



130 Years of Elkdom

PORT HURON ELKS LODGE 343

EXPOSITOR

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

ISSUE NO. 363

JUNE 2026

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

JUNE HAPPENINGS

Flag Day Ceremony

Honoring America's Colors

Sunday, June 14th - 1 pm



In the Pavillion
(weather permitting)
Sylvie's Room
(alternate location)

-All Members & Guests are Welcome-
Please join us for this
beautiful and informative ceremony
which pays tribute to our
American Flag

+ BLOOD DRIVE

87th Port Huron Elks 343

Monday June 15th

12:00 pm to 5:45 pm

Sponsored by Lodge 343 & ENVSC held at the
Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 each month

Golfing

Member-Member

Fri. & Sat., June 5 & 6



Couples, Clubs, and Cocktails

Friday, June 19

Father's Day

Sunday, June 21

Father's Day Ceremony
before tournament - 8:30 am



Glow Golf

Saturday, June 27

Kitchen will have specials Golf Event Days

COME JOIN US FOR DIAMOND ART!

WHEN: Every Wednesday
3-5pm & 6-8pm

WHERE: Lodge Social Quarters



**Congratulations to all our 2026
High School and College Graduates.
Good luck on your next journey.**



Exalted Ruler Message

Hello members all.

It's June, hooray. It means golf is in full swing around Lodge 343 and the Elks Spring Convention was held last month in Sault Ste. Marie. Always great to see fellow Elks from other lodges and catch up.

Congratulations to Mike Bartolotta as he finished his term as State President. His persistence and drive helped Michigan finish in the top 10 in recruiting in the Nation.

Another congratulations to Frank Mitchell, Jr. as he was honored last month for being a 50 year member in the Michigan Bar association.

Thank you to Gary and Penny Osburn, Al and Kim Krug and their team for putting on a wonderful Club 343 banquet along with the entire Lodge staff. The meal was wonderful and a good time had by all.

Thank you to Scott R. Harris, DDGER and the ENVSC for putting on the Veterans Appreciation Day and Free Luncheon on May 20th at the Lodge. It was a awesome event and great that we can show our appreciation to the veterans in our community. Remember to thank a veteran for their service to our country.

In June, we will be conducting our Flag Day ceremony and Father's Day ceremony. Come on out and see ceremonies performed. I love the Flag Day ceremony and learning about the history of the flags of our country. It will be in the pavilion weather permitting.

In closing, remember our obligation and to support our cardinal principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress, working together is a success.

Fraternally Yours,
John C. Cuthbertson, PER
Exalted Ruler

Happy Father's Day to all the Elks Dads on June 21st!



In Remembrance of our Departed Members

• **Edward P. Brennan #9909**

Initiated May 26, 2024

October 28, 1959 - April 24, 2026



Our prayers to the families who have lost a loved one...

Janice Rose ~ Loss of Spouse

Welcome NEW MEMBERS...

Austin Bartass	Nolan Lacey
Anthony Bloink	Kevin Dowell
Stephen Finkbeiner	James Seibert
Michael Greer	Michael Sprague
Brian Gossman	

REINSTATED MEMBERS

James MacMillan & Dan Glynn

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We wish a speedy recovery for our members who have been either home ill or hospitalized.

PER Marv Ohrling	Theresa Conroy	Tom Erd
John Stewart	PER Joe Barbe	Larry Allison
Karl Livingston	PER Gail Marquis	John Chambless

The Memorial "To Our Absent Members"



If you would like the name of your loved one added, please complete the form below 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 Elks 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 _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Name and Date of Death to be engraved on Monument: Please Print _____

Signature of Remitter _____ Date submitted _____

Another great example of Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Officers & Members stepping up!

The walk in Beer Cooler project is near completion, and we'd like to thank the following Elk members for taking on this much needed, difficult & dirty project, while refurbishing the cooler room to last a long time.

Thank you to PER Gerry Goodwin, PER Robert J. Fritch, PER Steven M. Peters, Mike Coach, Jerry Cameron, Tracey Cameron, Joe Miller, Mike Hailfax, Fred Massad, and Tim Meikle.

Special thank you's go out to Mike Coach for professionally setting up & rewiring the interior lighting system. To Jerry Cameron whose carpentry experience and expertise was invaluable putting the whole unit together. So much so the team, dubbed him Papa Duck.

"Many Hands, Make Light Work!"



