



# Elk Call



Volume 63, No 12

TELEPHONE 815-744-3355

March, 2025

The Joliet Elks Lodge #296 Newsletter is a monthly newsletter distributed electronically and in limited print to its membership, district lodges, and state association officers. This publication brings invaluable articles of interest to and for our lodge members and families. Throughout the year, features include news and events, information from Grand Lodge and information on social gatherings.

## A WORD FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our raffle, it was a huge success. It was heartwarming to see all the members and spouses who sent or brought in their purchased tickets. I know many members and spouses do not make it out to our Lodge for many different reasons (health, distance etc.) even so, you all supported your Lodge, it was amazing to see such a large response! FROM MY HEART, A HUGE THANK YOU!

With your continued support we can grow and continue working for our community. It was great to see all who showed up for the food pantry this month, it seems they also need volunteers to help run the bingo in the afternoon, if you are interested in volunteering at the food pantry, we go every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. You can call me with any questions at 708-990-1766.

Our Lent fish dinners from 176 West Catering start March 14 and the last day is April 18; hours are 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Please join us on March 22, for a fun filled evening with food and a DJ/Karaoke. We are having an Irish theme for the food and we ask everyone attending to bring a dish (if possible something Irish). Bar opens at 4:00 p.m. and the DJ starts at 7:00 and ends at 11:00 p.m.

We are also currently working on having a DJ/Karaoke every month, but this can only be successful with you, our members, spouses and guests of members coming out and enjoying our club!

Finally, we will be installing the Officers at the last Lodge meeting of this month, be sure to come! Hope to see you in our club and at our Lodge meetings, you are what makes this Lodge successful!

GOD BLESS!



*Debra Bruno-Nevin, PIR*

## Lodge Sale News

Holy crap, its finally here. See page 4 for details!

This of course brings up the question of where to go next? All members are encouraged to attend future Lodge meetings to stay up-to-date on any discussions.



**FRIDAY MARCH 14TH 7:00 PM**

Please arrive by 6:30 to get your table and something to drink. We have a good selection of both in the Lounge. Come with your own team or feel free to join one of the teams that are already here. All members and their guests are welcome.

I don't know last month's winners, I wasn't there.



**During the Kids Easter Party, we will also be holding an ADULT Easter Egg hunt.**

**Also, Lori is still looking for donations of candy and plastic eggs.**

## QUEEN OF HEARTS:

- 1-24-25: Larry Burns, PDDGER. # 17 ( 2 of spades)
- 1-31-25: Andy Lopez. # 27 ( Ace of hearts)
- 2-7-25: Mark Bump, PDDGER. # 31 ( 4 of spades)
- 2-14-25: Larry Burns, PDDGER. #50 (2 of hearts)
- 2-21-25: Joe Petrowski. #36 (6 of spades)
- 2-28:25: Terry Allison. #43 (Ace of clubs)
- 3-7-25: Andy Lopez. #28 (Ace of spades)



## Lodge Benefit Raffle Results

- 1st place—\$500, Margaret Norcross
- 2nd place—\$250, Judy Wrona
- 3rd place—\$150, Rick Chapman
- 4th place—\$100, Ray McShane

Congratulations to our winners and THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Lodge by entering our raffle!



The Irish gave the bagpipes to the Scots as a joke, but the Scots haven't got the joke yet.

## 2024-2025 LODGE #296 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler.....Debra Bruno-Nevin PER  
 Est. Leading Knight.....Karen Johnson PER  
 Est. Loyal Knight.....Dan Ward  
 Est. Lecturing Knight.....Ricky Gray  
 Secretary.....Mark Bump PER, PDDGER  
 Treasurer.....Jan Flint  
 Tiler.....Annie Won  
 Esquire.....Slim Pickens  
 Chaplain.....Lori Bump  
 Inner Guard.....Wyenot Hugh

