



The Roanoke Elks

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http://www.elks197.org
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

2026 - 2027 Lodge #197 Awards

Elk of the Year.....Dakota Carrington
Officer of the Year.....Tim Cronin
Citizen of the Year.....Jimmy Butler
Volunteer of the Year.....Barrett Sims

2026 - 2027 Lodge #197 Officers

Exalted Ruler.....Abbe Toler
Secretary.....Donna A. Moore
Treasurer.....Tim Cronin
Esteemed Leading Knight.....Shannon McCann
Esteemed Loyal Knight.....Patrick Savage
Esteemed Lecturing Knight.....Chris Davis
Esquire.....Stephen Brandtner
Chaplain.....Elizabeth Brandtner
Tiler.....Carol Adkins
Inner Guard.....Stephanie Walters

Trustees

Matt Wynn, PDDGER, PER, Ann Harwood, Matt Webb, Jim Batey, PER, Josh Walters

Editor

Amy Wilhelm
elks197news@gmail.com

All newsletter submissions are due no later than the 20th of the preceding month.

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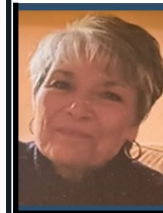
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ROANOKE
ELKS



LODGE
197

From Our Exalted Ruler



June is synonymous with Flag Day, a day that holds special meaning for members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Long before it was officially recognized as a national observance in 1949, the Elks were proudly honoring the American flag, becoming the first national organization to mandate its annual celebration.

Flag Day commemorates June 14, 1777, when the Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as our nation's emblem. For the Elks, however, it represents more than a date in history—it symbolizes unity, patriotism, and the enduring values that bind our communities together.

Each year, Elks Lodges across the country renew their commitment to honoring the flag with ceremonies that reflect respect, gratitude, and reverence. It is a time to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy and the sacrifices made to preserve them. As we gather this June, we are reminded that the flag is not just a symbol of our nation's past, but a living emblem of hope, service, and American spirit.

Elks Care - Elks Share,
Abbe Toler, Exalted Ruler



Emalee Peterson Hall Memorial
Red Cross Blood Drive: 6/18, 1-6

Open to the public! Walk-ins welcome!
To schedule an appointment, go to red-crossblood.org and use keyword "elks197". A couple of volunteers are needed 12pm-1pm that day to help Red Cross unload & set up.
Contact Tony Koliba (540) 330-6208

Our Scorecard: Since 07/2022, our Lodge has collected 1019 pints helping 3057 people in need.
Thanks to all participants and volunteers!

June 2026 At A Glance

- June 2: PER Meeting- 6:00
June 2: Maintenance committee Meeting- 6:00
June 3: Trivia Night- 7:00
June 4: Bowling with Veterans (Lee Hi Lanes)- 10:00
June 9: Lodge Meeting- 7:30
June 14: Flag Day Ritual- 4:00
June 17: Trivia- 7:00
June 18: Emalee Peterson Hall Memorial Blood Drive- 1 - 6
June 20: Adult Swim (DJ Chuck)- 6:00
June 23: Lodge Meeting- 7:30
June 24: Book Club The Mad Wife, By: Meagan Church- 6:00

*Adult Swim Nights take place on the third Saturday of June, July, and August. During each Adult Swim Night, we'll be collecting canned food donations to support families in need. Sip, dip, and give!

June 2026

Calendar grid for June 2026 with days of the week and dates. Includes events like '6:00 PER Meeting', '7:00 Trivia', '10:00 Bowling w Vets @ Lee Hi Lanes', '4:00 Flag Day Ritual', '6:00 Adult Swim Music by: DJ Chuck', '6:30 Orientation', '7:30 Lodge Meeting Initiation'.



June Specials

- 3rd- pulled pork w/ chips - 13
9th- chicken stir fry w/ rice - 15
17th- fried chicken, mash potatoes & green beans - 14
23rd- spaghetti & meatballs w/ garlic bread - 13
24th- egg salad sandwich w/ chips - 8

Grand Exalted Ruler



The message of the Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Klatt, is available in the Elks monthly magazine and on the Grand Lodge web site: www.elks.org

June 2026 Elk of the Month



As I sit to write this, I can't help but think about how long I have known both Kevin and Missy, even though I met them at completely different times in life. It was sometime in the hustle and bustle of college that I met Kevin in Blacksburg, VA and shortly after college that I met Missy through a mutual friend, in Roanoke, VA. At those points in life, little did any of us know that they would become "The Fletchers".

