

## THE CALL

**VOLUME 135, NO. 1 APRIL 2025** 

ELKS – STRENGTHENING ELKDOM THROUGH COMMUNITY AWARENESS

TELEPHONE: (203) 755-1159

WWW.ELKS265.ORG

#### PAST EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

#### Members all,

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Exalted Ruler. This past year has been amazing, and I thank you all for the opportunity. Thank you for the trust you placed in me and the other officers. Thank you to the suite of officers I couldn't have asked for a better team. To the new Exalted Ruler and his team of officers, I wish you all a successful year, work together and you'll succeed.

The new Exalted Ruler and his team of committees are planning some great events for us. Come out and support the lodge.

For my final Elk of the Month is Linda Galvin. Her great work on the Americanism essay contest and the Drug Awareness poster contest. As you'll see from her article below, we have some winners.

Thank you, Linda, for your amazing work.

Fraternally & Respectfully

Carlos R Gotay

Past Exalted Ruler

#### **Lodge Hours:**

THE RATHSKELLAR BAR IS NOW OPEN THE FOLLOWING DAYS AND TIMES:

SUNDAY 12:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

MONDAY 5:00 P.M.. - TILL

TUESDAY 6:00 P.M.. - TILL

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY FRIDAY 11:00 A.M. - TILL

SATURDAY 12:00 P.M. - TILL

#### **Lodge Meetings:**

SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:30 P.M. JULY & AUGUST—FOURTH TUESDAY ONLY DECEMBER—SECOND TUESDAY ONLY INITIATION MEETINGS START AT 6:00 P.M.

#### **Lodge Officers 2025-2026**

Exalted Ruler: Peter Wychulis

Leading Knight: Stephanie M. Dilger

Loyal Knight: Bryan McEntee

Lecturing Knight: JoAnna Cass McEntee

Esquire: Susan Buzzeo

Inner Guard: Corey Shanahan

Tiler: Querino Maia

Secretary: Micheal McGaughan

Treasurer: Pat Jennings Chaplin: Howard Osorio Trustee 1 Year: Bret Reis

Trustee 2 Years: Steve Kontout

Trustee 3 Years: Michael Devino

Trustee 4 Years: Donna Torre

Trustee 5 Years: Thomas LaGase

## A MESSAGE FROM THE 2025-2026 EXALTED RULER

### Members All,

Let me begin by saying thank you to our now Jr. Past Exalted Ruler, Carlos Gotay. You are a great leader, and you did a masterful job guiding our lodge through the 2024-2025 fraternal year. Thank you again.

With that said, I would like to say thank you to everyone. This is a special honor, and I am forever grateful to have this opportunity to serve all of you as your new Exalted Ruler. With this honor, I promise to uphold to the statutes and the bylaws of our constitution. With that said, I would like to challenge not only myself but our newly elected officers and our current members new and old, to have a positive impact on everyone who walks through our doors. It is here that more and more people will come and join us to celebrate on how we treat each other as well as how we treat and take care of our veterans, our inner-city youth, and our less fortunate, and that is my vision for the 2025-2026 fraternal year for our Waterbury Elks Lodge #265.

Next, I would like to thank our 2025-2026 new and returning officers. I have provided a list of our officers below.

Inner Guard – Corey Shanahan Chaplin – Howard Osorio

Esquire – Susan Buzzeo Tiler – Querino Maia

1 Year Trustee – Bret Reis

2 Year Trustee – Steven Kontout

3 Year Trustee – Michael Devino

4 Year Trustee – Donna Torre

5 Year Trustee – Thomas LaGase

Treasurer – Pat Jennings

Secretary – Michael McGaughan

Esteemed Lecturing Knight – JoAnna Cass McEntee

Esteemed Loyal Knight - Bryan McEntee

Esteem Leading Knight – Stephanie Dilger

Exalter Ruler – Peter Wychulis

To all that attended the Installation of Officers ceremony on 3/22, thank you and you were a witness to our new caterer's dinner. Please join me in welcoming MTG Catering, Chef Jonathon Gannon. He will be serving dinners on Tuesdays through Fridays starting in April from 5pm to 8pm. Please come by and try his delicious food. Menus and specials will be forthcoming. Thank you and GOD BLESS.