Trustee (2025).....Chris Marry  
 Trustee (2026).....Larry Burns PER, PDDGER  
 Trustee (2027).....Penny Burns PER, PDDGER  
 Trustee (2028)..... Andy Lopez  
 Trustee (2029)..... Clint Flint PER  
 Board of Directors Chair..... Penny Burns, PER, PDDGER  
 P.E.R. President.....Debra Bruno-Nevin PER  
 Editor.....Jeff Sterr PER PDDGER  
 Casting Director.....Lori Bump  
 Very Temporary Assistant Editor.....Dee Zaster

### Lodge Information

Office Hours: M-F 9am-12pm

**Lounge Hours: Mon, Wed. 4pm to 10pm**

**Tuesday , Thursday & Sunday -CLOSED**

**Friday & Saturday 4-11**

Phone # : 815-744-3355

Address: 250 SE Frontage Rd., Joliet, IL 60431

Email: [elks296@att.net](mailto:elks296@att.net)

Website: <http://www.jolietelks.com>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Joliet-ElksLodge-296](http://www.facebook.com/Joliet-ElksLodge-296)

Bob Eckhoff- District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler

Elks Website: [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

Illinois Elks Association: <http://www.illinoiselks.org>

Illinois Elks Children's Care: [www.illinoiselksccc.org](http://www.illinoiselksccc.org)

For lodge updates as it relates to lodge functions, check out the lodge website and/or Facebook page.

### MEMBERSHIP-MONTHLY REPORT

#### JOLIET ELKS LODGE #296

Number of Members on April 1, 2024—190

Membership as of 1/17/2024: 197

Delinquent as of 2/18/2024: 9

As of February 18,2025 the lodge still has 9 members unpaid for the 2024-25 lodge year. Section 14.160 of the Laws of the Order requires the lodge to suspend for the non-payment of dues of all members who are as much as one year arrears in dues. The following are those members:

Barney, Thomas	Narug, Leonard	Switzer, Maureen
Eaton, Dan	Pearce, Reble	Talaga, William
Mitchell, Peggy	Smith, Michael	Willson, Camille

Payment in the amount of \$100 must be received by March 31,2025 to the lodge secretary. Remember the lodge has already paid \$39.25 each to Grand Lodge per capita at the beginning of the current lodge year.

Any questions please contact

Mark Bump, PER, PDDGER, Lodge Secretary

## OLD (?) TIMERS REPORT

### ELK LODGES CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

LODGE NAME & NO.	INSTITUTED
Beacon, NY # 1493	July 17, 1924
Wellsville, NY # 1495	September 23, 1924
Burbank, CA # 497	December 2, 1924
Watervliet-Colonie, NY # 1500	January 5, 1925
Brattleboro, VT # 1499	January 6, 1925
Saranac Lake, # 1508	May 22, 1925
Hood River, OR # 1507	May 29, 1925
Lyndhurst, NJ #. 1505	June3, 1925
Ridgefield Park, NJ # 1506	June 20, 1925
Brookfield, IL # 1510	June 24, 1925

**FYI:** This past February marked the 157th anniversary of the B.P.O.E. The Elks have spent over a century and a half dedicated to charity, patriotism, and community service and have contributed over 12 billion in charitable donations, making a tangible difference in countless lives. Help your lodge in honoring the Elks legacy to making a difference to service veterans, students, and communities nation wide.



Just try to say "Irish wristwatch" 3 times aloud and still sound intelligent!

...And we'll go with this definition, (not the other ones) - An alcoholic drink consisting of [Jameson Irish Whiskey](#) mixed with a splash of [Bailey's Irish Cream](#). Also known as a Perverted Irishman.

### Kids Easter Egg Party

**APRIL 13TH**

Noon to 3

**KIDS & ADULT EASTER EGG HUNT**



**VISIT FROM THE EASTER BUNNY !!**

Please use the sign up sheet in the Lounge.

Editor reserves the right to edit the submissions for Grammar, Punctuation, and Content as space allows.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March Birthdays



- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 3 Margaret Shannon   | 13 John Kelly      |
| 6 Keith Radamacher   | 18 Greg Geil       |
| 8 Ronald             | 19 Alan Horvath    |
| 10 Marsha Boyd       | 23 Michael Priesbe |
| 11 David Castleberry | 24 Clint Flint PER |
| 13 Iggy Guzman       | 31 Gerald Tadej    |



## Elks National Foundation

### Our Impact

Since inception, the ENF has contributed more than \$500 million toward Elks charitable projects nationwide. Our programs continue to grow each year, allowing Elks to do even more to build stronger communities. Click here for details on all ENF programs.

