustain those lost from our midst. The candle is reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home. The glass is inverted to symbolize their inability to share this evening's toast. The chair is empty, they are missing and please remember their service and sacrifice. Let us honor America's POW/MIA's and encourage our government to undertake successful efforts to account for them.



On another note, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, Clawson/Troy Elks Lodge 2169, and Elks National Veterans Service Commission (ENVSC) monthly \$25.00, (2) free gas gift cards "give-a-way" program drawing took place on Monday, November 20th, as local retired US Army Veteran, Hans Locher (photo left) drew the two lucky local Veterans. This month's winning tickets belong to Robert Buffington, USMC and Richard Rouillard, USMC. The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097.

To our Veterans of Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, along with our newly initiated Veteran members, to please consider sending your Military Service story to Scott R. Harris PER, DVP, ENVSC VAVS Rep at scottharris55@comcast.net for a future Veterans Corner publication.

HOW WE RECEIVED OUR ELKS

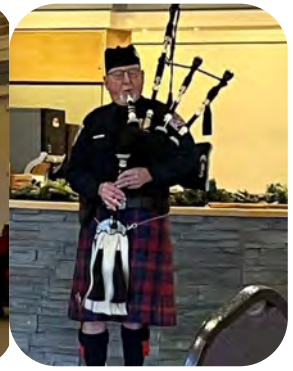
In honor of our dear friend Jeff Bennett who passed on November 21, 2023, at the age of 62. I'd like to share the story as to how the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 were able to acquire the two beautiful bronze Elks statues from Jeff & Brigitte Bennett. Jeff, who has Elk family members, shared this story on August 19, 2022. Jeff was so happy the Elk statues would be a showcase piece for our Lodge, our membership, guests, and the community would be able to enjoy them for years to come. The Past Exalted Rulers purchased the Elks statues on Friday, August 19th in Marysville and they were relocated to their place of honor on the Elk Lodge 343 grounds on August 24, 2022. Jeff was happy to assist the PER's with the move, placement, as we all enjoyed his company that day, as much as he enjoyed seeing them placed in the "perfect spot!" Rest in peace Jeff, God bless your soul.

In Jeff's own words: "My wife, Brigitte and I were living in Morrison, Colorado and were on our way home from spending the day in Denver. As we were driving up Highway 285, we came across what was always a vacant lot, but on this day, it was filled with these big, majestic bronze animal statues. Bear, Eagles, Moose, Horses, and of course, Elks. We stopped by and spoke with the gentleman that was selling them. He was from Texas and four times a year he and his crew drove these statues up to Colorado. He said they always sell quite well in Colorado, especially to folks living in the mountains. We fell in love with these two Elks, but upon hearing the price, we decided it was a bit too steep, even though we knew they would look great in our yard. The next day, Brigitte told me to hook up our trailer because she had a surprise for me. Unbeknownst to me, she had called him and bought the two Elk for me, for our 30th wedding anniversary! When we decided to move back to Michigan at the end of 2015, we strapped them up once again to my trailer and drove them all the way from Colorado to Michigan. They received quite a bit of attention from all the other highway travelers and got their pictures taken by more than 100 people when we stopped for rest periods. Now Brigitte and I are relocating to California and these road weary Elks want to find a permanent home. They have provided us much joy over the past 8 years, and now we hope these beautiful Elks will continue to bring joy to your Elks Lodge and the community!"



Jeff Bennett with his Elks

Fridays are Membership Drive Nights . . . If you can't be at the Lodge, please take a minute to mention the Elks to your Family and Friends!



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Officers and Past Exalted Rulers assisted with our annual Elks Memorial Service honoring the Elk Members we've lost during the last 12 months. This remembrance takes place Nationwide within Elksdom on the first Sunday of every December, with our service beginning at 2:00 pm.

PER Gerald W. Goodwin present our nations flag, as David Barber "pipes" the Funeral March as the Officers enter. Exalted Ruler Gary Nesbitt begins our Memorial service. Cliff Erickson performs "Send out thy Light". PER Gregory C. Hudy announces the names of our deceased members as Joe Miller & David Vandebossche honor the members with a lite candle and chair covering black cloth. 17 Departed Elk Members are honored. PER Scott R. Harris had the honor to provide the Eulogy. PER Scott Perkins had the honor to present the Eleven O'clock Toast. Thank you to to all who helped by providing your talents during this very solemn and moving service. Thank you to Elks Member Susan Hudy for providing the Memorial service flier.

