

Hilltop Hospitality Newsletter



Lodge #2277

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westminstrelkslodge2277@gmail.com

Chartered in 1963

August September 2025

A Message from the Exalted Ruler - Brendan Hopkins

Dear Members,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the summer season!

I recently had the privilege of attending the Elks Grand Lodge Session in Kansas City, Missouri, affectionately known as the City of Fountains. It was an inspiring experience that deepened my appreciation for what it means to be an Elk. I left with a renewed sense of purpose and pride in the work we do, not only here in Westminster, but as part of a nationwide organization.

Serving as your Exalted Ruler has been an honor, and I truly cherish the opportunity to represent our lodge and serve our community. At the Grand Lodge, I had the chance to meet with Exalted Rulers from all over the country. In those conversations, one thing became very clear, we are doing something special here in Westminster. Our commitment to service, community, is second to none.

Over the two days, I attended numerous breakout sessions. These sessions opened my eyes to new ways we can further our mission and reach more people in need. What stood out to me most was how small financial contributions, paired with even modest commitments, can make a huge impact. All possible at our lodge, thanks to you; our dedicated members, the true driving force behind our lodge.

At the beginning of my term, I emphasized the importance of honoring our past by reviving some of the lodge traditions that had fallen by the wayside. I'm pleased to report that our bi-weekly specials are thriving, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to everyone who helped bring them back. If you haven't tried them, you're missing out! If you have ideas for future specials, please don't hesitate to share, we want your input.

We've also launched our new loyalty program "Elks Inner Circle" a way to give back to those who give so much to the lodge. The more you participate and support the lodge, the more you earn, up to a \$500 gift card! It's our way of saying thank you and making your membership even more rewarding. Ask an employee how you can join today!

As we continue to enjoy the beautiful summer weather, I encourage you to take full advantage of our back patio and bar area. It's been a hub of activity with events like Friday Night Cornhole, Cigar Club, and live music performed by our own talented members. We have many events planned through the rest of the year; get up from that barstool, introduce yourself to a new member, and join the fun!

Remember, no one person can run this lodge or carry its legacy alone. We're in this together. Spread the Elks message, bring a friend, recruit a family member, and help us grow. Together, we'll keep Westminster Elks #2277 a pillar of community and service.



Exalted Ruler Brendan Hopkins 240-393-1054	Secretary Junior Davidson PER, PDDGER, PSP 443-375-7168	Board of Trustees Tom Anderson 1 Year
Esteemed Leading Knight Christy Landsman 443-375-7129	Tiler James Wyman	Andrew Dean 2 Year
Esteemed Loyal Knight Peggy Markovic 443-604-5521	Inner Guard MaryEllen Miller 410-596-2677	Sharon Hinton PER 3 Year
Esteemed Lecturing Knight Paul Tribles 443-414-3867	Chaplain Joe Lewis 717-634-0140	Keith Reed 4 Year
Esquire Patrick Jacobs	Presiding Justice Hon. Haven N. Shoemaker, Jr., Esq.	Tom Hayes 5 Year
Treasurer James Jaderborg 410-790-8627		West District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Gordon Hinton PER

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Secretary's Notes

Notice: Make sure your contact information is up to date. This includes your address, phone number and email. If you have a change, please contact the Secretary, by email (Elks2277@gmail.com) or call the Lodge (410-848-2277).

Dues Notice have been mailed for the next Lodge year April 1, 2025, thru March 31, 2026.

Regular Members' dues are \$105.25, and Life Members' dues are \$63.25. If you have not received your notice, you can mail a check to the Lodge or pay in person at the Lounge.

New Life Membership requirements were approved by the membership in attendance at the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta. They are 30 years total as an Elk, no age limit, and a member in good standing. You need to fill out a Life member application and return it to the Secretary to become a life member at which time your request will be balloted upon at a regular Lodge Meeting.

Reminder: There is a \$10 fee for all key cards that have been lost or broken.