This year, the ENF allocated more than \$16.3 million to fund the Community Investments Program, investing in Elks communities through grants for Elks Lodges. Community Investments Program grants offer your Lodge an opportunity to serve your community in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization that's doing great things.

### Your Secure Donation Will Help Build Stronger Communities!

Donating to the ENF online is quick, easy and secure. Your online donation will be put to work immediately supporting Elks programs. If you're an Elk, your Lodge will also be credited for your donation.

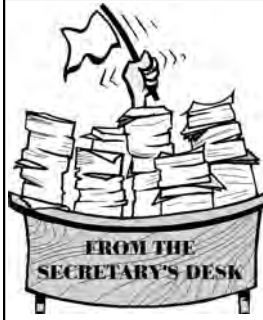
[CLICK HERE TO DONATE!](#)



Jay Caswell opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend John Harvish.

"Did you see the paper?" asked Jay. "They say I died!!!"

"Yes, I saw it!" replied John. "Where are ye callin' from?"



Make your New Years resolution to attend more lodge meetings in the new year.. Let's all attend and see what the new year has in store for the lodge and its membership.

Membership renewal forms are attached with the March emailing of the Elk Call. Please submit your renewals ASAP. Any questions, contact me. Thank you to those who have already sent in their payments.

As we got ready for spring something to ponder: Do chickens communicate by using fowl language?

P.S. For our veterans of the lodge, this years membership cards will have the option to add your military info. i.e. ret. army, honorable discharge, etc. If you would like that on your card please let me know when you submit your payment.

Sincerely and Fraternaly submitted,

Mark Bump, PDDGER Lodge Secretary

### HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR 2025 CCC CALENDAR?

You could be a winner, just like Joliet's own Karen Bellot.



### 2025 CCC Calendars Still Available.

- Cost \$20, and gets you a chance at :
- 245 drawings of \$50
- 12 monthly drawings of \$100
- 3 Special drawings of \$1,000
- 1 Grand Drawing of \$5,000

Winners are randomly drawn from all registered participants, and all winners are eligible for future drawings throughout the year. Calendars are available from Chair Mark Bump, PDDGER.

**STOP OUT AND SEE US SOMETIME, WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU**



### Who are the Elks?

Elks are community. No matter where you go in the country, an Elks Lodge is right around the corner. With nearly 800,000 members and 1,800 Lodges nationwide, Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities. [Join us in service to your community!](#)



**FINALLY!!**  
**We will be hearing & voting**  
**on several proposals**  
**concerning our property in the**  
**next 3 meetings.**

**First**—Vertical Bridge, LLC, which is one of the lessee's of a cell tower on our property, wishes to extend the lease agreement with our lodge. We will be discussing this information at the **March 25th** lodge meeting and voting on this potential agreement at the **April 8th** lodge meeting.

**Second**—The proposed sale of the building. We will be reading the following proposal on the lodge floor at the regular **March 25th** Lodge meeting beginning at 7 pm, and vote at the regular **April 8th** Lodge meeting, beginning at 7 pm:

