POCOMOKE CITY ELKS LODGE #1624

Elks Care. Elks Share.

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS ★ FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

LODGE OFFICERS

EXALTED RULER	Robert Donnelly
ESTEEMED LEADING KNIGHT	Matt Cook
ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT	Stacy Sparrow
ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT	Steve Selby
SECRETARY	Wade Taylor
TREASURER	Carol Sullivan
ESQUIRE	Allen Brockhaus
CHAPLAIN	Mary Bojczuk
INNER GUARD	Deborah Stevenson
TILER	Derek Pilchard

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1 YEAR	Dana Smith
2 YEAR	Eddie Holland
3 YEAR	Rick White
4 YEAR	Chuck Bradford (Chair)
5 YEAR	Chuck Barnes

HOUSE COMMITTEE

- Chuck Bradford
- Willis Redden Sr.
- Kimmy Aydelotte
- Dana Smith
- Stacy Sparrow
- Tom Wall
- Lorie Northam

QUEEN OF HEARTS COMMITTEE

- Beth VanHart (Chair)
- Eddie Holland
- Stacy Sparrow
- Katherine Sheppard
- Robin Donnelly

CONTACT INFORMATION

LODGE PHONE NUMBER
410-957-3556
(410-957-ELK6)

EXALTED RULER
Bob Donnelly
410-430-8912
bobdonnelly1959@gmail.com

RENTALS
Kimmy Aydelotte
410-603-0026
kimmy@bbcs.net

BINGO CHAIRPERSON
Merry White
410-422-2785

ER Message

FOR NOVEMBER 2026

November is a special month for all of us and for all **ELKS**.
We have a chance to celebrate Thanksgiving which is a special time for many to see family, friends, and share a really good meal. It's a time to reconnect and to really be thankful for what we have.

November is also known as **"Elks Veterans Remembrance Month"**.
Each November, the Elks designate the whole month to honor and support our veterans through service, gratitude and community outreach.

As typical, Elk Lodges on Veterans Day across our country will honor our veterans and provide a free meal to any veteran. Our Pocomoke City Lodge will carry on that tradition and do the same on **Wednesday, November 11th.**

Veterans have a special place in our hearts and we owe all of them for the freedoms we have been afforded in our great country.

The Elks Pledge *"So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Will Never Forget Them"*
We stand by this daily.

The Elks National Foundation is a tremendous resource dedicated to helping Elks build stronger communities through grants, scholarships, youth programs and Veterans services.

The Elks organization offers a wide range of programs to support veterans, including rehabilitation, social engagement, housing assistance, and community-based services. If you would like to know more about any of the many programs available to support our veterans, please log onto **https://www.elks.org/vets/** or type in **"Elks Veterans Programs"** on your search bar. The Elks Veterans Services Commission can be reached at **VETS@Elks.org** if you would like to volunteer. You will be amazed at what the Elks do!

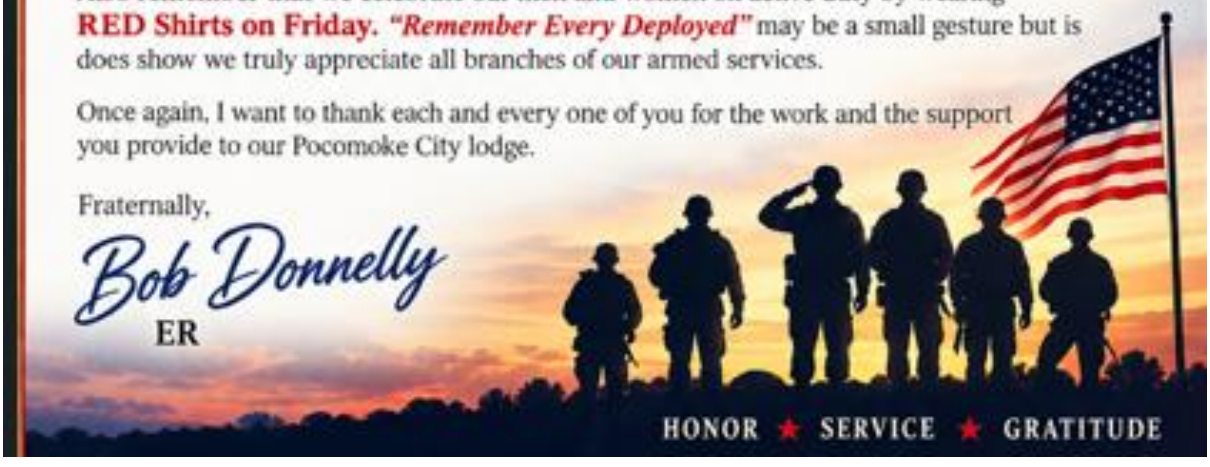
The Elks National Veterans Day Ceremony is held every year in Washington, DC to honor our veterans. I personally have never attended this service but it is on my bucket list.