They are the true definition of what I call a "Power Couple". Kevin and Missy are constantly on the go, whether it is traveling, attending/ watching sporting events, or helping around our Lodge.

As recent retirees, Kevin and Missy enjoy traveling locally and internationally, making friends wherever they go. They have recently visited the United Arab Emirates, Mexico, and the Caribbean, with other shorter trips including Niagara Falls and Pittsburgh.

Missy is often seen cheering on the Michigan State Spartans or the Miami Dolphins, while Kevin roots for the Pittsburgh Steelers and often his alma mater, the University of Memphis. And if there is no conflict of interest, both Missy and Kevin cheer loudly for the Virginia Tech Hokies! Go Hokies!!

"The Fletchers" can often be seen supporting Roanoke Elks Lodge 197. They regularly attend Bowling with the Vets, serve at the Veteran's Dinners, deliver to our First Responders, and of course support our Ross/ Brooks Scholarship Fund, by testing their luck on the pull tabs.

The great friendship we share and their willingness to always lend a helping hand make it my honor to Congratulate Kevin and Missy, "The Fletchers", on being selected as the Elks of the Month for June 2026!

Josh Walters

Veterans' Corner

- Veterans' Bowling will be held at Lee-Hi Lanes on June 4th at 10:00 AM.
- For information regarding Welcome Home Kits and items needed for the Salem VA, please see the May Elks #197 newsletter.
- Our Veterans Salute feature will appear in the July newsletter. If you or someone you know is a veteran, we would greatly appreciate your participation. As Elks, we are proud to honor those who have served our country. Elks Lodge #197 is fortunate to have many veterans among our members, and we would love the opportunity to share your stories and recognize your service.

Contact:
BT Butler — 540-537-5178
You may also contact the editor at:
elks197news@gmail.com

Virginia Elks Youth Camp

2026 Youth Camp Weekend began a new journey for Lodge 197. With an incredible turnout of 14 highly motivated members, Lodge 197 proudly showed Virginia what our Lodge is truly made of.

We would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who took time out of their weekend to help prepare Youth Camp for what is sure to be a spectacular 2026 summer camp season. Although Lodge 197 does not yet have a cabin to call our own, we certainly left our mark all over camp — helping other Lodges refresh their cabins and stepping in to rehabilitate cabins that had no representation for the weekend.

I think everyone involved can agree that the experience was even more rewarding than expected. The fellowship, teamwork, and dedication shown throughout the weekend made all of us proud to represent Roanoke Lodge 197.

To those who were unable to attend this year, we invite you to take a look at the photos on our Facebook page and consider joining us next year. Even sooner than that, we hope you will join us for Adult Youth Camp Weekend on October 10th weekend.

Thank you again to everyone who helped make this weekend such a success.

DAKOTA CARRINGTON dcarrington3371@gmail.com



Book Club meets Wednesday, June 24th, at 6pm. This month we will discuss:
The Mad Wife By Meagan Church.

~Carol Adkins 540.353.5959

Pool Hours

MON*	TUE	WED-FRI	SAT	SUN
CLOSED	11 - 7	11 - 9	9:30 - 9	9:30 - 8

Elks Care - Elks Share

Hello Fellow Elks,

Youth Camp shirts are now available to order! We've got a great logo this year — thank you, Dakota — and you can choose from four styles: short-sleeve T-shirt, long-sleeve T-shirt, sweatshirt, and hoodie.

How to order

Fill out the order form at the Lodge.

Pay at the counter (items are in the POS — thank you, Brad).

Order deadline: June 15 (so the kids have shirts ready for camp).

Turnaround is typically 1-2 weeks once the order is placed. I'll post an update when the order is filled. Thank you all for your support — you are greatly appreciated!

Note: We added \$2 to each item to help us continue providing Roanoke 197 T-shirts to our campers at no cost.

Prices

Short-sleeve T:	Long-sleeve T:	Sweatshirt:	Hoodie:
Small-XL: \$16	Small-XL: \$18	Small-XL: \$28	Small-XL: \$33
2XL: \$18	2XL: \$20	2XL: \$30	2XL: \$35
3XL: \$20	3XL: \$22	3XL: \$32	3XL: \$37

Thank you for helping us outfit our campers and show our Lodge pride!



~Elizabeth Brandtner

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