Fraternally, Peter Wychulis Exalted Ruler

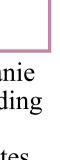








Please contact Stephanie Dilger, Esteemed Leading Knight with information and updates. 203-592-2185





#### TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS

The clock of his days has stopped, and across its dial the motionless arms mark The Hour of Eleven, the "Golden Hour of Recollection." MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

William H Jackson Jr Born December 14, 1942 Initiated September 19, 2000 Passed from our mist April 30, 2023

Lee A Walter Born March 14, 1951 **Initiated January 29, 1988** Passed from our mist March 10, 2025

**Anthony Petrunti LM** Born December 14, 1944 Initiated January 20, 1984 Passed from our mist March 22, 2025

William F Derwin LM Born January 25, 1935 Initiated June 25, 1968 Passed from our mist March 21, 2025

#### **ELKS CALL**

Official Bulletin of Waterbury Lodge #265 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks PO Box 615, 283 W Main St. Waterbury, CT 06702

> Instituted—June 15, 1893 Chartered—June 21, 1893

Information must be submitted by the 25th of the prior month.

Email—265submissions@gmail.com Thank you



Support our Foundation by donating online. You could give through the Lodge, but the *only* difference when you donate online is how quickly your gift helps others.

Donate to the Elks National Foundation online at enf.elks.org/MyLodge















# Important Announcement

## **BY-LAW CHANGE UPDATE**

Please see below for the following By-Law changes that were approved by Grand Lodge. Please note that these changed are effective immediately. If you have any question, please see on of the Lodge Officers.

## **Article II-A Section 1 and Article X Section 2:**

Associate Membership/Fees and Dues - Waterbury Lodge #265 now accepts Associate Membership. Associate Membership fee is \$25 per year.

## **Article III Section 1 Paragraph 2:**

**Life Membership** - The age restriction of 65 years has been remove.

## **Article IV Section 2:**

**Meetings** - The regular hour of meeting has been changed to 6:30 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. for Initiation Meetings.

## Article V Section 4 Paragraph 7 and Section 5 Paragraph 1:

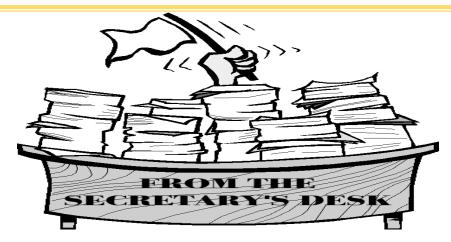
Elective Officers and Duties - "After review and approval from the BOD and Membership" has been added to the end of the last sentence for both paragraphs.

## **Article XV-A:**

Auxiliaries and Adjunct Organizations - Waterbury Lodge #265 hereby recognized Waterbury Antlers 265 as an Auxiliary of the Lodge.







Members all,

Congratulations to our new and returning Officers.

As of April 1, if you have not yet paid your dues, you are considered a delinquent member.

Please pay your dues immediately to remain in

good standing with the Elks.

We have reinstated 7, 1 transferred in, Initiated 52 new members this past year and currently have 20 applicants going through the Investigation and Orientation process. Unfortunately, we have lost 119 of those who have passed away, transferred out and been dropped for non-payment.

Membership cards will be mailed out at the end of each week after payment has been received. Cards may be picked up at the Rathskeller upon request. Remember to sign your card.

Payment options are: Check (preferred), cash, credit card (see the bartender) and a new **Enhanced Payment Processor.** <a href="https://www.elks.org/payonline">https://www.elks.org/payonline</a> and select our lodge. A convenience fee of 3.5% will applied to your payment.

Please contact me by email at <a href="mailto:secywtby265@gmail.com">secywtby265@gmail.com</a> or by phone 203-755-1159 opt#4 should you have any concerns.

Fraternally yours Michael McGaughan Lodge Secretary

#### **BULLETIN BOARDS**

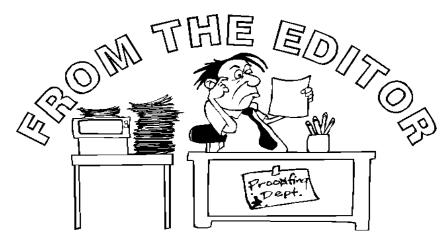
Nothing should be posted on the boards in the Rathskeller, vestibule, hallways, or restrooms without first obtaining permission from the House Committee. If a house committee member is not available, please leave your posting with the bartender. Upon approval, it will be hung on the various bulletin boards. Anything posted without prior permission will be removed. Thank you for your cooperation.

