



# NEWSLETTER

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

January 2024 | VOLUME 273

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ER's Message .....	1
Mission Statement .....	1
Lodge Information .....	2
Secretary's Corner .....	3
Quarter Pool .....	3
Sunday Breakfast.....	3
Bingo Report .....	3
Sickness and Distress .....	3
In Memory Of... ..	3
Volunteers Needed.....	3
Save the Date .....	4
Tip of the Antlers .....	5
Grand Lodge News .....	6
House Report .....	7
Lodge Updates .....	8
Event Photos .....	9
Calendar.....	10
Newsletter Supporters .....	11

## MISSION STATEMENT

*"To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care." and Elks Share."*

## ER's Message

Hello Members,

Hope you had a wonderful holiday season! Kudos to everyone who participated in the yearly dart league tournament. Our next Friday night dinner, courtesy of the Joe and Brian team, is on January 19, and stay tuned for an email blast about the entertainment. We're also planning another karaoke night, working out the dates with DJ Dena.

Big shoutout to the Thursday night bingo crew, and rumor has it they're planning a super bowl tailgate surprise. Keep an eye out for that blast. Special thanks to Nancy Hunt for chairing the adult Christmas party; if anyone's up for it next year, please reach out. Thanks also to Cathy Scoons and team for the children's Christmas party, and to Angie, Rose, Rita, and the entire lodge for the success of our adopt a family program.

Lots to be thankful for, and more exciting events to come!

Fraternally yours,

Tim Davis

Exalted Ruler

518 229 3654

[Timfixer@gmail.com](mailto:Timfixer@gmail.com)

## Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler	Tim Davis
Leading Knight	Al Campisano
Loyal Knight	Patrick Skelley
Lecturing Knight	Gerald Wendel
Esquire	Barry Betz Jr.
Chaplain	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Inner Guard	Brian Hedge
Tiler	Joel Rigsbee
Secretary	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Treasurer	John Christiansen, PER
House Chair	Paul Muzio
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Skelley
Trustees	
5-Year Trustee	Chuck Adams, PER
4-Year Trustee	Ronald Barner, PER
3-Year Trustee	Dana Murphy
2-Year Trustee	Jim Walsh
1-Year Trustee	Greg Collins, PER

## Committee Chairs

Committee	Chair
Accident Prevention	Chris Linck
Activities Committee	Open
Adopt-A-Highway	Brian Kirch, PER
Adopt-A-Family	Angie Vroman
Adopt-a-Neighborhood	Jason Terrence
Americanism	Mary Jean Willis, PER
Antlers Program	Elaine Rudzinski
Auditing	Mike Bobersky / Andy Koenig
Bar Stewards	Tim Grugan / Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Bell Jar	Nick Vecchione, PER
Bingo Chair	Mark Mann
Charitable Reporting	Linda Rowse, DDGER
Christmas Party	Nancy Hunt
Cigar Tasting	Bryan Van Deusen
Coats for Kids	Shelley Viola
Community Activities	Bob Myron, PER
Community Awards	Chris Linck
Dart League	Conrad Jones
Drug Awareness	Barry Betz Jr.
Elks National Foundation	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
Elk Training	Dave Hilker, PER
Entertainment	Open
Flag Day	Marylou Hedge
Fraternal	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Fundraising	Open
Government Relations	Tom Grant / Phil Danaher
Grants	Greg Collins
Grounds	James Walsh
Hoop Shoot	Scott Galarneau
Ladies Night	Patti Embree
House Chair	Marylou Hedge
Indoctrination	Linda Rowse, DDD
Internet / Electronic	Dominic Indelicato
Justice	Joseph Slater
Kids Coaching Program	Cheryl Higgins
Lapsation	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
Liquor Steward	Jeff Grugan
Lodge Historian	Ronald Barner, PER
Lottery	Chris Adams
Major Projects	Jerry Wendel
Marketing	Open
Meat Raffle	Steve Frese
Membership	Open
Memorial Sunday	Jack Coyne
National Veterans	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Skelley
Pavilion Restoration	Paul Muzio
PER Association	Brian Kirch, PER
Public Relations	Greg Collins
Recreation	Ronald Barner, PER
Ritual	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Scholarship	Lori Bishop
Sickness and Distress	James Walsh
Soccer Shoot	Patrick Skelley
Steak and Lobster Bake	Steve Frese
Toys for Tots	Nancy Hunt
Trunk or Treat	Rose Herbst
Turkey Bowl	Joseph Slater / Steve Slater
Turkey Shoot	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
WELKcome	Chris Trumbull
Youth Activities	Cathy Scoons