Our Memorial Service has concluded as the Lodge Officers and Past Exalted Rulers file out carrying the Flag of our Nation. Our departed brothers and sisters are:

Frederick L. Green	6632
William S. Philp	7483
Robert D. Goodman	7560
Thomas H. Lilburn	8731
James C. Acheson	7443
Lyle L. Barnes	9822
James E. Munro	7856
Ronald Houle, Jr.	10204
Dennis Genaw, Sr.	10247

Shirley A. Seely	11023
Daniel R. Frizzle	8897
Brian D. Seely	8546
James A. McGuigan	9467
Phillip Anthony Piotter	11196
Joseph M. Falk	10709
Charles R. Kott	7673
Anthony Richards	6306

The Memorial "To Our Absent Members"



If you would like the name of your loved one added, please complete the form provided and forward it with your check in the amount of \$125 to:

PER Steve Peters, c/o Elks Lodge #343
3292 Beach Road, Port Huron, MI 48060

To have a name put on the monument, the member must have been a member in "good Standing" at Port Huron Lodge #343 at time of death. If you have any questions, please contact PER Steve Peters at 810-982-8531

The Memorial "To Our Absent Members"

Name of Remitter _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Address _____

Name and Date of Death to be engraved on monument: Please Print

Signature of Remitter _____

Date submitted _____

We Need Your Help to Help Others! **DONATE TODAY!**



**Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.**

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 membership and families, we are looking for your support. We are asking for your help through your monetary donations towards our Elks National Foundation (ENF) Community Investments Programs (CIP).

What is ENF you ask? It's an Elk program which gives back to our main Charities: College Scholarships, Veterans, Children, Special Needs Children & Adults, Families in need, all within our local communities. With the help of your donation, \$5, \$10 or more, we can then apply for ENF-CIP Grants awarded value from \$500 to \$20,000 which our Lodge will use locally, here in our own community. Please find it in your heart, to Help us, Help others.

As of May, 2023, due to the generosity of our Elks Lodge 343 membership in 2022, we applied for and have received \$12,000 in Grants to our Lodge. We have assisted Mid-City Nutrition-Soup Kitchen, SCC Dept. of Veterans Affairs, St. John's United Church of Christ, SOS Food Pantry, not to mention being able to host the Veterans "PACT ACT" Resource Fair at our Lodge 343 with the ENVSC Veterans Boost Grant.

MAJOR PROJECTS & GOLD KEY


Pennies...Nickels...Dimes...Quarters!
They even take Dollar Bills and checks!

Let's show that we care here in Lodge 343.
Let's start off the new year right by having every member fill a pink bank or the really cool new Gold Key banks.

Our \$change WILL be a Change for special needs children and adults in Michigan! Whether you have a favorite or want to donate to both, any and all help will make a difference in a special needs child/adult life.

Port Huron Elks 343...
LET'S DO THIS FOR THE THEM!!

Remember that any of these donations are still a tax deduction!

 Elks National Foundation		CHECK ONE <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.				
Last Name First Name Middle Initial Title Birthday						
Street Address						
City		State		Zip Code		Phone Number
Lodge Name		State				
Lodge No.		Mem. No.				
Donor I.D.						
Favorite ENF program: <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships <input type="checkbox"/> Hoop Shoot <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Awareness <input type="checkbox"/> State Grants <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans <input type="checkbox"/> Community Investments		Please send me reminders: <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to send a tribute of: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of _____ Notification of gift should be sent to: Name: _____ Address: _____				
Sign me up for Pulse, the ENF's email newsletter Email Address: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to make a monthly donation to ENF by: <input type="checkbox"/> Charging my credit card the agreed monthly amount of \$ _____ (Enter card information below). <input type="checkbox"/> Drafting my bank account monthly. (Please enclose a voided check for accuracy). Bank Draft Date <input type="checkbox"/> 15th <input type="checkbox"/> 25th of the month. Monthly Draft Amount \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have enclosed a check. Please make checks payable to: Elks National Foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my credit card: Visa MC AmEx Discover Account No. _____ Your Signature: _____ Expiration Date: _____				
Return completed form to: Port Huron Elks Lodge ENF Donation 3292 Beach Road Port Huron, MI 48060						

BLOOD DRIVE UPDATES

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, 56th & 57th consecutive Blood drives were held in November & December. With our Membership and Community donations the American Red Cross collected 74 total units of blood. Lodge 343 is celebrating our 10th year of support, helping the American Red Cross, since January 7, 2013. To date Lodge 343 has assisted in providing over 244 Gallons of Blood to the American Red Cross, providing the "Gift of Life". Please consider registering today at <https://www.redcross.org>.