The House Committee









Happy April Everyone!

First off, I would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck to the Waterbury Lodge #265 Officers for the 2025-2026 Elk year. I know there are some amazing ideas that are already being talked about, and I am excited to see what this year brings.

I would like to take the first Call of 2025-2026 to remind everyone that all submissions for "The Call" need to be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Submissions should be sent to <u>265submissions@gmail.com</u>.

If for some reason your submission is going to be late, I ask you please inform me, so I know what I am waiting for. I understand that things come up and there may be times when you cannot get the submission in on time, but please do not make it a habit of doing so. I want to get everyone's submissions in, but I also want to make sure that it goes out by the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month.

Thank you all for your understanding!

Here's to another great Elk year!

Ryan Ibarra

Call Editor

#### **BULLETIN BOARDS**

Nothing should be posted on the boards in the Rathskeller, vestibule, hallways, or restrooms without first obtaining permission from the House Committee. If a house committee member is not available, please leave your posting with the bartender. Upon approval, it will be hung on the various bulletin boards. Anything posted without prior permission will be removed. Thank you for your cooperation.

The House Committee









### Incoming leaders start year with proactive mindset

April is here and spring has finally arrived. It always feels like a new beginning in April, especially if you live in the colder regions of our country.

A new fraternal Lodge year begins. I want to congratulate all the newly installed Exalted Rulers and Lodge Officers. It is a proud moment to be installed and take on the challenge of providing leadership within your Lodge. Be sure to review and implement the programs of the 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Program booklet so you can continue showing "Elkdom's Heart For America." Make sure that you have all your committees prepared and that committee members know their responsibilities. Communication is the key.

Financially, it is the Trustees and Officers who need to submit a budget to the Lodge for adoption no later than the last regular meeting in April or the following regular meeting. Your Lodge should be ready to present a sound budget to your Members. The annual report for the previous year is also due May 1 so make sure that your FRS financial reporting system is up to date.

On a housekeeping note, you should review any by-laws or house rules and regulations that need to be updated. It's for the good of the Lodge to make everything orderly and that you always prioritize the integrity and safety of the Lodge.

On a festive note, it's time to make a calendar of social events for your Lodge. Create reasonable, achievable monthly events that will excite and attract your membership. Outside of your Lodge you are encouraged to establish a community project that emphasizes charitable work. Your Lodge life should always have a balance of what you do inside your Lodge and outside in the community you serve. Don't forget to set aside May 1-7 as Elks National Youth Week. All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs dedicated to the youth of our country.

Julia and I wish you a blessed Easter season. It is a celebratory time for our family. God bless you and God bless America!

Submitted by Douglas A. Schiefer GER, Grand Lodge Newsletter.







# Lodge Announcements

## 2025 B.P.O.E Elks Lodge #265 **Annual Raffle Winners**

On Sunday, March 30, 2025, at 3:00 P.M., we held the raffle drawing. The following people

- George Vervastro 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$3,000.00
- Kimberly Fitzgerald 2<sup>™</sup> Place \$2000
  - Robert Haines 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$1000
    - Bret Reis 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$500
    - Pedro Albizu 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$500

Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to everyone who participated.

Sincerely, **Stephanie Dilger** 





# Lodge Announcements

#### 41st Annual Sportsmen's Holiday

#### May 29th – June 1st 2025 Wildwood, New Jersey

Fellow Sportsmen, as this article is being published, we are four months from our 41st Annual Sportsmen's' Holiday to Wildwood, NJ. The usual suspects will again coordinate arrangements and include myself and John Kunkel. All payments, unless otherwise noted, will go through John Kunkel and include all charges associated with Golf.

Here are the rules of the road once **again. We try** to be understanding but need clarity early on.

- 1. As in the past, there will be a sign-up sheet to be filled out noting your room partner and who is in your golf foursome.

  Complete the form in its entirety and submit with your down payment.
- 2. This piece is critical. Our host and fellow Lodge member, Adamo Pepitone, can only commit the Attache Motel for our trip. The Attache can accommodate 88 people. He will do his level best to scrounge up additional rooms if required, but all other motels are already fully booked. The point here is I can only guarantee 88 people will have rooms and I may be forced to make some difficult choices.

In fairness to all, selections will be made in accordance with receipt of payment. We will start taking deposits or payment in full immediately. Don't think about this until the last minute or you will not be included. We have every confidence Adamo will break his neck to cover everybody who wants to go BUT we can't guarantee anything beyond 88 attendees.