Elks Membership/Lapsation Report Westminster, MD Lodge 2277	
Beginning Membership Total 4/1/2025:	511
Increases	
Initiated:	23
Affiliated:	0
Reinstated:	0
Subtotal:	23
Decreases	
Dropped:	0
Transferred Out:	1
Absolute Dinit:	0
Deaths:	2
Expelled:	0
Subtotal:	3
Calculated Membership Total:	531
CLMS Active Members:	531
Average Age:	64.56
Gain/Loss:	20
Dellomony	
Six Months:	0
One Year:	64
Over One Year:	0
Total:	64
Lapsation Rate:	12.52%
Applications on Hand	
Waiting to read at next lodge meeting:	0
In the hands of the investigating committee:	0
Ready for balloting:	1
Ready for Orientation:	0
Ready for Initiation:	0
Ready for Affiliation:	0
Ready for Reinstatement:	0
Other:	0
Total:	1
Life Members	
Life Members:	88
Honorary Life Members:	4
Total:	92
Life Percentage:	18.00%

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler

On July 2nd at the BPOE Grand Lodge Convention, R. Gordon Hinton our Past Exalted Ruler was sworn in as the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler by Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt. Gordon's commission is the West District of the MD- DE- DC State Elks Association.

The West District is comprised of five Lodges, Westminster, Hagerstown, Frederick, Frostburg and Oakland. These Lodges have over 3,900 members in total.

The District Deputy represents the Grand Exalted Ruler in local Lodges and promotes his message and Grand Lodge Programs. In addition, the District Deputy is responsible for auditing Lodge performance and adherence to Grand Lodge Statutes and Rules. Other recent District Deputies from our Lodge were Dale Sears and Marion Davidson, Jr.



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House Update

Fellow Elks:

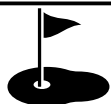
The last few months have been a whirlwind as I am learning about the house and how things really work. We have introduced a new menu and set our strategy to focus on consistency, cleanliness, quality and service as a team. You have surely noticed the new uniforms for the staff and the pizzas have been growing and growing in popularity! We have brought back the planned “on the calendar” specials and each has been very successful. Margins are improving and we continue to see ways to ensure that we are ordering efficiently, selling through the stocks we have and controlling costs. It’s a lot of work and the house committee and the house staff have been great in working with the new strategies. As we head into the fall, we’ll be looking at some adjustments to the menu, so stay tuned on that front! We are taking member feedback on all things related to the house seriously, and acting on the feedback we receive. If you have any to share, please seek me out or give me a call, my goal is to make the social quarters an excellent experience, every time. We have a number of fun events coming up these next few weeks and months, be sure to join us! Please stop up to the lodge at least once a week and enjoy the many benefits of the social quarters, not the least of which is connecting with old friends! Have a great rest of the summer!

Drew Dean
House Chairman



PER Cooler Raffle

The PER Committee would like to thank everyone who purchased raffle tickets for the Artic Cooler filled with 4th of July celebration goodness. Due to your generous support a total of \$700 was raised for the lodge. Congratulations to our winner MARY ELLEN MILLER!

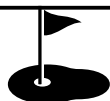


Fletcher/Falcone Golf Update

The golf committee hosted the 47th annual golf tournament on June 23rd, as of this write up \$27,602 has been raised \$2,400 short of our \$30,000 goal, but still a very successful golf tournament. Over the last 20 years over \$550,000 have been raised for our community. There is still time during this fiscal year if folks would like to contribute to the golf committee. All proceeds help fund the youth of Carroll County. We had 143 golfers and some 15 volunteers who assisted with this year’s event. The committee would like to thank all that participated and wish you all a happy summer.

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Fletcher/Falcone 2025 Golf Sponsors