Thursday Men's Pool League wraps up the season



The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Thursday Men's Pool League play has completed. Congratulations to Co-Champs Pat Korth & Paul McDonald (pictured above left) who finished in a 1st Place tie with Jason Oakley & Mike "Otis" Sloan.

On Thursday April 16th the League ended with the annual "Random Draw" 2-man pool tournament. Congratulations to 1st place team of AJ Foster & Dave DeLong with the 2nd place "first loser" team going to Jim Vani and Bill Penrod (pictured above right).

Congratulations Guys!



Updated results of our fantastic Elks Blood Drives

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 held our 85th blood drive, on Monday, April 20th as we continue to help us close the gap on blood shortages! (38) donors arrived to provide the "Gift of Life" as we surpassed our goal of (36). (3) donors were deferred, (25) whole blood pints, and (5 Power reds = 10 pints) were collected, for a total of (35) total units. Working together, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, and the American Red Cross we have collected over 2,871 units (pints) = over 362 gallons of blood since our 1st drive on January 7, 2013. We are well on our way to reaching our next goal of 3,000 pints (375 gallons). Our 86th drive was Monday, May 20th. Please consider registering today at <https://www.redcross.org>. for our 87th drive scheduled for June 15th from 12 noon to 5:45 pm.

Elks 343 Blood Drive Committee:

Scott R. Harris, DDGER, Chairman
Monica Franks, Member
Aliena Drummond, Member
ER John C. Cuthbertson PER, Member
Fred Massad, Trustee, Member

CLUB 343 2026-2027

Hello! My name is Lynn Bowman and I, along with Laura Nesbitt are the new faces behind Club 343. We are excited to take on this new role and we want to thank Gary and Penny Osburn, as well as Kim and Al Krug for all they have done over the past 5 years for Club 343.

Now that we have all enjoyed the Club 343 banquet, and some of you have purchased your tickets, saving your "number(s)", we are happy to announce that we can still "save your number(s)" through June 13th.

Beginning June 14th, we will be selling all remaining tickets numbers until we reach 300 total tickets. The tickets remain at \$50, which allows you to attend the year -end banquet at no extra cost to you (next May, 2027), but also join us the 2nd Saturday each month, beginning October, 2027 for food, fun, prizes, cash prizes, and great camaraderie with all your friends and family. Or take this time to meet new Elk members, or potentially find a friend to join the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, join in with golf, dinners, events, etc.

After June 13th, reach out to either of us to secure a Club 343 ticket, and join in the fun! Lynn Bowman 810-531-0650 or Laura Nesbitt 810-531-1531. Give us a call (or text) if you have any questions regarding your Club 343 ticket(s). We will get back to you and make arrangements to get your ticket(s) to you. We will use Facebook to announce times we are at the Social Quarters, selling your Club 343 tickets.

We are looking forward to a fun season for Club 343.

Lynn & Laura

Go to
Facebook.com
for all the latest updates...
PHElksLodge343
PortHuronElksBanquets
phelksloddge343GolfClub



VETERAN'S CORNER 60

4th Annual Veterans Appreciation Day:

Our 4th Annual Veterans Appreciation Day and free luncheon was held on Wednesday, May 20th at Port Huron Elks Lodge 343. Over 110 Veterans and spouses attended this annual event, which is open to all Veterans, active Military personnel and spouses. Over 20 dedicated service providers and benefit specialist assisted our Veterans while providing benefit information, health care needs, and answering questions, as we provided a few registration gifts, raffle prizes, and a free lunch. The service providers included the St. Clair County Department of Veterans Affairs, McLaren/Port Huron-Yale VA Clinic, Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township, Detroit VA Health Care System, St. Clair County Community Mental Health, St. Clair County Council on Aging, VA Home Telehealth, SCCCC (College) Veterans and Records, Disability Network Eastern Michigan, and Volunteers of America, just to name a few. This event was hosted by the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans Committee and the Elks National Veterans Service Commission.

Upcoming Events: Our next few bi-monthly free "Coffee & Donut Days" from 8:30 am to 12-noon in the Veterans Wellness room will be on Wednesday, June 10th, August 12th, and October 14th. Followed by our annual "Hot Dog Roast" for Veterans, Active Military, First Responders & Spouses which will take place on Tuesday, November 10th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Yale VA, Veterans Clinic. These events are sponsored by Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, the Michigan Elks Association, ENVSC, and McLaren-Port Huron Yale VA. This is our way to say thank you, to our Veterans, active Military and first responders for their service. Please feel free to stop in, even without a scheduled appointment, we would enjoy your company.