### Support Your Lodge!

- Like / Share on Facebook
- Invite a Friend
- Volunteer Your Time
- Share Your Ideas
- Attend Lodge Fundraisers
- Attend Lodge Meetings
- Say No To Lodge Drama

## Lodge Information

Website:	www.2073elks.org		
Telephone:	(518) 477-9947		
ER Tim:	Timfixer@gmail.com		
Lodge E-mail:	2073elks@gmail.com		
Newsletter:	renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com		
Events:	housechairmanelks2073@gmail.com		
Mailing Address:	683 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061		
Lodge Hours:	Sun through Wed 2 PM – 8 PM; Thurs 2 —10 PM; Fri and Sat 2 PM —12 AM		
Lodge Meetings:	2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM		
Trustee Meetings:	2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM		
House Committee Meetings:	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 PM		
Facebook:	@2073elks	Linked In:	2073elks
Twitter:	@2073elks	Tik Tok:	2073elks
Snap Chat:	2073elks	Pinterest:	@2073elks

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Lodge dues have increased this year to \$78.00 due to increased Grand Lodge and State assessments.

- Dues for fiscal year 2023 – 2024 went out in the mail beginning in February, so you should have received notice. If you did not, please make sure we have a current mailing address.
- **Pay Your Dues Now!** If you are delinquent, please pay your dues so you don't become inactive for payment.
- Please remember that only Members current on their dues may enter the building and you may not sign in delinquent members as guests.

There are now two ways to pay your dues:

- **Mail in a check:** Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073, Attn: Lodge Secretary, 683 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061. Be sure to include your membership number in the "Memo" portion.
- **Stop In:** Come visit me at the Lodge or see the bartender with cash / check.



We have a critical need for help! Please contact the House Committee Chair or ER to find out ways you may get involved. The Lodge only functions because of the hard work of our Members. It isn't fair to tax the same people for all tasks all year long. They need a break!

- Cook chicken wings or hot dogs
- Chaperone a party
- Clean up after an event
- Fill up care packs for Vets
- Volunteer for a youth activity
- Be a server

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The Lodge hosts breakfast every Sunday morning from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM and members, their guests and the general public are welcome to attend. Our full service menu offers the most reasonable prices in town and a wide variety of food options with generous portions certain to please each guest. Help us to build our breakfast crowd by inviting a friend to join you. Groups are welcome, but please call ahead for reservations.



DECEMBER QUARTER POOL

01	3361	17	3357
02	3529	18	3456
03	3425	19	2507
04	2331	20	2815
05	2736	21	3208
06	2826	22	3096
07	3635	23	3272
08	3017	24	1877
09	3327	25	Closed
10	3032	26	1684
11	1083	27	3155
12	1989	28	3492
13	2652	29	2693
14	3207	30	3306
15	0916	31	3166
16	3461		
1 Winner!			

BINGO REPORT – 2023 SUMMARY

2023 was yet again another great year for bingo. The Bingo Committee, as always, continues to be working very hard to make it the success it is. The team in the kitchen continues to knock it out of the park, and we are even getting other Lodges inquiring how we can be so successful with our bingo.

We have broken attendance records and nightly proceeds this year as well. Additionally, thanks to our bingo players and the donations that they leave at the food window, we donated over \$1300.00 to various charities such as St Baldricks, Rens HS, EGPD K9 Unit, Anchor food pantry, wreaths across America, and numerous veteran programs and food pantries.

We want to thank PER Collins for all his help during the year and the continued support of all the trustees as well. Lastly, we would not be able to do what we do without your continued support. On behalf of the entire Bingo Committee and Kitchen Crew! Thanks!

Mark Mann, Bino Chairman

2023 Yearly

50 Events  
Total Receipts—\$171,204  
Prize Payouts—\$105,602  
Net—\$70,711

2022 vs. 2023

Increase of 50 players  
Increase Net—\$13,608  
20% Increase!

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

All is well!

Faithful God, We look back on the year behind us and appreciate your presence with us throughout 2023. We look ahead at the year before us with hope and anticipation of your continuing presence and power among us.

Let us give thanks for all we hold dear — our health, our family, and our friends. Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but hindrances in our growth. Please bless our Lodge and all its members, families, and friends with a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. Amen.

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee  
Chaplain (aka Chaptress)

Please contact the Lodge for any sickness and distress notices at (518) 477-9947. If you know of someone who has lost a friend or family member, or someone who could use a cheery word or assistance from fellow Elks, please let us know. Elks Care!