Bounds Accounting & Tax Services LLC	Golf Cart Sponsor	Falcone Grandchildren - Storm, Bolt, Logan, Easton, & Nora	Single Hole Sponsor
English American Tailoring, Co. Beverage Sponsor	Beverage Sponsor	Gallagher Pools	Single Hole Sponsor
Fletcher Funeral Home	Beverage Sponsor	Gary & Betty Youngworth	Single Hole Sponsor
Hayes Group - Long & Foster	Golf Cart Sponsor	Genova's To Go	Single Hole Sponsor
Scott Jenkins	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Grandson of Thomas D. Fletcher, Tim & Libby Herb	Single Hole Sponsor
Open Professional Group	Longest Drive Sponsor	Great Grandchildren of Thomas D. Fletcher, Mallie, Gage, Mairin Herb	Single Hole Sponsor
Johns Hopkins Federal Credit Union	Putting Green Sponsor	Greg & Karen Ackerman	Single Hole Sponsor
Formulate Corporation	Golf Range Sponsor	Hoffa Foundation: Healing, Opportunity, Free From Addiction	Single Hole Sponsor
SwitchBridge	Golf Range Sponsor	Hoffman, Comfort, Offutt, Scott, Halstad LLP.	Single Hole Sponsor
Concrete Protection & Restoration Inc.	Lunch Sponsor	In Honor of Dick Wardenfelt PER 1996 & 97	Single Hole Sponsor
Grandkids of Nick & Betty Aumiller	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Honor of James "Denny" Sterner	Single Hole Sponsor
Instruments & Controls	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Honor of Richard & Betty Stuller	Single Hole Sponsor
Velnoskey Wealth Management Group of Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC.	Lunch Sponsor	In Loving Memory of Larry & Shirley Rill	Single Hole Sponsor
In Memory of Ray Bosley	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Memory of Arthur Ackerman	Single Hole Sponsor
Island Green	Par 3 Sponsor	In Memory of Buzz Nottingham 17th Hole	Single Hole Sponsor
Jim & Denise Aumiller	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Memory of Christine Klunk Hohman	Single Hole Sponsor
Marine Electric Systems	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Memory of Jerry Landsman	Single Hole Sponsor
Mid Atlantic Wealth Advisors LLC	Multiple Hole Sponsor	In Memory of Nick Aumiller & Tom Nocar Sr.	Single Hole Sponsor
Pinnacle Safety Network LLC	Par 3 Sponsor	Jiffy Lube	Single Hole Sponsor
Wide Tracs	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Joe Pulikowski & Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Detrow Family	Multiple Hole Sponsor	John Guckin & Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Ed & Theresa Boyd	Multiple Hole Sponsor	John Tighe & Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Gnall Family	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Junior & Diane Davidson	Single Hole Sponsor
In Memory of George Ziegler Sr.	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Ken & Kim Booe	Single Hole Sponsor
In Memory of James Shilleff	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Kerr, Jake	Single Hole Sponsor
John Lyons & Family	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Lee & Linda Fitzpatrick	Single Hole Sponsor
Lane & Helen Lee	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Lee's Automotive	Single Hole Sponsor
Mike & Jan Lananan	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Les & Theresa Mariner	Single Hole Sponsor
Peggy & Michael Markovic	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Live, Hope Laugh	Single Hole Sponsor
WM Lewis & Associates	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Main Street Advisors	Single Hole Sponsor
Zumbrun Funeral Home	Multiple Hole Sponsor	Meloché Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Barnes-Bollinger Insurance	Single Hole Sponsor	Nelsons Service Center a new part of auto clinic of a Md Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Submarine Sailor	Single Hole Sponsor	Neogard	Single Hole Sponsor
Crawford-Yingling Insurance	Single Hole Sponsor	New Barbet II Corp - Lou Bell	Single Hole Sponsor
3 Step Construction	Single Hole Sponsor	Nolan McEvoy	Single Hole Sponsor
Angela & Joe Bonarrigo	Single Hole Sponsor	Ole' McGillicutty & Faggy Jones	Single Hole Sponsor
Avenue Tailor	Single Hole Sponsor	Pete Samios & Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Barnes-Drager Insurance	Single Hole Sponsor	Phil Popielski Realty - Haghoa Team EXP Real Estate	Single Hole Sponsor
Big Rick's Roofing & Exterior	Single Hole Sponsor	Schnauble Automotive	Single Hole Sponsor
Bob Aumiller & Family	Single Hole Sponsor	Schnauble Family	Single Hole Sponsor
Bob George	Single Hole Sponsor	Sergios	Single Hole Sponsor
Bridges Masonary Construction	Single Hole Sponsor	Sharon & Bob Hinton	Single Hole Sponsor
Burrier Queen Funeral Home	Single Hole Sponsor	Shelley Calp	Single Hole Sponsor
Carroll Community College	Single Hole Sponsor	Swain Supplies	Single Hole Sponsor
Carroll Land Services, Inc.	Single Hole Sponsor	The ARC of Carroll County	Single Hole Sponsor
College Square Liquors	Single Hole Sponsor	The Whiting & Turner Contracting Co.	Single Hole Sponsor
Craig Baker & Family	Single Hole Sponsor	Thomas Bennett & Hunter	Single Hole Sponsor
Dale & Linda Sears	Single Hole Sponsor	Westminster Elks Lodge Officers	Single Hole Sponsor
Dave Tartaglia & Family	Single Hole Sponsor	YGT Limited / S&S Holdings	Single Hole Sponsor

Elks Inner Circle

The more support you show the lodge the greater your reward!