Also remember that we celebrate our men and women on active duty by wearing **RED Shirts on Friday.** ***"Remember Every Deployed"*** may be a small gesture but is does show we truly appreciate all branches of our armed services.

Once again, I want to thank each and every one of you for the work and the support you provide to our Pocomoke City lodge.

Fraternally,

Bob Donnelly
ER



Greetings from the Secretary's Office!

As we head into November and the holiday season, I want to share important updates, upcoming events, and critical reminders with our Elks Lodge membership. This is always a busy and meaningful time of year for all of us, and keeping our members informed ensures we can continue to run smoothly and successfully.

First, let's talk about the health of our Lodge.

Right now, our delinquency rate sits at **6.5%**. While we are doing well, we can absolutely do better! If you sponsored a delinquent member, please reach out to them and remind them of the benefits of membership.

By keeping your membership current, it ensures we can continue funding our charitable programs and maintaining our beautiful facility. If you haven't received your renewal notice, or if life simply got in the way, please reach out to me so we can get you squared away.

On a related note, please remember to notify the Secretary's office immediately of any changes to your address, phone number, or email. Keeping our roster accurate ensures you never miss important news, dues notices, or event updates.

Membership Matters!

Saturday lunches will be returning starting November 7th.

Bring your appetite and your friends down to the Lodge for some great food and even better company.

Please remember to honor our veterans and plan to attend our "Veterans Day Dinner".

If you are a member who has served our country, please let the Secretary know which branch of the military you were with so we can properly honor your service.

Finally, please look at your calendars and note an important change to our usual routine.

Because of the holidays, we will have only one Lodge meeting in November and December (November 12th & December 10th). Please make every effort to attend Lodge meetings so you can stay abreast of important information and vote on important Lodge matters.

Lodge Meeting

I wish you all a very blessed, safe, and happy Thanksgiving surrounded by the ones you love.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

04	Kyle	Baumann		16	Cameron	McIntyre		22	Beverly	Twigg
06	Mark	Frostrom Sr		17	Derek	Dize		22	Philip	Watkinson
07	Jimmy	Johnson		17	Robert	Trautman		24	Ernie	Evans III
08	Fred	Lankford		17	Edward	Young III		24	Jeffery	Jump
10	James	Gladding		19	William	Farlow		25	William	Harrison
11	Danny	Miles		19	Jordan	Glovier		27	Susan	Brown
12	Stacey	Shemanski		19	Michael	Hall		28	Ryan	Holland
13	James	Beauchamp Sr		19	Austin	Taylor		30	Andrew	Blank
14	Joseph	Serman		20	Alexis	Showalter				
15	Freddy	Mitchell								

FRIDAY NIGHT DESSERTS ARE COMING BACK

Friday night dessert donations will be back January 2027. Please reach out to Miss Merry White at 410-422-2785 if you are interested in making a dessert for Friday night's. Sales from dessert will be donated to ENF.