On another note: The MiElks and Lodge 343 continue with our monthly (2)

\$25.00 free gas gift card "give-a-way" program as we are now in our 4th year. For the month of April, Helen Suttero, US Air Force along with Leonard Gerlach, US Army were both drawn for our monthly Marathon Gas Gift card drawing, congratulations! The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097. To our Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans and newly initiated Veterans, your time served is very interesting to us, please consider sharing your Military Service story to Scott R. Harris DDGER, ENVSC VAVS Rep at scottharris55@comcast.net for a future Veterans Corner publication. The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097.



Scott R. Harris, DDGER, ENVSC Rep & Leonard Gerlach, US Army

WELCOME VETERANS!

FREE COFFEE & DONUT DAYS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH

8 AM TO 12 NOON

YALE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
VETERANS CLINIC, McLAREN-PORT HURON
7470 BROCKWAY RD., YALE, MICHIGAN

SPONSORED BY:

PH PH LODGE 343 **ENVSC** **YALE VA STAFF**



PER Scholarships awarded

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Past Exalted Rulers (PER) "EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM" scholarship process has been completed. Congratulations to the four awarded High School Seniors for the 2025-26 school year. They are Sofia M. Russell from St. Clair High School, Tyler N. Beem from Port Huron High School, Abigail E. Kautz from Croswell Lexington High School, and Vasili G. Kasparian from Port Huron Northern High School.

This year we had seventeen graduating high school seniors who will be attending college and/or a trade school from our local area apply for this one-time \$1,000.00 scholarship through this program. Students are not obligated to use this solely on classroom expenses. It is meant to alleviate financial burdens of attending any of the vocational, college or universities of which they have chosen to attend.

The four awarded scholarships are made available through the Lodge 343 PER restricted funds account. Only students from the following seven area high schools are encouraged to apply. The schools are Croswell Lexington "Pioneers", Landmark Academy "Lakers", Marine City "Mariners", Marysville "Vikings", Port Huron Northern "Huskies", Port Huron "Red Hawks", and St. Clair "Saints". We ask students to list any extracurricular activities, groups, or organizations they belong with. Also, list any type of community service and/or volunteerism they have performed during their four years of high school.

Next year's application process will begin mid-February 2027, at that time applications can be requested by the students directly from the college/career advisor or school counselor. Final submittal date will be Monday, May 3rd, 2027. They can also be requested electronically by emailing the request to scottharris55@comcast.net. Scott prefers option number one.

What does BPOE stand for?

Benevolent – Dictionary states that we want to promote happiness, of others, intended to do good, and organized for the benefit of charity.

Protective – A thing we do to protect those in need.

Order – An organization of people united by some common fraternal bond or social aim.

of Elks – Men and women who come together for a common good.

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Nico Massobrio
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Kay McGuigan
Robert & Charleen McLelland
Buz & Becky McNash
Daniel & Paula McVety
Tim & Lori Meikle
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Name(s) _____

☐ New

☐ Renewal

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

From Brandon Archibald, Golf Professional



As we move into June, the 2026 golf season is officially in full swing at the Port Huron Elks. After a long off-season and a difficult start weather-wise, opening weekend was an incredible success. The golf

course was packed, the Lodge was full of energy, and it was fantastic seeing so many members and guests back enjoying the club.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who participated in opening weekend festivities, both on the golf course and at Saturday night's party. Thank you as well to our golf shop staff, outside services team, grounds crew, kitchen staff, bar staff, and volunteers who helped make the weekend such a success. Events like that only happen when everyone pulls together.

June is shaping up to be one of the busiest and most exciting months of the season.

The annual Member-Member Championship will take place June 5-6 and continues to be one of the premier events on our calendar each year.

Our second Couples, Clubs & Cocktails event of the season, "Cowboy Country Club," will take place on June 19th. The first event exceeded expectations, and we expect another fun evening filled with golf, themed drinks, music, food, and plenty of laughs.

Glow Golf is officially back on June 27th. This has quickly become one of the most popular and unique events we host all season, and spots are expected to fill quickly.

As the course gets busier throughout the summer, we want to remind everyone to please help us maintain course conditions by repairing ball marks, filling divots, raking bunkers, and following all golf cart signage and restrictions.