- 3. The fee for a double occupancy room will be \$425. A single room charge will be \$475. Golf will be \$210 for the 2 day tournament and should be paid when you make payment for your room. Please remember, if you sign-up for golf and you decide not to play for any reason, the golf fee is not refundable. We are charged by Avalon for the number of golfers we submit and the charge remains whether or not you play.
- 4. All transportation to Wildwood will be the responsibility of participating members. Any member with a van, pick-up or extra space in their trunk is asked to step up and offer to take any overflow of clubs or luggage.

A \$100 deposit or payment in full will be expected as soon as you receive this article. Again, remember, I can only guarantee rooms for 88 people at the Attache. Sooner I know the level of interest, the sooner I can advise Adamo to work on securing additional rooms.

5. In previous years, the majority of guys elected to go on Wednesday to extend their stay. If you want to do this, there is an additional room charge of \$75. If you have a roommate you would split the charge with that person; if not the cost for the room remains \$75. This charge is paid directly to the Attache when you arrive on Wednesday,5/28 and is not to be included in the charges payable to the Elks Lodge for rooms and golf. In fairness to those coming on Thursday, there will be a \$45 charge for Wednesday attendees for beverages and food.

We've enjoyed a great run with this event and we would like to keep it going as long as interest remains at current levels. It's a great deal and a memorable weekend. Please check the expected charges carefully as you make your deposit(s). We have no desire to become personal accountants. We also have no inclination to chase anybody; you are in or you are out. No personal invitations will be issued. Payments are to be made by check only. No cash should ever be left at the bar and neither the committee members or the Lodge will be held accountable for cash payments should they go missing. Prices will remain the same as last year.

Payment in full will be expected by Friday, May 2,2025.

Wildwood Committee

FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE RATHSKELLAR







## April Happy Spring Happy Easter!!!

March has come and gone, but we did have a good month. We had our annual St Patrick's Day festivities. Thank you to all who helped, including all house committee members, John K, Rita T, Renee P, and Jim C. To all my bartenders, Caitlin, Lynn, Sue, Nancy, and Laura. We then had the Installation of Officers. Thank you to Jonathan Gannon of MTG Catering for making an awesome meal. I would like to thank Lynn C, Cathy C, and Linda G for serving, and Caitlin for bartending. Also like to thank Vinnie D for helping, Jac Conetta for dishwashing, and Rosie and Donna M for working the door. I would also like to thank Clyde for DJing the wonderful event. The next day, we had the Policeman and Fireman of the year. I would like to thank John C, John K, Pat J, Gary K, Charlie S, Dave C for making a great meal, Lynn and all the servers, Vinnie D for helping out, Jac Conetta for dishwashing and Caitlin for bartending, and Jay for bar backing.

Now comes April. First, starting April 1, MTG catering featuring Jonathan Gannon. Come out and show your support. The menu can be seen on the next page. April 12 will be the youth Easter Egg hunt. April 13 is the Elk, Officer, and Citizen of the Year Awards.

The month of May, we have the Annual Family Picnic on May 25 at Quassy Amusement Park. Then, May 29 – June 1, Sportsman weekend in Wildwood, New Jersey. We will be looking for volunteers for the family picnic. There will be a signup sheet coming in May or you can always text me at 203-518-3938

> Thank you Steve Knox PER House Committee Chair



Get your password online at: www.elks.org/register

Elks news, features, and reports.

Works on all mobile platforms including smartphones and tablets.







Soup of the Day cup \$4.00 Bowl \$6.00

<u>Appetizers</u>

Arancini (Rice Balls)\_\$ 8.00

Risotto, mushrooms, parmesan cheese & white truffle oil breaded and fried, served with roasted

red pepper coulis

French Fries \$ 3.95

Chicken Tenders \$ 7.95

Chicken Wings \$ 9.95/ doz

Crispy fried wings served with celery, bleu cheese dressing and your choice of sauce: Buffalo, BBQ, Honey Mustard, Citrus Soy glaze, Sweet Heat

### Salads

**Mixed Greens**, tomatoes, cucumber, red onion, shaved parmesan with homemade Champagne Vinaigrette

\$7.95

Ceasar Salad: Romaine lettuce tossed with house made Ceasar Dressing and parmesan cheese, topped with shaved parmesan and croutons \$9.95