## January 19th: Friday Dinner



Elks 2073 is hosting an eat in or take out,  
Linguine with White or Red Clam Sauce Dinner - \$12



Comes with:

NE Clam Chowder & Bread

Friday, January 19th 5:30 – 6:45 pm

Questions; Call 518.265.3141

Must Preregister via link below or signup sheet in the Lodge



<https://linguine-dinner.cheddarup.com>

# Tip of the Antlers— November

- ✓ Thanks to Karen Barner for handcrafting nearly 75 little Christmas stockings, with candy canes, for our Veterans! Karen has been crafting these stockings, using plastic canvas, the past 10 years and selects a new organization as recipient each year.
- ✓ Thanks to Mary Ann Hilker, Linda Rowse, and Cathy Scoons for helping make Christmas decorations and table centerpieces for the Holy Spirit Children's Christmas Party, as well as our Lodge's Children's Christmas Party.
- ✓ Thanks to ER Tim Davis, Linda Weber, Moose, Mark Coyne, Tom Nardacci, Patrick Skelly, and Joel Rigsbee for assisting with the construction of a Christmas balloon arch for the Children's Parties! Project Manager Linda Weber ran a tight ship and kept the "lollipop kids" in line while making decorated lollipops for the Holy Spirit party!
- ✓ Thanks to the entire Trumbull family, along with Grandparents, for meticulously refreshing the Christmas balloon arch with even more balloon blowing and for making beautiful snowflakes to decorate the back Hall.
- ✓ Thanks to Kate Schoyer and Karen Barner for assisting in writing MANY Christmas cards for local Veterans this Christmas season.
- ✓ Thanks to Lodge members: Linda Weber, Moose Opitz, Dave and Mary Ann Hilker, Tina and Mark Mann, Sheri and Gary Wager, Dominic and Lynn Indelicato, and Deborah Deerfield for "adopting" a Veteran and/or family member for Christmas. Many Community members also donated gifts and Gift Cards for our Veteran families, as well as three additional single Moms living in a local motel who came to our attention one week before Christmas.
- ✓ Thanks to the Bingo Team and Bingo Patrons for their generous donations of tips and for holding Raffles to generate funds to purchase more Christmas presents for those in need. An additional Raffle was held at the Thursday morning Veterans & Friends Breakfast at the Melvin Roads American Legion (some of which are Elks members). All money raised for gifts was greatly appreciated by these 5 families consisting of 18 children and 7 adults.
- ✓ Thanks to Lodge members who helped wrap numerous gifts: Mary Muzio, Kate Schoyer, Debbie Nash, Joanne Palmer, Kailee Quinlivan, and Cathy Scoons. Community members and friends who also assisted: Faith, Colleen, Wendy, and Shondra.
- ✓ Thanks to Joel Rigsbee for renting a U-Haul trailer to deliver all the Christmas presents, along with additional gently used clothing and toys, to the five families.
- ✓ Thanks to ER Tim Davis and Paul Muzio for approving a request for the Lodge to provide Sunday morning breakfast on Christmas Eve to the adopted families (Veterans and single Moms). Additionally, Mary Ann Hilker provided her delectable homemade cupcakes, cookies, and confections for the families to enjoy during breakfast, with additional decorative Christmas bakery boxes filled to go. The children also received a stocking filled with snacks and a stuffed animal, along with balloons/inflatables.
- ✓ Thanks to Diana Murphy, Angie Vroman, and Becky Geisel for all the work they do throughout the year at the Nassau Community Resource Center, especially for their extra efforts to ensure families in need received Christmas presents, food, and clothing.
- ✓ Thanks to Debbie Ganance for donating a flat screen TV to a single Mom who had no TV.
- ✓ Thanks to Sue and Steve O'Malley for their donation of new clothing for Veterans in need.
- ✓ Thanks to Becky Nardacci for donating children's clothing for single Moms in need.
- ✓ Thanks to Joel Rigsbee for handcrafting an awesome dart board cabinet for the Lodge's Dart League.
- ✓ Thanks to Elaine Rudzinski for all her work in leading the Antlers Program. She's led them in performing many community service activities this past year.



## New Officers elected, PERs honored in February

A small group of actors and entertainers began this great Order on February 16, 1868. Look where we are one hundred and fifty six years later: We are still here to serve those in need, proving that “Elks Care—Elks Share.” What a journey! February is a very busy month for us as Elks. Only two months remain in the Lodge year. If you still have goals you haven’t met, it’s not too late. Get to work on them, they can still be accomplished. Use the next two months wisely and you certainly can get a lot done. It would be quite an accomplishment to announce to all of your Members that you have successfully reached the goals you set almost one year ago.