**Joliet Elks Lodge #296** (the “Seller”) proposes to enter into an agreement to sell its building and land located at 250 SE Frontage Road, Joliet, IL 60431, Property Index Number (PIN): 05-06-15-200-022-0000. Legal Description: THAT PRT OF THE E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 OF SEC 15, T35N-R9E, DAF: BEG AT PT ON THE E'LY ROW LN OF FAI 34 AND 64.24 FT E OF THE SW COR OF E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 SD SEC; THC NE'LY ALG SD ROW, 790 FT; THC SE'LY AT RIGHT ANGLES, 284 FT; THC NE'LY AT RIGHT ANGLES, 754 FT; THC NW'LY AT RIGHT ANGLES, 235.58 FT TO THE E'LY ROW LN OF SD RTE 34; THC SW'LY ALG SD ROW TO THE POB TOGETHER WITH THAT PART DAF: THAT PRT OF THE E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 OF SEC 15, T35N-R9E, DESC AS COMM AT A PT ON THE E'LY ROW LN OF HWY RTE 34 (I-55) AND 64.24 FT E OF THE SW COR OF THE E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 OF SD SEC 15; THC NE'LY ALG SD ROW, 790 FT; THC SE'LY 284 FT ALG A LN FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE RIGHT OF PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESC COURSE TO A POB; THC CONT SE'LY ALG SD LN, 45 FT; THC NE'LY 450 FT ALG A LN FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE LEFT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESCRIBED COURSE; THC NW'LY 45 FT FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE LEFT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESCRIBED COURSE; THC SW'LY 450 FT FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE LEFT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESC COURSE TO THE POB PER R88-003113 & R88-003314 AND TOGETHER WITH THAT PRT DAF: THAT PRT OF THE E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 OF SEC 15, T35N-R9E. DESC AS COMM AT A PT ON THE E'LY ROW LN OF FEDERAL AID HWY RTE 34 (I-55) AND 64.24 E OF THE SW COR OF THE E1/2 OF THE NW1/4 OF SD SEC 15; THC NE'LY ALG SD ROW, 790 FT; THC SE'LY 318.5 FT ALG A LN FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE RIGHT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESC COURSE; THC NE'LY 754 FT ALG A LN FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE LEFT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESC COURSE TO A POB; THC NW'LY 270.08 FT ALG A LN FORMING A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE LEFT OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE LAST DESC COURSE TO A PT ON THE E'LY ROW OF SD FEDERAL RTE 34; THC NE'LY 70.93 FT ALG SD ROW CURVE LN WITH A RADIUS OF 544.85 FT TO THE RIGHT; THC SE'LY A DIST OF 244.84 FT TO THE POB, to HOLLADAY PROPERTY SERVICES MIDWEST, INC., (the “Purchaser”) located at 3454 Douglas Road, South Bend, IN, 44635. Joliet Elks Lodge #296 would retain the income from the cell towers and the billboards by means of a permanent easement.

The proposed purchase price is **One Million Five Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand and no DOLLARS (\$1,535,000.00)**, subject to proration of real estate taxes, transfer stamps and other customary closing costs. Lodge Lecturing Knight Rick Gray of Joliet Elks Lodge #296 is authorized to act for the Lodge.

Joliet Elks Lodge #296 will retain the proceeds to pay regular expenses while seeking a temporary lease location prior to locating a permanent facility.

**The complete contract agreement and the terms of the sale will be put forth in a resolution to the floor of the Lodge for a vote by all of the members in good standing as per GL Statutes 16.050 prior to execution.** Any sale agreement by Joliet Lodge #296 is contingent upon final approval and authorization by the Board of Grand Trustees of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

If said contract sale agreement is successfully accepted by the Lodge members, the agreement will be submitted to the Board of Grand Trustees for final approval and authorization in accord with Section 16.050 of the current Grand Lodge Statutes.

Questions on any of the above will be answered at the Lodge meetings.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025 HOOP SHOOT NATIONAL FINALS IS OPEN UNTIL APRIL 7**

The **2025** Hoop Shoot National Finals will take place at Wintrust Arena, home of the WNBA's Chicago Sky and DePaul's Blue Demons. [Click here for a full contest schedule.](#)



I have more fun in March!