Add: Chicken + 6.95 Add: Shrimp + \$9.95

#### **Entrees**

Penne Alal Vodka: Penne pasta tossed in a creamy rose' sauce, topped with shaved parmesan

\$12.95

Add: Grilled Chicken + \$6.95

or Sauteed Shrimp + 9.95

**Build a Burger** 6-8oz burger grilled to temp, served on a bun with lettuce, tomato, and onion for

\$ 10.95

Add: Cheese, Bacon, Sauteed onion, Sautéed mushrooms + \$ 1.50

Tea Cured Boneless Pork Chops - Pork Loin with gravy
Marinated in a tea brine, cut into boneless chops and grilled.
Served with brown gravy and chef's choice potato and vegetable of the day. \$16.95

**Lemon Chicken** pan seared and roasted chicken breast finished with a lemon white wine butter sauce served with chef's choice potato and vegetables of the day \$ 14.95

**Asian Cajun Salmon** 6-8 oz salmon filet, pan seared and roasted finished with a citrus soy glaze.

\$18.95



## Waterbury Lodge #265

## **Americanism Contest Winners**

On behalf of PER Carlos Gotay and the Americanism Committee we would like to thank all the parents, and teachers who allowed their children/students to participate in this yearly contest.

The Topic is "What Does Patriotism Mean to Me?"

Over 125 students from grades 5, 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> participated. Although the judging was hard, the following were recognized.

Grade 5, Avary Morrone – Alcott, Caden Schwartz – Wakelee, Domenic Kelly Wakelee

Grade 6, Peyton Calo, Owen Glinsky, Giuliana Benjamin and Ava Hanson OLMC Grade 7, Joseph Nicholson- Middle River, Sasha Petryshya and Christiane Baych **OLMC** 

Grade 8, Jayden Bannon, Jaiden Johnson and Vera Cuevas OLMC (OLMC – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel)

These essays were exceptional, and went on for the District judging, and some went on to the state!

The essays written by Dominic Kelly, Peyton Calo and Owen Glinsky were chosen to represent the State of Connecticut at the National level.

Thank you to all who helped judge the contest. Members Daniele Cormier, Margaret Simpson, Helen Donovan, Cathy Corcoran, Anna DiNicola, Lisa Guisto and Lynne Gregory and District Chairman Denise Johnson.

Sincerely,

Linda Galvin-Americanism Chairman









The topic for the 2024-2025 Drug Awareness Poster and Essay Contest was "Throw Away Drugs not Your Future"

#### **POSTERS**

Grade 3 Theodara Wolfgang, Elisa Charles and Chase Elruth CA (Catholic Academy)

Grade 4 Camila Carcia and Jacob Kapusnick CA

Grade 5 Peyton Nicholson Middle River, Daniella Tirado CA, Jackson Ayres CA, Adrian Plona Wakelee

#### **ESSAYS**

Grade 6 Genevieve Mowad Tyrrell, Avery Bostic, Fiorella Mejia, and Derek Poole CA

Grade 7 Steven Osnato, Ethan Alonzo, Natalie Houston CA Grade 8 Patrick Nicholson Middle River, Camryn Cowell and Isabel Sidito CA

Thank you to the students who took the time to write essays or draw posters. Thanks to the judges, and my District Chairman Chad Layton for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Linda Galvin **Drug Awareness Chairman** 









When: Saturday, April 12, 2025

Time: 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Where: Elks Lodge 283 West Main St, Waterbury, CT 06702

Drop off starts at 9:00 A.M.