SATURDAY LUNCHES ARE BACK

If you want to volunteer to make lunch on Saturday's. Please contact Lorie Northam 410-430-8740

LOUNGE HOURS

Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30pm – 9:00pm
Friday 5:30pm – 10:00pm
Saturday 11:30 - 9:00 pm

Please donate unwrapped toys

POCOMOKE CITY

Elks

LODGE #1624

QUEEN OF HEARTS

DRAWING EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM

(DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN)

SECOND CHANCE DRAWING AT 8:00 PM

$25 ELKS GIFT CERTIFICATE

(MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN)

WEEKLY CARD PAYOUTS

WEEKS	NUMBER CARDS (2–10)	FACE CARDS (J, Q, K)	ACES & JOKERS
WEEKS 1–15	$25	$75	$150
WEEKS 16–25	$50	$150	$250
WEEK 26 & BEYOND	$100	$200	$400

★ JACKPOT SPLIT ★

65% TO THE WINNER

REMAINING 35%

50% TO CHARITY

30% TO THE LODGE

20% TO START THE NEXT GAME

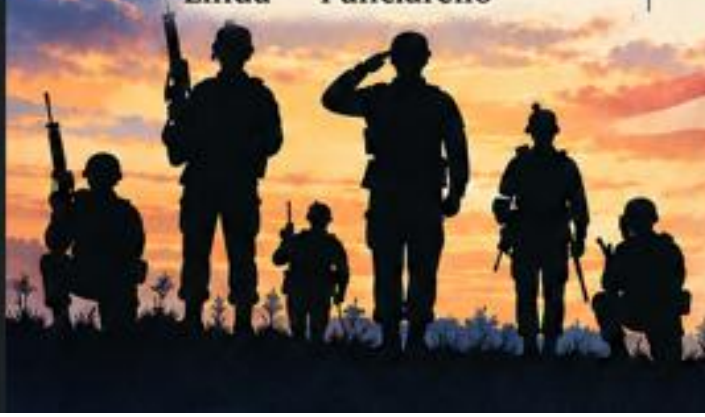
POCOMOKE CITY ELKS LODGE #1624

Elks USA

OUR VETERANS

Honoring the Men and Women of Pocomoke City Elks Lodge #1624

Sonny	Bloxom
Richard	Bloxom
Jerry	Boston
Allen	Brockhaus, Esquire
Kevin	Burke
John	Duryea
Rocco	Di Enno
Richard	Emens
Richard	Ennis
Mark	Frostrom Sr
Larry	Fykes
Sue	Gilmore
H Coston	Gladding, LM
Linda	Panciarello
James	Hayes
William	Hickman
Nicholas	Jones
Doug	Jones
John	Kelder Sr
Jeremy	Mason
Bernard	Mattei, PER
Ronald	McIntire
Stanley	Richmond
Anthony	Trader Sr
Anthony	Trader Jr
Donald	Vaughn
Frederick	White, Trustee
Rodney	White



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SERVICE

POCOMOKE CITY ELKS LODGE #1624 | MEET OUR VETERANS

Richard "Rick" Emens

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS • 1977–1983 • CORPORAL

A Marine's Story

For Richard "Rick" Emens, becoming a Marine began with an unexpected Christmas break. Growing up in New Jersey, Rick was in his senior year of high school when his teachers went on strike. During that break, he made a life-changing decision: he joined the United States Marine Corps.

Rick served from 1977 to 1983, completing his service as a corporal. He trained at Twentynine Palms, California, and was stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, before serving overseas in Japan and later at Quantico, Virginia. His assignments included communications work, field radio operations and serving as an enlisted instructor.

Rick jokingly describes his field radio operator training as "fancy words for a battery operated grunt." Although he had hoped to become a heavy equipment operator—and had completed the training and passed the test—he was persuaded to take the communications path. It was a demanding role: in wartime, radio operators could be targeted soon after officers.