# LOOK BELOW FOR ACCESS TO YOUR 2025-2026 DUES STATEMENT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to:

Joliet Elks Lodge #296  
250 SE Frontage Rd.  
Joliet, IL 60431-9057

## DUES STATEMENT

**April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026**

Regular Prepaid dues 12 months	\$ 60.75
Prepaid per capita assessments for Grand Lodge and State Association in accordance with the Constitution And Section 14.300 of the Statutes of the Order	<u>42.25</u>
<b>Required amount Due per GL Statutes and Lodge Bylaws:</b>	<b>\$ 103.00</b>



**Life member Dues per GL Statutes and Lodge Bylaws: \$ 67.25**

### Additional Options

(Please check applicable boxes)

- 1. NATIONAL FOUNDATION  \$ 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. LODGE PROJECT  \$ 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. CHILDREN'S CARE CORP  \$ 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. SPOUSE / WIDOW CARD  \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues may be paid in two installments, 1st installment is \$72.63 which includes the per capita assessment  
Please return this statement with your payment.

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_**

Have you moved or changed your phone number? \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a Veteran? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, in what branch did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_  
Would you like this information printed on your membership card? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Please mail card**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **I will pick up card at the Lodge**

By submitting my email and signing below, I hereby authorize the lodge to provide any notice that is required to be sent or mailed to all Members of a Lodge to be included in the Lodge Newsletter and sent electronically.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email (if different from above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**Thank you for your continued support of Joliet Lodge #296**

# Elks Disaster Relief Fund

Donate today!



## BRYAN KLATT FUNDRAISER PINS ON SALE

Get you Endorsed Candidate Bryan Klatt pins and/or pendants for sale while they last.

We are excited to have the next GER come from Illinois and want to help Bryan raise the funds needed as the incoming GER at the 2025 Grand Lodge Convention in Kansas

City. Limited edition pins and pendants are for sale at \$100 per person or \$150 a couple. Purchasers will also get an invitation to Bryan's reception in Kansas City. See Jeff Sterr to obtain one (or 2) or for more information.



WHEN THE IRISH SAY THAT

ST. PATRICK CHASED THE SNAKES OUT OF IRELAND, WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU IS THAT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW ANY SNAKES.

# 176 West Banquets & Catering

## Friday Night Dinner Menu

Serving from 4 pm to 7 pm

1 pc. Fried Cod Dinner	\$12.00
2 pc. Fried Cod Dinner	\$15.00
3 pc. Fried Cod Dinner	\$18.00

2 pc. Fried Walleye Dinner	\$15.00
6 pc. Shrimp Dinner	\$18.00
Combo Dinner —	
1 pc Fried Fish & 3 Shrimp	\$15.00

Hamburger/Cheeseburger	\$12.00
Chicken Fingers	\$12.00

All dinners include salad; bread & butter; and choice of French Fries or Baked Potato.

## Continuing to Give to the Community... REVERSE LENTEN (Easter) CALENDAR

Similar to our Reverse Advent Calendar Project that we usually run, this year we would like to try a Reverse Lenten Calendar. Each day from March 21st to April 13th we will be asking our members to contribute the following items for the lodge project This year's donations will be going to St. John's Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

21-Mar	Box of cereal	2-Apr	Canned beans
22-Mar	Peanut butter	3-Apr	Box of crackers
23-Mar	Stuffing mix	4-Apr	Package of rice
24-Mar	Boxed potatoes	5-Apr	Package of oatmeal
25-Mar	Macaroni and cheese	6-Apr	Package pasta
26-Mar	Canned fruit	7-Apr	Spaghetti sauce
27-Mar	Canned tomatoes	8-Jan	Chicken noodle soup
28-Mar	Canned tuna	9-Apr	Tomato soup
29-Mar	Dessert mix	10-Apr	Can corn
30-Mar	Jar of applesauce	11-Apr	Can mixed vegetables
31-Mar	Canned sweet potatoes	12-Apr	Can carrots
1-Apr	Cranberry sauce	13-Apr	Can green beans

## Life's Like That.....

- At age 4 success is.....not peeing your pants.
- At age 12 success is.....having friends.
- At age 17 success is.....having a driver's license.
- At age 20 success is.....having sex.
- At age 35 success is.....having money.
- At age 50 success is.....having money.
- At age 65 success is.....having sex.
- At age 70 success is.....having a driver's license.
- At age 75 success is.....having friends.
- At age 80 success is.....not peeing your pants.