February is when new Officers are nominated and elected for the new Lodge year. All Lodges in our Order should elect leaders who are going to be dedicated to the affairs of your Lodge and community. The success of your Lodge programs will depend upon their leadership. Lodge Secretaries should note that February is when

you must upload the Lodge directory into the CLMS2 web page. This information is extremely important so that updates are done in a timely manner.

This month we recognize our Past Exalted Rulers. We must let them know their leadership and experience is invaluable to us. A Past Exalted Rulers Night is a great way to honor them for their contributions to your Lodge. Make them feel proud of their accomplishments.

During February, we recognize American Heart Month. This is when we get our Lodges and communities together in raising awareness to prevent heart disease. Proudly wear red during this month to show Elks care about cardiovascular health. In addition to Presidents’ Day on February 19, we also celebrate Valentine’s Day on February 14. We remember the people we love and those who make a difference in our lives. To my wife, Wanda, thank you for being my valentine for the past forty one years. Remember: “We Are THE Elks.” God Bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.

(Grand Lodge Newsletter Volume 59, No. 7)

# House Committee Report

## FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

### Hours

The Lodge hours are as follows:

Mon, Tue, Wed from 2:00pm–8:00pm

Monday Lodge Meeting night (2nd Monday of the month) and Friday and Saturday nights, the hours will be 2:00pm–10:00pm

Thursday BINGO nights 2:00pm-10:00pm

Sunday 12:00pm – 8:00pm during NFL Sundays

### Friday Dinners

Friday dinners are always welcome, asking for Volunteers, anyone looking to host, contact Myself or Tim Davis for assistance/planning. Holiday parties for the children and for the adults were a complete success.

### Bookings

We had 12 event bookings in December. Many thanks to ALL our House Committee members and others for all you do for our lodge.

### OCTOBER:

Revenue \$ 4,538.35

Expenses \$ 2,352.30

Net Profit \$ 2,186.05

### House Committee

It's January, a New Year 2024. The wishes everyone a Joyous and Happy New Year. The Committee is ready to handle bookings for the coming months, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduations, Weddings, Baby Showers. Booking dates are available, now is the time to reserve the Pavilion or Hall for your future upcoming event. The House Committee stands ready to assist all our members with any type of event.

**Volunteers are ALWAYS needed, step up and say I'd like to help or at least learn!**

Hope to hear or see you soon.

Fraternally,

Paul Muzio

House Committee

## LODGE NEWS

Want to include something in the Newsletter? Please submit by the **20th of the month**. Please sign up to receive your newsletter by e-mail. Please e-mail submissions to [renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com) or place in mailbox by the bar.

### E-mail Address Capture

Please help us to build better communication by providing your e-mail address. Whether you have given it to us before, please send a new message with your current e-mail so that we can update our system to [renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com)

# Lodge Updates

## Call for Volunteers at the Albany Stratton VA

From Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chair Veterans Services

Our Lodge is scheduled to service ice cream and popcorn to VA residents, in 8 wards, on Sunday, March 31, beginning at 11:30 a.m. This volunteer assignment can be fulfilled with four or five Lodge Members/Antlers Members.

Please let me know if you'd like to volunteer.

Thanks,

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chair

Veterans Services Committee

Email: [Cheri2073@yahoo.com](mailto:Cheri2073@yahoo.com)

---

## Elks Shirts Information

From Linda Weber

Starting in mid-January you will be able to purchase RENSSELAER ELKS 2073 shirts for a limited time via a website that is being set up now. You will also pay via that website. More detailed information will be posted here soon. The information will also be sent out via e-mail.

AFTER the website info is posted if you have further questions, you can contact me, Linda Weber, via the info below.

[lindaelks2073@gmail.com](mailto:lindaelks2073@gmail.com)

Or text me at 518-419-1437

Thank You. Linda



---

## Donate Old Sneakers

From Chuck Adams

The sneaker box is still here for a short time longer. The box will be available until the end of January. You can find the box in the coat closet in the hallway.

So far we have collected 4 bags of sneakers this year for reuse or to be recycled.

