



Towson Lodge 469

# The Bugle



MARCH 2023

“It’s good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end.” Earnest Hemingway

At the beginning of the Elk Year, I charged our Board of Officers with creating personal goals and established that the leadership team is responsible for helping each other achieve those goals through inspiration, insight, and assistance however needed to ensure success. As such, you saw some new programs develop, while bringing back your favorites. These efforts include: updating the lodge appearance including a new lounge area in the bar accompanied with fresh paint and lighting, the flooring project, My Cozy Corner, Paul’s Place Clothing Drive, new security system, holiday parties, Preakness Party, Craft Fair, Foodies Night Out, Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner, Giving Tree, Towson Elks Give Locally, dinner service, live music, Wine and Dine for Warriors, and so much more!

The Towson Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is steeped in tradition. I am so proud of the efforts that all of our volunteers and members put forth in order to maintain the integrity of the lodge, all the while adapting to change. Change isn’t easy, and it is not always welcome, but as a whole we have grown to accept that there are times that we need to adapt in order to continue thriving. We’re in a fortunate position within all of Elkdom to continue to grow our membership, while other lodges struggle. I believe that is because we have a membership that strives to not only maintain our traditions, but is also flexible and willing enough to tweak things along the way in order to maintain relevancy.

I wish all the very best for the incoming Board of Officers and Board of Trustees. They’ve got some exciting things planned and I can’t wait to see how they keep things going! In order to let the good times continue to roll, they’re going to need help from all of you. Want to give but you don’t know how? Volunteer for dinner service, an event, or join a committee. Come to a meeting to find out what’s going on behind the scenes—every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (it’s not just for officer, and they’re not that bad to sit through...no, really!). We would love to have you

join us in helping our lodge maintain its awesomeness!

As my journey as your Exalted Ruler comes to an end, I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness, love, and support. We had a very successful year. I am proud of all the outstanding work that has been done for our community and our membership...and I couldn’t have done any of it without you all being there to help along the way.

See ya at the lodge,  
**Stacey Peto**

Exalted Ruler

### LODGE OFFICERS 2022-2023

Exalted Ruler	Stacey Peto	602-228-7443
Leading Knight	Chris O'Connell	443-465-7987
Loyal Knight	Matt Hall	443-388-7106
Lecturing Knight	Andrew Rowan	314-795-9359
Secretary	Steve Gabis	443-299-9967
Treasurer	John Wontrop, PER	410-592-7062
Esquire	Andy Stilling	410-241-3422
Tiler	Betsy Wittelsberger	410-440-3840
Chaplain	Valerie Spangler	410-812-2013
Presiding Justice	Glen Lazzaro	410-242-1449
Inner Guard	Tricia Trikeriotis	410-937-2679
1 Year Trustee	Andy Pusloskie	443-250-6708
2 Year Trustee	Mark Merrick	410-365-9946
3 Year Trustee	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
4 Year Trustee	Richard Hurd	410-303-4163
5 Year Trustee	Larry Smith	410-591-0246

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

501©3 Charity Fund	John M. Wontrop, PER	410-592-7062
Accident Prevention	Andy Pusloskie	443-250-6708
Activities Chairman	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
Americanism	Andy Stilling	410-241-3422
Auditor	Lisa Sparks	443-632-8170
Bingo	Mary Wontrop	443-465-4058
Building Maintenance	Richard Hurd	410-303-4163
Bylaws	Steve Gabis	443-299-9967
Camp Barrett	Andrew Rowan	314-795-9359
Charitable Contributions	Bryan Mager	410-977-7792
Drug Awareness	Chris O'Neil	443-829-7185
ENF	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
Entertainment Chair (Music)	Joe Olmedo	410-960-0842
Flag Day	Matt Hall	443-388-7106
Fourth of July	Chris O'Connell	443-465-7987
Golf/Fundraiser	Bob Cwalina	443-465-4291
Historian	Brian Keelty	410-821-6786
Hoop Shoot	Pete Cline, PER	410-371-2232
Indoctrination	Pat Riley	443-465-3916
Inner & Intra Activities	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
Lapsation	Ray Der, PER	410-236-8774
Mediator	Michael Lawlor	410-494-1800
Member Investigations	Nick Giangrasso	410-800-6935
Membership	Pat Riley	443-465-3916
National Foundation	John Wontrop, PER	410-592-7062
Newsletter	Stacey Peto	602-228-7443
Newsletter	Donna Murphy	410-917-9448
Public Relations	Jimmy Bullington	443-286-2731
Queen of Hearts	Elizabeth Davidson	443-791-2429
Scholarships	Sean Priest	860-951-6579
Towson Elks Give Locally	Carla Merrick	443-465-3525
Youth Activities	Pete Cline, PER	410-371-2232
Vegas Night	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
Veterans Service	Brendan Harthausen	443-465-7693
Volunteer Coordinator	Valerie Spangler	410-812-2013
Web & Social Media Co-Coordinator	Patrick Sullivan, PER	443-286-5798
Web & Social Media Co-Coordinator	Stacey Peto	602-228-7443