Learn how you can get involved.  
Watch the **Elks Orientation Video.**



## JOLIET ELKS CALENDAR FOR **March, 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 Euchre 6:30 pm	4	5 Euchre 6:30 pm	6	7 Fish Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	1  8
9	10 Euchre 6:30 pm	11  Lodge Meeting 7 pm	12 Volunteer 10 AM Food Pantry  Euchre 6:30 pm	13	14  Fish Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	15 Bid Euchre 7pm  Beware!!
16	17  Euchre 6:30 pm	18 House & BOD meeting 7 pm	19 Euchre 6:30 pm	20	21 Fish Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	22 <b>IRISH Celebration 6-11 pm</b>
23	24 Euchre 6:30 pm	25  Lodge Meeting 7 pm	26 Euchre 6:30 pm	27	28 Fish Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	29
30	31 Euchre 6:30 pm	<b>INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS for 2025-2026 will be immediately following the March 25th Lodge meeting.</b>				

## JOLIET ELKS CALENDAR FOR **April 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
If it weren't for me, there'd just be a pile of my clothes on the floor.		1	2 Euchre 6:30 pm	3	4 Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	5
6 East District MTG Pontiac #1019 10 am	7 Euchre 6:30 pm	8  Lodge Meeting 7 pm	9 10 AM Food Pantry  Euchre 6:30 pm	10	11  Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	12
13 Kids Easter Party Noon– 3 pm	10 Euchre 6:30 pm	11 House Com & BOD meeting 7 pm	12 Euchre 6:30 pm	13	14 Dinner 4-7 Queen of Hearts 7:30	15 Bid Euchre 7pm
20 	17 Euchre 6:30 pm	18  Lodge Meeting 7 pm	19 Euchre 6:30 pm	20	21 Queen of Hearts 7:30	22 Wii Bowling 7pm 
27	28 Euchre 6:30 pm	29  Give thanks. Give life.	30 Euchre 6:30 pm	intoxication, n: Euphoria at getting a tax refund; which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.		



**BANQUET FACILITIES FOR ALL OCCASIONS**

Any of Your Banquet Needs  
Seating up to 225 People

- \* Rehearsal Dinners
- \* Dinner Meetings
- \* Wedding Receptions
- \* Birthdays
- \* Dinner Parties
- \* Fundraiser Outings

Catering Available from 176 West—  
from appetizers to sit down dinners

For more information call Debra (708) 990-1766

"Two elderly women were in a beauty parlor getting their hair done when in walked a 21-year-old girl with a low-cut blouse that revealed the tattoo of a rose on one breast. One woman leaned over to the other and whispered: 'Poor thing. She doesn't know it, but in 50 years she'll have a long-stemmed rose in a hanging basket!'"

**An Irishman is a Guy Who...**

- Won't eat meat on Friday, but will have whiskey for breakfast;
- Believes everything he can't see and nothing he can;
- Believes in civil rights, just not in his neighborhood;
- Can argue either side of a question, often at the same time;
- Considers funerals a festivity but weddings sad events to be put off as long as possible, preferably forever;
- Gets more Irish the farther he gets from Ireland;
- Takes the pledge not to drink at the age of twelve, and every four years thereafter;
- Considers anyone who won't come around to his point of view to be hopelessly stubborn;
- Considers any Irishman who achieves success a traitor.

The Irish are a perverse, complex people. Its what makes us so lovable. We are banking heavily that God has a sense of humor!

**Fred C. Dames**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
741-5500  
Over 150 years of Family Service

Patricia Vinsel  
patriciavinsel@176west.com  
www.176west.com

**176 West**  
*Banquet Hall and Catering*  
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Phone 815-730-1060 Cell 815-955-4968  
Para Espanol Juan Guzman (779) 435-9684 or Ignacio Guzman (815) 258-9537

**SPRING REALTY**

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Donna 815.955.2706  
thegrayteamsells@gmail.com  
www.thegrayteamsells.com

Ricky & Donna Gray  
Brokers/Realtors



**Olin Insurance**

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Greg R. Olin - Dan Merriman - Steven Olin  
greg@olininsurance.com

**YOUR AD HERE**

Call the Lodge for more information