**Ladies Pool League
Drop-in 6pm
All ladies welcome.
\$10 per player.**

Payouts for 1st & 2nd places. Drop in Pool.....
No registration required!

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ELK MEMBERS CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN

Legacy Awards are \$4,000 scholarships available to children and grandchildren of Elks members. The 2024 application closes on February 5, 2024 at 11:59 a.m. PST.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

For the 2024 contest, any child or grandchild (or step-child, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2021, or a charter member of a Lodge that was instituted on or after April 1, 2021, is eligible to apply. The Elk must also be a paid-up member through March 31, 2024. Great-grandchildren are not eligible.

The applicant must be a high school senior.

The applicant must apply online only. The 2024 Legacy Awards application deadline is February 5, 2024, 11:59 a.m. Pacific Time. If the applicant's parent and grandparent are both Elk members, the applicant must apply through the parent's Elks Lodge.

We have waived the standardized test requirement for the 2024 Legacy contest. You do not need to submit ACT and/or SAT scores.

Students may apply for more than one ENF scholarship; however, they may win only one. In cases where the student wins more than one, we will award the scholarship with the greater value. Students can accept local and state scholarships, which are separate from the awards at the national level.

Legacy Awards may only be applied to accredited US American schools, colleges or universities. (Note: Applicants from Guam, Panama, Puerto Rico and the Philippines may apply Legacy Awards toward schools, colleges or universities in their respective homes.)

If you are selected as a 2024 Legacy Awards recipient, you will be required to perform three instances of service with an Elks Lodge during the four years you are receiving the scholarship.

**GO TO: <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/Legacy.cfm>
TO LEARN MORE!**

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed here at the Elks Lodge!

Whether you only have an hour or want to do more we can ALWAYS use the help. Ask about all the different committees we have, find one that interests you and join THE FUN!



*'This is an Association for
Individuals Who Are Serious
about Becoming Successful Landlords*

Port Huron Area
LANDLORD ASSOC.COM

VACANCY LISTINGS
WWW.PHALA.NET



Elks Never Forget

**We wear red on Fridays
until they all come home.**

Community • Friendship • Charity 



Since 1973 • 50 Years of Service

Len's
POOL & SPA

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

TRISTIN BALINSKI
Sales Manager &
Accounts Receivable
tbalinski923@gmail.com

(810) 388-1821
Fax: (810) 388-1823

641 S. Range Road
St. Clair, MI 48079

LensPoolAndSpa.com



GRANT SMITH INSURANCE AGENCY

2916 Pine Grove Ave. Port Huron, MI
www.grantsmith.com
(810) 984-1373

HEALTH INSURANCE

GRANT SMITH
Insurance Agency
984-1373

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR EXPOSITOR SPONSORS AS THEY SUPPORT US!



Kearns Agency

INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE

1101 PINE GROVE • PORT HURON
(810) 987-3330
kearnsagencymi.com



HURON
TITLE COMPANY

Locally Owned and Operated Since
1982

Do Business with your
Friends & Neighbors

330 Michigan Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
810-987-2141
1-800-878-4853
Fax 810-987-1317
www.hurontitle.com

Michael J. Whaling
President
Patricia J. Morden
Vice President

"The Problem Solvers"

"Come see the gals!"
FLOORING EDGE
5139 LAPEER RD., KIMBALL, MI 48074
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
CARPET - HARDWOOD - VINYL - TILE - WINDOW TREATMENTS
www.flooringedge.com **810.982.3343**
CANDACE "CANDY" EDGERTON
OWNER/COMMERCIAL ESTIMATOR
SALES@FLOORINGEDGE.COM

The Local Online Magazine:

**Blue Water
Healthy Living**

"The Heart & Soul of the Blue Water Area"

www.BlueWaterHealthyLiving.com



Video Production

Commercials, Corporate, Training & Event Videos

- Reliable - Affordable - Professional

www.GBSMediaPro.com (810) 984-2773
2938 Pine Grove Ave. Port Huron, MI 48060

DEPENDABLE
HEATING AND COOLING

2302 WADHAMS ROAD
KIMBALL, MI 48074
(810) 987-9549 FAX (810) 987-4721
WEB SITE: dependableheat-cool.com

Chuck Finnie - Owner
Pat Finnie - Owner




Torres
Tax & Accounting
Services, LLC
Paul Torres
Paul Torres

St. Clair "We Care"

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

Dave Abou-Ganim
OWNER/OPERATOR
810-329-2100
dabouganim@wecarechrysler.com

www.WeCareStClair.com • FAX 810-329-3903



PER TOM & JERRY PARTY

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Past Exalted Rulers (PER) association held our annual Tom & Jerry party and Santa Races, which coincided with our Club 343 monthly drawings last evening.

The lower level Social Quarters was packed as 343 Committee Co-Chair, Penny Osburn counted 126 members & guests just before the Club 343 drawings began. Over \$400.00 was collected in Tom & Jerry drink sales, tips and monetary donations towards the PER "Baskets for the Needy" collection program. To top off the evening, Chef Rob Farrell's prime rib dinner was absolutely fantastic!

Thank you to our generous Club 343 committee, who also donated their portion of the "Share the Wealth" raffle, over \$400.00, to the program. These totals and the PER's share of "Santa Races" revenue pushed our grand total to just over \$1,000.00 for the evening. A truly charitable event.

Lodge 343 Elk Members and families continued to donate Hams, Turkeys, canned goods, dry goods, and many other non perishable items throughout the evening. The PER's plan will to inventory and prepare the "Baskets" this Tuesday evening, for our delivery on Saturday the 16th. Donations will graciously be accepted all week.

Paul Torres PER made the Tom & Jerry mixture, Bob Fritch PER assisted Paul with the drink sales. Steve Peters, PER and Gary Nesbitt, ER oversaw the nine Santa races. First Lady, Laura Nesbitt, and former First Lady's, Brenda Fritch and Tammy Peters received the race bets and handed out the payouts to winners. PER's Joe Barbe, and Greg Hudy assisted everyone throughout the evening.

The "Baskets for the Needy" tables of donated goods, along with one freezer, are full, as well as our hearts! As always the membership of Lodge 343 proves once again, Elks Care ~ Elks Share!



PER BASKETS FOR THE NEEDY

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Past Exalted Rulers Association provided assistance to sixty (60) families through our annual "Basket for the Needy" program this Holiday season. Lodge 343 Volunteers for distribution of baskets were, PER's Gregory C. Hudy, Robert J. Fritch, Steven M. Peters, Gerald W. Goodwin, and Exalted Ruler Gary Nesbitt. Along with the help of Vinckier Foods in Wadhams, Tammy Peters, Sue Hudy, Mike Adamkiewicz, David Crimmins, Secretary Joe Miller, Stacey Weston, Loyal Knight John Cuthbertson, Trustee Gary Osburn, Tiler Penny Osburn, Blake Dove and the Lodge 343 staff. These Volunteers organized and put together 60 full baskets, which included a Turkey or Ham, 5 lbs. of Potatoes, a loaf of bread, many canned and boxed goods, a cooking pan in a laundry basket for delivery on December 16th. A very special thank you to ALL the Elks Lodge 343 Members, too many to name, whose generosity came through once again with donated hams, turkeys, canned goods, dry goods, and miscellaneous food products or assisted financially, while bringing a smile too so many this Holiday Season. Pictured above from left to right: Needy food baskets ready to go; PER Steven M. Peters and grandson Blake loaded; Stacy Weston & Lodge Treasurer Joe Miller packed up and ready to go; Pastor Jeff King received (10) baskets to distribute to the Station Wesleyan Church congregation standing with Elk Member David Crimmins

2023-24 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler.....Gary L. Nesbitt II
 Esteemed Leading Knight.....John Cuthbertson
 Esteemed Loyal Knight.....PER Greg Shannon DVC
 Esteemed Lecturing KnightJohn Woolman IV
 Esquire.....Lisa Haremza
 Chaplain.....David Vandenbossche
 Tiler..... Penny J. Osburn
 Inner Guard.....Tracey Cameron
 Secretary.....PER Gregory C. Hudy
 & District 4200 Esquire
 Treasurer.....Joe D. Miller

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PER Gerald W. Goodwin

TRUSTEES

Gary A. Osburn • Shawn N. Eagle • PER Gerald W. Goodwin • Stephen J. Tebay • Jerry J. Thibodeau Sr.