We are collecting all kinds of sneakers – new, old, tennis, basketball, soccer sneakers with rubber cleats, baseball sneakers with rubber cleats. Wearable sneakers are worth more than unwearable, but, we also collect unwearable sneakers. The only exception is the sneakers must be a matching pair. All proceeds will be donated to the lodge. This program is supported by Got Sneakers. Wearable sneakers are donated to people in need. Unwearable sneakers are recycled to programs that can use the materials used in sneakers.



Chuck Adams



## Event Photos



# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Dart League	4 Bingo 5pm	5	6
7 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	8 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	9 Lodge Initiation 7:00pm	10 Dart League	11 Bingo 5pm	12	13
14 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	15 Martin Luther Kind Jr Day	16	17 Dart League	18 Bingo 5pm	19 Friday Dinner 5:30pm	20
21 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	22 Antlers Meeting 6:30pm	23	24 Dart League	25 Bingo 5pm	26	27
28 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	29 Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30-6 6:30	30	31 Dart League			







Wm. J. Rockefeller  
Funeral Home, Inc.

We Are Celebrating  
150 Years!

Our Family Serving Your Family In Your Hour Of Need

Wm. J. Funeral Home, Inc.

165 Columbia Turnpike | Rensselaer, NY 12144 |  
(518) 449-7047

WWW.WJROCKEFELLER.COM

Marshall G. Wagner  
Owner / Director

George W. Wagner  
Owner / Manager

Michael J. Wagner  
Owner / Director

## NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS CLUB

### March 2023

Sue Polsinello  
In Memory of PER Floyd M Smith

### April 2022

Cindy Jeffries  
Dave Jeffries  
Carol McKay  
Lester McKay  
Sue Polsinello  
Tom Grant  
Rockefeller Funeral Home

Rockefeller Funeral Home  
George Wagner  
Marshall Wagner  
Michael Wagner  
Frank Heller  
In Memory of Fred Hutchinson  
Walt Myers

### May 2022

JoAnne Netzer  
In Memory of Francis A. Netzer and  
John Tiro

Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER  
Linda M. Rowse, DDGER

John J. Rowse  
Barrett L. Rowse  
Christine Rowse  
Morgan P. Rowse  
Kellynn Rowse Hickam

Emily Rowse Smith  
Steven Smith  
Sharon Malinoski  
Brian P. Rowse  
In Memory of

E. Kevin Rowse  
Gertrude B. Rowse  
Kevin B. Rowse  
M/Sgt. Thomas C. Rowse, USMC  
William C. Rowse

### June 2022

Richard C. Carpinello (2022)  
In Memory of Albert W. Carpinello

### September 2022

Alan Hedge  
Marylou Hedge  
Steven Hedge  
Brian Hedge

### October 2022

Jay Staggs  
for Rich Bedell and Frank Harper  
Patricia McCall  
In Memory of Leon Cellery, PER  
Charles Van Buren

The Past Exalted Rulers of Rensselaer  
Lodge remember their Past State and  
National Leaders:

Jay Amodeo, PSP  
George D'Ambrose, PSVP  
Frank P. Lili, PSVP  
Alexander Seney, PDDGER  
Raymond Daley, PDDGER  
Wray E. Tibbetts, PDDGER  
Veronica Adriance, PDDGER  
Charter Member Hank Rivet

### February 2022

David Kretschmar

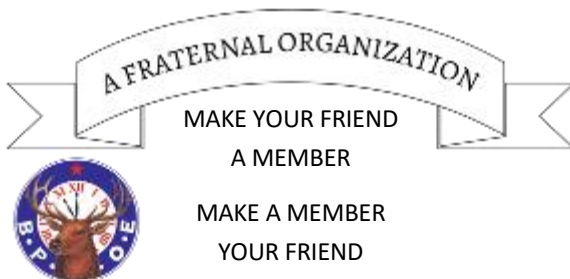
For only \$5 a year! Your name will appear that month you sign up until the Year 2023! You can also put it "in memory of" a loved one! When the month approaches where your name is listed is when you owe \$5 to renew and be a Supporter for another year. (To those that have already renewed—you are paid through "your month" in 2023). To join – send \$5 to the Lodge.

Rensselaer Elks News  
Is Published Monthly by  
BPOE Lodge #2073

TOM NARDACCI, PDDGER  
SECRETARY  
ALAN HEDGE  
EDITOR

RENSSELAER  
LODGE OF  
B.P.O.E Lodge No. 2073  
683 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE  
EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S Postage Paid  
East Greenbush, NY  
Permit No. 8



MAKE YOUR FRIEND  
A MEMBER

MAKE A MEMBER  
YOUR FRIEND