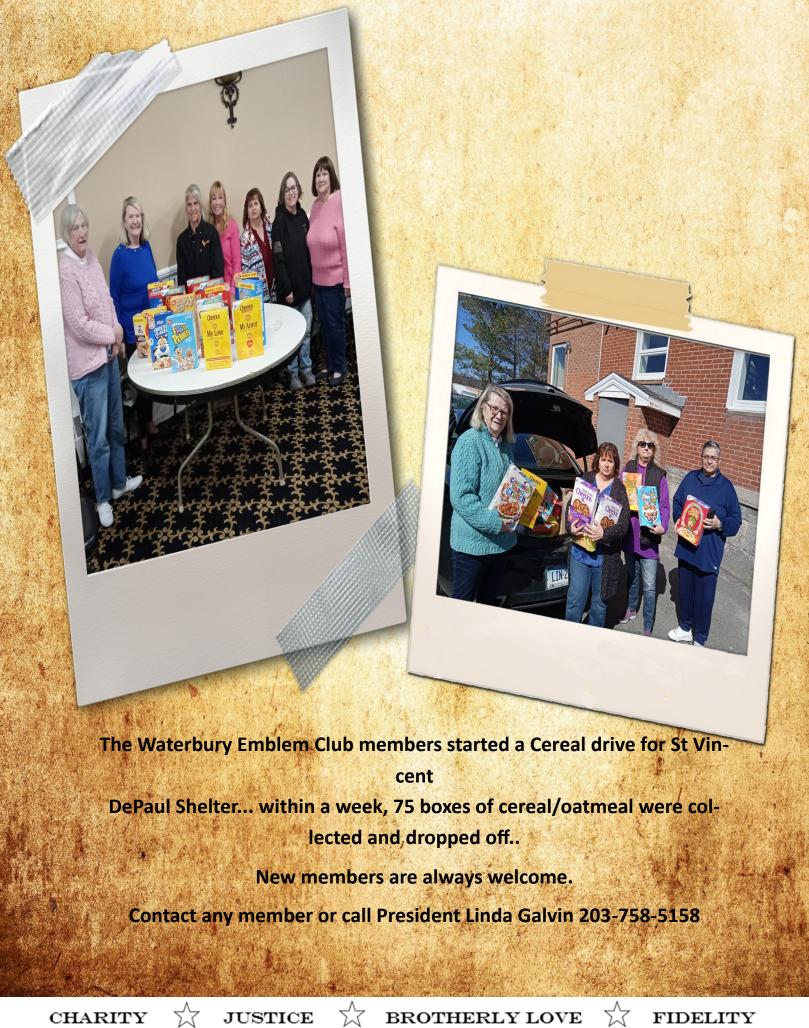
Questions please contact us @ waterburyctantlers265@gmail.com

Richard Dilger 203-518-1036











# KARAOKE NIGHT AT WATERBURY ELKS #265

COME DOWN FOR DINNER AND SING A FEW SONGS!

EVERY WEDNESDAY 6PM-9PM IN THE RATHSKELLAR



## Waterbury Elks #265 Dart League



Location: Waterbury Elks Lodge 265 – In Rathskeller

> 283 W. Main Street Waterbury, CT 06702

Entry Fee: \$50.00 per team (4 4-player teams) – Bring your darts or borrow ours.

Every Wednesday at 8:00 P.M. starting in late May or Early June. The league hasn't confirmed the start date yet. More to follow.

Players can register with Pete Wychulis at 860-302-3616 or peter.wychulis@espn.com

This will be at a first come, first serve basis. This is a sanctioned league, and your statistics will be available online.







# Raffle!





Tickets: \$10 or 3/\$20

## 65" SAMSUNG TV

Sponsored by the Elk's #265 Waterbury, CT.

To Benefit CT Special Olympics Tickets on sale in the Rathskeller April 1st.

Tickets will also be sold at the Spring Fling Dance Party on April 26.

DRAWING ON APRIL 26 AT SPRING FLING DANCE PARTY







April 12th - Easter Egg Hunt April 26th - Spring Fling Dance Party May 25th - Family Picnic at Quassy Amusement Park June 20th - Jukebox Bingo



This months meetings will be held on:

## **April 8th and 22nd**









## EASTER EGG HUNT,

Saturday, April 12th 11:00am

**AGES 2 - 11** 

We are planning to be outside. In the event of rain, we will hold the egg hunt in the Lodge room.

Bring your own basket.

Lunch will be served

Sign up in Rathskelar

Questions or concerns please call Kathy Gannon 203-217-6818

Youth Activities Committee















Elks #265 Waterbury **Brady Hall** 

\$10 pp \*

Bring your own snacks - Cash Bar Open to the public!



## Raffles





- Samsung 65" Smart TV
- 50/50 Cash
- Other prizes!



\*Fundraiser to benefit CT Special Olympics

Text Donna to reserve your table. 203-586-9424

# MUSICAL JUKEBOX BING

**ELKS #265** WATERBURY









7-9 PM Friday, June 20th

Looking for a fun night out with friends & music? Come early and have dinner, served from 5-8

> WIN PRIZES! Bring your guests! To Reserve a table Call/Text Donna @ (203)-586-9424



