



LEBANON LODGE OF ELKS #2099

December 2014

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Roots of 11 O'clock toast may date to 11th century

Submitted by Ira W. Earp Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee

The 11 O'clock Toast, which Elks make at meetings and social functions, traces its roots to the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes. It is believed that the affiliation several of the Elksfounding members had with the Buffaloes may have influenced the Toast in that they also practiced an 11 o'clock toast in remembrance of the Battle of Hastings in October 1066. Following his victory, William of Normandy imported a set of rules to keep control of a seething Norman-Saxon population always on the edge of revolution. Among those rules was a curfew law requiring all watch fires, bonfires (basically all lights controlled by private citizens that could serve as signals) to be extinguished at 11 each night. From strategically placed watchtowers that also served as early fire-alarm posts, the call would go out to douse or shutter all lights and bank all fires. This also served to discourage secret and treasonous meetings, as chimney sparks stood out against the black sky. A person away from his home and out on the darkened streets, risked great peril from either evildoers or patrolling militia. The hour of 11 quickly acquired a somber meaning, and in the centuries that followed, became the synonym throughout Europe for someone on his deathbed or about to go into battle: i.e. His family gathered about his bed at the 11th hour, +or The troops in the trenches hastily wrote notes to their families as the 11th hour approached when they must charge over the top.+ Thus, when the 15 Jolly Corks (of whom seven were not native-born Americans) voted on February 16, 1868, to start a more formal and official organization, they were already aware of an almost universally prevalent sentiment about the mystic and haunting aura connected with the nightly hour of 11, and it took no great eloquence by Vivian to establish a ritual toast similar to that of the Buffaloes at the next-to-last hour each day. The great variety of 11 O'clock Toasts, including the Jolly Corks Toast, makes it clear that there was no fixed and official version until 1906-10. Given our theatrical origins, it was almost mandatory that the pre-1900 Elks would be expected to compose a beautiful toast extemporaneously at will. Regardless of the form, however, the custom is as old as the Elks. More on the 11o'clock toast next month.

The Elk I would like to recognize this month is PER Calvin Goude. Calvin has been involved in many committees and events at our Lodge, and is currently our Hoop Shoot Director. Since it is Hoop Shoot+time, I thought this would be the perfect opportunity to Thank Calvin for his years of hard work and dedication to Lebanon Lodge #2099. If you would like to see Calvin in action, our local hoop shoot is Sunday, December 7th starting at 8:30 AM at the Lebanon CCBA.

ER- Tom Toner

Committee News

The Veterans Committee



Greetings: Winter is here, or at least it feels like it. Like everyone this time of year, we are busy with family and friends. But there is always time for our veterans at the Lebanon Elks Lodge. On November 18th we had a Christmas card signing get together. Thanks to all of you that helped. These cards will be sent out to our soldiers and also veterans in nursing homes.

Upcoming Events in December : We will host our annual Veteran's Christmas Party at the Lodge on December 12. Dinner starts at 6:00. Music for your dancing or listening pleasure will follow. This is an event that we sponsor for Project VetCare. We received an ENF Grant to host and fund this event. This grant is your ENF Dollars at work. Thank

you. On December 16th we will be at Harbor Homes in Claremont, NH. Celebrating the Christmas Holidays with our veterans there. If you would like to attend any event please let us know at arutledge@bridgmans.com or leave a message at 603-763-4347. Please RSVP for Veteran's Party on December 12th by December 7th.

Arleen Rutledge

Join us on December 19th for our Annual



Bring in a NEW UNWRAPPED toy for our donation to the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program and remind everyone that

Elks Care - Elks Share

As a Thank You for your generous donation, anyone that brings a toy will get their dinner for half price!

In addition to helping a GREAT cause and enjoying dinner with friends, we will be dancing the night away with "Second Wind" Please join us.

New Year's Eve!!!!

Save the Date Jim Hollis and partner George will play the night away from 8:00-12:30

10:00 PM lite appetizers and dessert. Champagne Toast at 12:00 AM. All for \$10.00 per person. Great time, Great Music, and Great dance floor.

Buy your tickets early and you will be put in a drawing for a prize. Tickets on sale on December 1, 2014.

Bring in the New Year's with your fellow Elk's and friends. You may also pay at the door. Doors open at 7:30 PM!





Activities Committee

December already? How the year flew by. But what a wonderful time of year to gather with friends and exchange good wishes for the holiday season. There's always plenty to do at the Lodge, so stop by and get your ticket for the Queen of Hearts, drawn every Monday at 6:30 pm. The pot is now over \$9000.00. Who couldn't use some of that? There are also the bar games, dice, the Daily and Weekly. You can't win if you don't play! Every Wednesday we still play cribbage at 6 pm sharp. No partner required, so if you find yourself alone and in need of some company, drop by and play. If you want to volunteer this month, there are plenty of opportunities. The Seniors holiday dinner is Weds. Dec. 3rd, the Hoop Shoot at the CCBA on Sunday Dec. 7th at 8:30 am, and the Children's holiday party on Sat. Dec. 13th at Noon. There are signup sheets at the Lodge for all three of these events. Our annual Memorial Service will be on Sunday Dec. 7th at 2 PM. We will be honoring 8 members who have passed on this year. Of course we will be having our regular Friday night dinners. On Friday Dec. 19th we will be having our Toys for Tots drive. Bring in a new unwrapped toy and get a discount on your dinner. Entertainment will be provided by Second Wind. Members are encouraged to drop by on Christmas Eve day for our holiday celebration together as Elks. Lots of yummy holiday snacks will be served during the afternoon. Don't forget to get your New Year's tickets and rock the New Year in at your favorite Elks Lodge #2099. Be safe, healthy, and have a wonderful Holiday season from all of us at the Elks!

*Pam Goude
Promoter of Good Times at the Elks*

Children's Holiday Party

Kids Holiday Party is that wonderful time of year again and the kids are getting so excited! Please be sure to bring them to the Lebanon Elks 2099 Annual Kids Holiday Party on Saturday, December 13th starting at noon. There will be food, games, prizes, craft making, cookie decorating with Emblem Club, singing and a visit from Jolly Old St. Nick and his ever present Elves!! Children up to age 10 are welcome to participate so you must pre-sign them up at the Lodge by no later than Monday, December 8th. It's a wonderful time so please plan to join us! Volunteers are still needed; please leave a note at the Lodge for Sally Dunham if you are interested in helping out. Donations are always welcome!



Sally Dunham, Chair

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH Please join our efforts in helping the Haven to collect needed food items. Each month we will let you know what product they are in need of. If you could bring 1-2-3-24-!! Of these to the Lebanon Elks Lodge, we will make sure they get to the Haven at the end of each month. For December the product needed is CANNED SOUP. Please ask your friends/relatives/coworkers if they could also give you a can or two! Please drop in the designated boxes inside both doors at the Lodge. Thank you for your help!

Friday Night Dinners

5 th	Chicken Cordon Bleu	\$7.00
12 th	Fried Shrimp	\$8.00
19 th	Yankee Pot Roast	\$8.00
26 th	Chicken & Broc Alfredo	\$7.00

Dinner served with tossed salad and dinner rolls.
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Bartender's X-Mas Eve Raffle

Back by popular demand! We will be having our favorite surprise envelope raffle at the Members Celebration on 12/24/14. If you would like to donate a prize (small gift, scratch tickets, gift cert, etc..) please drop it off at the lodge before Christmas Eve. Then come join the fun, and maybe win some great prizes!



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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!