Boot camp was the most challenging part of his service, though Rick says he never felt homesick. During his peacetime service, he worked in the communications center at Camp Lejeune, handling messages. Later, he spent three months near Mount Fuji and the remainder of his overseas assignment in Okinawa, Japan.

Field Communication Training

Mt Fuji

One unforgettable experience was traveling by ship from mainland Japan to the Mount Fuji area. During field exercises lasting 15 to 20 days, Marines practiced beach landings and prepared for the realities they might face in wartime.

Life After the Marines

Rick worked at several jobs before retiring from the Department of Public Works in New Jersey. His familiarity with the Eastern Shore through hunting helped bring him to Pocomoke. He and his first wife also valued access to a good cardiac hospital for her medical needs.

These days, Rick enjoys hunting and cutting grass. He is also active with the Sons of the American Legion, an organization he values for honoring fathers and grandfathers who served. He encourages others who qualify to consider joining.

Rick has quietly contributed a great deal to the Elks. He has served as maintenance chair and bingo chair, and he continues to look after the lounge pull tabs and ATM. He also handles less-visible jobs, such as keeping weeds under control around the building.

Although Rick sometimes hesitates when thanked for his service because he served during peacetime, his commitment and pride in being a Marine are unmistakable.

Rick's Advice to the Next Generation

"It's a great way to build character and show yourself what you really can do!"

Thank you, Rick, for your service to our country and your continued dedication to Pocomoke City Elks Lodge #1624.

Pocomoke City Elks 1624
Meet our Veteran

Coston Gladding, now a young 95, grew up right here in Pocomoke.

He enlisted in the Air Force in 1950 and traveled from Pocomoke by train to St Louis and then on to Texas for basic training.

After basic was over, he went to Radar School at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield California.

From there Coston went to Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. He remembers while in Biloxi, he earned his life savors license. Since he had that, he was given the extra duty of life guard. Rising at 4:30-5:00 am, after breakfast and his regular morning duties, he remembers being taken by military jeep to the beach where he would lifeguard until dinner time and would get picked up to head back to base.

Coston was then sent back to Radar school for advanced training and then went to Topika Kansas where he would get involved in Airbourne Radar Systems.

When the Koren War started they needed people with his experience to go overseas. He was sent to Yakota Japan for his 6 month over seas duty. What was supposed to be 6 months was extended due to the war.

At that time B29s had original radar that was used for searching. Coston was part of a team that installed systems that used latitude and longitude to coordinate where planes would bomb. There wasn't many that knew how to use it for bombers.

He and his team flew missions from Japan to Korea. Coston remembers his bomber plane having to be escorted by fighter jets and having to do their missions at night due to Russian fighters being able to spot them by day.

While Coston says the most challenging part of his service was basic training, having to bail out of his plan after it had been hit was certainly the moment he will never forget! Going down in the sea of Japan , the Lord looked out for Coston and his crew as they fell close to a little island off of the Koren peninsula. This island was known to be a safe, neutral place to be. Pt boats were able to head out from there, pick them up and take them to safety.

After his time overseas, Coston went back to California and was assigned to the B36's. These bombers were bigger and could go up to 50,000 ft where fighters couldn't get to. These planes were so big they had kitchens, you could have meals on them and he vividly remembers having some fried eggs on one.

Life After Service

After service Coston went to work at Wallops for the Navy. They were looking for electronic's people who specialized in Radar. He remembers working on a Glyder, designed to stricktly be used to hit the enemy Radar.

During his time at Wallops, Coston had the previlige of going to MIT and collaborating with two German Engineers (one named Hans Rudolph). The three of them were instrumental in the design of one of the largest radars at Wallops. Coston remembers "If I needed parts, those german engineers would fly them to me on their private planes from MIT". Coston remembers also going to to Alaska and Hawaii to put in electronic radar systems.

After working for the Navy, Coston then began to work for the Weather Bureu at Wallops, which is where he retired from. He was at one point, responsible for most of the big radars you still see there today.