### LIVING PAST EXALTED RULERS

Robert A Ruhl	1968-1969	Richard A McAllister Jr	2007-2008
Lloyd Elliot	1972-1973	Jay V Strong Jr	2008-2009
Robert A Ruhl	1976-1977	Roger J Delp	2009-2010
Philip A Schoenberger	1980-1981	Devin A Foggo	2011-2012
James A Gede Sr	1984-1985	Ronald J Blachowicz	2012-2013
James A Gede Sr	1985-1986	Ray Der	2013-2014
Thomas J Michels	1986-1986	John M Wontrop	2014-2015
Ralph E. Patterson	1990-1991	John J Morton	2016-2017
Joseph D Michel	1991-1992	Patrick Sullivan	2017-2018
Michael E Ward	1994-1995	Jeff Rogyom	2018-2019
Thomas A Keller	1994-1995	Pete Cline	2020-2021
Christian H Rose	1995-1996	Ron Zepp	2021-2022
Dwaine N Garber	2000-2001		
Gerald D Mastropieri	2003-2004		
James A Jenkins	2004-2005		
Michael S Perry	2006-2007		

### Elk of the Month

A lot goes on behind the scenes to keep our wonderful lodge up and running. One of the Superheroes that ensures that our business sides is on the "Up and Up" with Uncle Sam stands out as our Elk of the Month. Thank you, Billy Lewis, for being generous with your time, and ensuring that our doors stay open every day as our lodge finance expert. We are grateful for all you do for our lodge!



## Queen of Hearts

Saturday at Seven

One winner every week, has the chance to win big!

3 chances for \$5

Tickets are on sale every day the lodge is open.



Scan Me to get a direct link to our website.

### LODGE HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY – THURSDAY 12 PM - MIDNIGHT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 12 PM - 1 AM / SUNDAY 12 PM TO 8 PM

Lodge telephone number: 410.296.4690 • Fax 410.583.5295

Lodge Address: 4 W. Pennsylvania Ave Towson, MD 21204

*Towson Elks Give Locally in March to:*



BALTIMORE COUNTY  
**Police Assistance  
& Relief Fund**

**Our mission**

**WE SUPPORT ACTIVE-DUTY MEMBERS OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT WHO, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, FIND THEMSELVES DEALING WITH UNRECOVERABLE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.**

**Support Those Who Serve**

Your Donation to the PAR Fund is a wonderful way to show your appreciation for the difficult work and dedication our heroes in blue perform.

*Ask your bartender to ADD \$1 or more to Elks Give Locally*

Have you seen the, “Add \$1” signs around the lodge? What’s THAT all about? It’s a reminder to participate in the easiest way that you can give to our featured monthly charity. How does it work? Just ask the bartender to add at least \$1 to your tab, and she’ll give you a card to post on our light-up board as a “Thank you!” Don’t forget to Add \$1

*Elks Care, Elks Share*

**Elks Care, Elks Share: Charitable Contributions for January & February 2023**

Board of Child Care	\$100
Kay’s Kaps	\$100
Police Assistance & Relief Fund of Baltimore County	\$100
Bright Minds Foundation	\$ 50
Special Olympics-Polar Bear Plunge	\$100
Down Syndrome Association of Maryland	\$100
Student Support Network, Inc.	\$100
Immaculate Conception School	\$250
<b>Total Donated by Towson Lodge #469 Members:</b>	
	<b>\$900.00</b>

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**Remember when...?**

I was asked to write about why I enjoy coming to the lodge. However, let me start by saying that in my 75 years, I have belonged to many groups and organizations. None have moved me to stay. That is until I became an elk. Therefore, what is unique about the Towson Elks Lodge? A diverse group of people, both young and old who not only party hardy, but are both generous with their time and money to do good works for our community, Veterans, and youth. That alone gives me great joy and hope.

Maybe some will find it hokey, but one of the things that I find meaningful are the ceremonies that go back to Victorian times. Be it the 11 O’clock Toast, the Empty Chair, or our Memorial Ceremonies. I find them both touching and meaningful. Therefore, I hope to go to my grave an Elk, and I hope there will be Elks there to toast and remember me.

Andy Pusloskie, Head Trustee

**ST. PATRICK’S DAY  
CELEBRATION**

**Food \* Music \* Shenanigans**



**ROB’S O’ SO GOOD CORNED BEEF  
STARTS @ NOON**



**Live Music with Andy Bopp Duo**

**3-7pm**



**Towson Elks Lodge #469**  
 In the heart of Towson  
 Since 1899

Towson Elks Lodge #469  
 Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks  
 4 West Pennsylvania Avenue  
 Towson, Maryland 21204  
[www.towsonelks.org](http://www.towsonelks.org)

**Dated Material**

**Please Deliver By March 1st**

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U.S. Postage PAID  
 Baltimore, MD  
 Permit No. 5688

## ***SCHEDULE OF EVENTS***

LODGE MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 7PM ON THE 2<sup>nd</sup> AND 4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.

JULY, AUGUST AND DECEMBER MEETINGS ARE THE 2<sup>nd</sup> TUESDAY ONLY

Date	Day	Event	Time
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday	Dinner & Live Music TBD	7 PM
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Dinner & Radio Religion	7 PM
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Early Bird Beef & Beer @1PM (Pay your dues on or before March 11th to Qualify!)		
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Bingo & Food Specials	7:30 PM
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	St. Patrick's Day Rob's O' So Good Corned Beef Live Music with Andy Bopp Duo	Starts@ 12 Noon 3-7 PM
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Friday	Dinner & Anna Marie Acoustic	7 PM
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday	Officer Installation	11 AM

Subject to change. The most current and up to date Events will be posted online and in the Lodge.  
 Food and Drink information will be posted online



Visit us on facebook

All members must sign their guests into the lodge .  
 Exceptions: Spouses and family members under 21