GOLF COMMITTEE

Butch Hills (Chairman) • Mike Falter • Karl Livingston
 Hans Medina • Randy Johnston • Shawn Eagle

P.E.R. ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2023-24

PresidentRobert J. Fritch PER
 Vice PresidentSteven M. Peters PER
 Secretary/Treasurer Gregory C. Hudy PER

METRO DISTRICT 4200 CHAIRMAN - GOLD KEY

PER Greg C. Hudy, District 4200 Esquire

ELKS NAT'L VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OFFICERS

Scott R. Harris, PER, DVP - ENVSC Representative
 Stephen J. Tebay - ENVSC Deputy Representative



GO TO FACEBOOK.COM
 FOR ALL THE LATEST
 UPDATES
PHElksLodge343
PortHuronElksBanquets
pheklslodge343GolfClub

Elk of the Year

Susan J. Hudy

Officer of the Year

Shawn N. Eagle

Outstanding Elks Members

Mark J. Howard

Eugene "Butch" Hills

Citizen of the Year

Laura Nesbitt

Sweetheart of Elksdom

Sonya Willett-Snellenberger

Couples of the Year

Gary & Penny Osburn

Elks Youth Recognition

Alayna Hyslop

Lyndsie Cameron

Jim Goodrich Lifetime

Achievement Award

Mark Pringle

Our Sponsor of the Month



Sandy Gordon - Realtor

HOME TO SELL?
 LOOKING FOR YOUR
 PERFECT HOME?
 I Can Help You!

CALL TODAY! 810.531.5305



Port Huron Elks Lodge No. 343
 3292 Beach Road
 Port Huron, MI 48060

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT #343
 PORT HURON, MI

JANUARY 2024

**KITCHEN & BAR
 HOURS: Subject to change**

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! BAR OPEN 4-9PM	2 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED Blanket Making 1-3pm	3 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm LADIES DROP-IN POOL YOGA 4-5pm	4 Bar 3pm-midnight Kitchen 4pm-9pm MENS POOL LEAGUE	5 Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 3pm-8pm	6 Bar noon-11pm Kitchen noon-8pm
7 Bar noon-8pm Kitchen noon-6pm	8 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED	9 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED Blanket Making 1-3pm	10 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm LADIES DROP-IN POOL Initiation/Ldg Mig 6pm YOGA 4-5pm	11 Bar 3pm-midnight Kitchen 4pm-9pm MENS POOL LEAGUE	12 Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm	13 Bar noon-11pm Kitchen noon-8pm CLUB 343
14 Bar noon-8pm Kitchen noon-6pm	15 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED	16 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED Blanket Making 1-3pm	17 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm LADIES DROP-IN POOL Brd of Dir. Mtg 6:30pm YOGA 4-5pm	18 Bar 3pm-midnight Kitchen 4pm-9pm MENS POOL LEAGUE	19 Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm	20 Bar noon-11pm Kitchen noon-8pm 2ND ANNUAL WILD GAME DINNER
21 Bar noon-8pm Kitchen noon-6pm	22 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED	23 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED Blanket Making 1-3pm	24 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm LADIES DROP-IN POOL Lodge Meeting 6:30pm YOGA 4-5pm	25 Bar 3pm-midnight Kitchen 4pm-9pm MENS POOL LEAGUE	26 Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm	27 Bar noon-11pm Kitchen noon-8pm
28 Bar noon-8pm Kitchen noon-6pm	29 CLOSED BLOOD DRIVE 12-5:45pm	30 Bar & Kitchen CLOSED Blanket Making 1-3pm	31 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen 4pm-8pm LADIES DROP-IN POOL YOGA 4-5pm			

Upcoming Events: 2/3 - Membership Dues Stmt's stuffing
 2/9 - Daddy/Daughter Dance; 2/16 - Meat Bingo
 2/24 - Murder Mystery Dinner

Check out our website at:

pheklslodge343.com