When asked what "Cosmo", his given nickname was most proud of during his service. He said "Being able to work for my Country"

THE ELKS

Coston is not only a Military Veteran, he is also one of the founding members of the Pocomoke City Elks 1624. Coston knew some people from Crisfield Elks and they suggested that Pocomoke start a lodge and join the organization. He remembers having their first meetings at the old firehall downtown Pocomoke. As they gained more members they decided to buy a house close to 4th and Market Street. The members renovated the home and they added on to the back of it. Coston has very fond memories of those first Friday night dinners at that house. He called them "Friday night fry outs" with Steaks once a month, cooked out back. He said they had a bar upstairs in that old house and remembers having live music. With a smile on his face he said "I don't know if you would call it a band but it was Bobby Coulborne(drummer), Lee Wilkinson(sax/flute, and Chuck Hite(trumpet)".

As the membership grew, they decided to buy the property where our lodge sits now on rt 113. He remembers there being an air strip close to the lodge and members from Onancock lodge flying in from Parksley. Coston remembers "They didn't have alcohol and we did".

He thoroughly enjoyed being active in the Elks. He has many fond memories of every Wednesday night and every Saturday morning working on constructing our Lodge. Coston has never held an office with the Elks, but has been a dedicated founding member for 66 years and was certainly envolved from the start.

Planes and Cars

In his spare time, Coston loved and still loves airplanes and cars. Anything from one of a kind builds to models and flying. Coston actually built 2 cars and 1 plane himself. He remembers selling the cars to a collector in Onancock Virginia.

Coston also remembers Wallops allowing him to use their airstrip to fly the plane he built himself from there to Salisbury. When I asked "so you also had your pilots license", he chuckled and said "No, Just my Student license". 😊

Coston's advice to young people thinking about joining the military "Get involved, know your officers, see what you can do to contribute!" His advise to his younger self on his first day of service – "get as much education as you can".. I'd say he did just that!

POCOMOKE CITY
ELKS LODGE #1624
Upcoming
EVENTS
NOVEMBER
11TH
VETERANS DAY
DINNER
PASTA
VETERANS EAT FOR FREE!
DECEMBER
18TH
CHRISTMAS
PARTY
STEAK NIGHT
DJ ★ PHOTO BOOTH
DECEMBER
22ND
DINNER WITH
SANTA
PIZZA FOR THE KIDS
PICTURES WITH SANTA
JANUARY
16TH
BULL &
OYSTER ROAST
DETAILS COMING SOON!

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Closed	2 Closed	3 *BINGO* French Dip $12.99	4 Shrimp & Grits $11.99	5 *HOUSE Meeting* Closed	6 Beef & Dumplings $15.99	7 Hours 11:30-9:00 pm Shrimp Salad Sandwich w chips (Catherine Tindle) Limited menu after Lunch
8 Closed	9 Closed	10 *BOD Meeting* Burger Night $9.99	11 Veteran's Day Dinner Pasta $10.99	12 *Regular Meeting* Closed	13 Meatloaf $13.99	14 Hours 11:30-9:00pm Clam Chowder/Grilled Cheese *(Tom & Peggy Beauchamp)* Limited menu after Lunch
15 Closed	16 Closed	17 Blackened Tuna Sandwich $9.99	18 Bob's Fried Chicken $14.99	19 Closed	20 Steak Night $19.99	21 Hours 11:30-9:00 pm Baltimore Style Pitt Beef Sandwich/Hand Cut Fries *(Wade & Scott Taylor)* Limited menu after Lunch
22 Closed	23 Closed	24 Meatball Subs $12.99	25 Cheesesteak Night $12.99	26 Closed HAPPY THANKSGIVING	27 CLOSED	28 Lunch 11:30-3:00 pm Breakfast Sandwiches & Hash Browns (Lorie Northam & Stacy Sparrow) LOUNGE CLOSED AFTER LUNCH
29 Closed	30 Closed					