We also strongly encourage all members and guests to call the Golf Shop to reserve tee times in advance, especially on weekends and during busy event periods. Tee sheets are filling up quickly, and reserving ahead helps us provide the best possible experience for everyone.

We are looking forward to a tremendous summer at the Port Huron Elks and thank all of our members for the continued support and enthusiasm surrounding the golf program.

We will see you at the club.

About the American Flag

Flag Day, celebrated on June 14, commemorates the Continental Congress's adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official U.S. flag on June 14, 1777.

While local celebrations began in the late 19th century, spearheaded by figures like Bernard J. Cigrand, it was officially established by President Woodrow Wilson in 1916 and signed into law by President Harry Truman in 1949.

Key Historical Milestones

June 14, 1777: The Continental Congress passed a resolution establishing the first flag, featuring 13 stripes and 13 stars to represent a "new constellation".

1861 (Civil War): Connecticut native Victor Morris is credited with proposing a special observance to honor the flag on its anniversary, a practice that gained traction during the war to support the Union.

1885-1889 (The Schoolhouse Movement): Wisconsin schoolteacher Bernard J. Cigrand ("Father of Flag Day") initiated a "Flag Birthday" for his students, while NYC teacher George Balch also introduced flag celebrations in schools.

1877: The first national, though unofficial, observance occurred for the 100th anniversary of the flag's adoption.

1916: President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of Flag Day.

August 3, 1949: Congress approved, and President Harry Truman signed, national legislation establishing June 14 as Flag Day.

Key Figures and Traditions

Bernard J. Cigrand: A teacher who spent years lobbying for a national flag holiday.

William T. Kerr: Founded the American Flag Day Association in 1888.

Flag Week: In 1966, Congress passed legislation requesting the President to designate the week of June 14 as National Flag Week.

Waubeka, Wisconsin: Known as a birthplace of Flag Day due to Cigrand's early efforts.

Flag Day Fun Facts

- The flag was officially modified 26 times.
- The current 50-star flag was designed by 17-year-old Robert G. Heft for a school project in 1958, for which he originally received a B-. President Eisenhower later chose his design, and the flag—officially adopted in 1960—is the longest-running version in U.S. history.
- June 14 is also the official birthday of the U.S. Army, established in 1775.

Opening Day terrific

Despite the colder weather, we had a fantastic turnout and couldn't be more grateful for the support. It was great to see so many members and guests back out on the course, kicking off the season the right way. A huge thank you to our staff for putting together such a well-run and enjoyable event from start to finish. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. And to all of our players, thank you for coming out, competing, and making it a great day. This is just the beginning... we're looking forward to an incredible season ahead!



External Golf Outings at P.H. Elks Lodge

- Hannah Winkler Memorial Golf Outing & Banquet
Saturday, June 13, 2026
9 am Shotgun

- Algonac Sports Boosters Outing
Saturday, June 20, 2026

Volunteers for our Lodge are very important.
Please consider giving your name & phone number to the Exalted Ruler, Lodge Secretary's Office or one of our Charitable or Social Committees



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2026-27 LODGE OFFICERS

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Officer of the Year

Andrew Kroetsch

Citizen of the Year

TBA

Sweetheart of Elksdom

Kim Collins

Outstanding Service-Commission

Fred Massad

Youth of the Year

Rylee Thompson

Outstanding Citizen of the Year

Daniel McVety

Jim Goodrich Lifetime Achievement Award

Larry Allison

Veteran Volunteers of the Year

Penny Mertz & Donna Hazelwood

Couple of the Year

John & Carrie Woolman IV

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Especially for:

JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm	2 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	3 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8 YOGA 4pm-5pm	4 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	5 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm MEMBER-MEMBER GOLF Outing	6 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm MEMBER-MEMBER GOLF Outing
7 Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm	8 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm LODGE MEETING Initiation- 6:30pm	9 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	10 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8 YOGA 4pm-5pm	11 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	12 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	13 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm
14 Flag Day Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm Flag Day Ceremony 1pm	15 Blood Drive-noon to 5:45 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30pm	16 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	17 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8 YOGA 4pm-5pm	18 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	19 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm Couple, Club, & Cocktails GOLF	20 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm
21 First Day of Summer Father's Day Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm Father's Day Golf Outing	22 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm LODGE MEETING Business - 6:30pm	23 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	24 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8 YOGA 4pm-5pm	25 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	26 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	27 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm GLOW GOLF
28 Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm	29 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm	30 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	Happy Father's Day June 21st to all the Elk's Dads!			