Tier 1 - Bronze

- Spend \$200 for 200 points
- \$10 reward

Tier 2 - Silver

- Spend \$400 for 400 points
- \$20 reward

Tier 3 - Gold

- Spend \$1000 for 1000 points
- \$75 reward

Tier 4 - Platinum

- Spend \$2500 for 2500 points
- \$200 reward



Tier 5 - Diamond



- Spend \$5000 for 5000 points
- \$500 reward

START EARNING TODAY!

Loyalty Program Summary:

- Continue to accrue points to reach the highest tier!
- Redeeming a reward resets your points to 0.
- Points expire 1 year from the purchase date.
- Rewards can only be redeemed when you close your tab toward food and drink and cannot be redeemed for cash.

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A special thanks to Wendy Donohue and Colleen Hill for calling BINGO while also keeping us entertained!

We appreciate you!



Book Club

The Berry Pickers *by Amanda Peters*
Wednesday, August 6th

The Book Club for Troublesome Women
by Marie Benedict
Wednesday, September 3rd

All are welcome to attend!



Lodge and Board Meetings

Board of Directors meetings are 2nd and 4th Wednesdays - 6:30 PM

Lodge meetings are 4th Monday - 7 PM

Lodge and Board meetings are open to all Elk members.



American Red Cross

Blood Services

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered or donated blood at our blood drive on June 19th at the lodge. We were able to collect 29 units of blood which could save up to 90 lives!



Grant Update



Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped support the America's Warriors Care Package Project (AWCPP) based right here in Westminster. We packed 117 boxes filled with nonperishable food and personal care items for our troops deployed in faraway places.!



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August 1st	Music on the Patio with Exit Strategy
Sept 12th	Maryland Hardshell Crab Dinner
Sept 19th	Music on the Patio with Exit Strategy
Sept 20th	Trivia
Oct 18th	Seafood Fest / Trivia
Oct 25th	Sportsman's Bingo
Nov 8th	Beer, Wine, Bourbon Flight Night
Nov 14th	Elksgiving Turkey Dinner
Nov 15th	Trivia
Dec 13th	Christmas town
Dec 20th	Breakfast with Santa

Due to variables such as volunteers and interest, events and dates may be subject to change. However, we will be sure to send out updates if this should occur.



Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers to help out around the lodge whether it is with events, joining a committee, helping out in the kitchen, serving food, charity work, etc.

If you are interested please use the QR code or email laurenhopkins326@outlook.com and let us know how you can help!



Committee Chairs



Activities
Camp Barrett
Communications
Hall Rental
Drug Awareness
ENF
Flag Day
Jernick Fund
Golf Committee
Grants
House
Hoop Shoot
Membership
Newsletter
PER Association
Scholarships
Veterans


















Lauren Hopkins
Jr. & Diane Davidson
Christy Landsman
Cindy Potter
Ed Dannettel
Bob Detrow
Bob Detrow
Christy Landsman
Jim Aumiller
Peggy Markovic/AI Painter
Andrew Dean
Denny Snyder/Tom Scott
Paul Tribles
Peggy Markovic
Sharon Hinton
Gary Youngworth
Patrick Jacobs



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August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1  Music on the Patio	2  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM
3	4	5  Bar BINGO 7 PM	6  Book Club 6 PM	7	8  Shrimp Primavera	9  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM
10	11	12  Bar BINGO 7 PM	13  Board Meeting 6:30 PM	14  Cigar Night 6 PM	15	16  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM
17	18	19  Bar BINGO 7 PM	20	21	22  Grilled Jerk Chicken Thighs	23  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM
24	25  Lodge Meeting 7 PM	26  Bar BINGO 7 PM	27  Board Meeting 6:30 PM	28	29	30  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM
31						

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September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <div> Bar BINGO 7 PM</div>	3 <div> Book Club 6 PM</div>	4	5	6 <div> Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM</div>
7	8	9 <div> Bar BINGO 7 PM</div>	10 <div> Board Meeting 6:30 PM</div>	11 <div> Cigar Night 6 PM</div>	12 <div> Maryland Hard Shell Crab</div>	13 <div> Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM</div>
14	15	16 <div> Bar BINGO 7 PM</div>	17	18	19 <div> Music on the Patio</div>	20 <div> Trivia  Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM</div>
21	22 <div> Lodge Meeting 7 PM</div>	23 <div> Bar BINGO 7 PM</div>	24 <div> Board Meeting 6:30 PM</div>	25	26 <div> Mom's Meatloaf</div>	27 <div> Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 PM</div>
28	29	30 <div> Bar BINGO 7 PM</div>				

Stay up to date by visiting our website!

