

## **BENNINGTON LODGE No. 567**

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks PO. Box 316 Bennington, VT 05201

"BIRTHPLACE OF VERMONT HOSPITALITY"

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage

Bennington, VT Permit No. 149

BENNINGTON ELKS

Lodge No. 567

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### Veteran's News February - March 2025

Finally, after Covid restrictions we were able to hold all of our activities for our Veterans in 2024.

This year we shopped our hearts out and presented the Veterans with 275 requested gifts such as lotions, stamps, nail polish, suspenders, game books, nightlights, jackets, hats and so much more.

Many Elks members spent an evening wrapping all the gifts. Every day many members donate to the Veterans fund at our lodge, and it adds up so we can do this. Thanks to all that volunteered and donate.

Our next event will be in March for the Las Vegas Day held at the Veteran's Home.

If you would like to help, contact Mike Kinney or Gary Lewis Veterans' co-chairs.

# **Basket Bingo**

SUNDAY, March 2nd - Bennington Lodge #567

Games! Fun! Food! Don't Miss Out! Open to the Public!
To Benefit VEA President Fred Gilbar

# GRADIGIONAL SG. PADDY'S DAY CORN BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

or choice of Guinness stew **SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH**PreSale is \$20/person or \$25/person at the Door Until Gone!
Don't miss out! Get your tickets early! Members & Qualified Guests

# A Night to Honor Our Own VT Elks Assoc. President Fred Gilbar! FREDDIE'S STATE PRESIDENT HOMECOMING! SATURDAY APRIL 5

5:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00-11:00 p.m. Music & Dancing by the Break Doctor! Remember to bring your Freddie stories! We just might do a little Freddie roasting.

#### **INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Bennington Lodge #567 will proudly install the Officers for 2025 – 2026 on Saturday, March 29th. Join in the celebration where our lodge's ELK OF THE YEAR will be announced. All are welcome and encouraged to join in the fun! Watch for more information on Facebook and at the lodge.

#### **MEETING TIMES HAVE CHANGED**

Board of Directors will now meet at 6pm on the second Tuesday of each month
Trustees will now meet at 6pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month
Regular Meetings will now be held at 7pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month

#### FEBRUARY - MARCH 2025 MESSAGE FROM THE EXALTED RULER

As we approach the February-March time frame and the end of our fiscal year, I'd like to remind everyone about the upcoming election of officers. Nominations will be held at our first meeting in February, with voting taking place during the second meeting.

It has been a busy post-holiday season, and I want to highlight some of the fantastic events we've accomplished. We hosted a foster dinner for families and children, made a donation to a food pantry to help those less fortunate, a Christmas party for the children of our members, and held a Club Elk Night managed by Kristen Lewis and her family. Additionally, we had a Macaroni and Cheese Cook-Off, as well as meals during the football playoff. All of these events and initiatives take volunteers and members and I wanted to thank all who have stepped up and helped.

Please stay updated by following us on Facebook, checking your email, or asking fellow members about upcoming activities. *Thank you for your participation and support!* 

#### **Foster Family Christmas**

On December 18th, the Bennington Lodge hosted a special event for local foster families in Bennington. They invited these families to enjoy a pasta dinner and provided gifts for the children and foster children they care for. The event was a great success, with over 85 gifts distributed to children aged 18 and under. Families had the opportunity to come together in one setting and meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

Bennington Lodge would like to thank the volunteers who made this event possible: Wendy Nolan, Kathleen Wilkinson, Tammy Roy, Amber Wendell, Kristin, and Killian Kervan. The event received much positive feedback, and everyone involved hopes to continue this wonderful tradition next year.

#### **Innerlodge Results**

On January 18th the Bennington Lodge sent 30 members up to the Springfield Lodge to compete in the Southern District finals in innerlodge activities.

The Bowling team, led by Captain Zach Bull, delivered an impressive performance, securing spots in the finals for both teams. The A squad, consisting of Zach, Ryan, and Ron Bull, as well as Tyler Kunzmann and Jared Dicranian, dominated the competition with an outstanding team score of 2,901. They finished well ahead of the second-place team, Rutland, which scored 2,450. Close behind Rutlan was Zach's Bennington B team, featuring Paul Dicranian, Tim Hewson, Dave Kosek, Carl Granger Jr., and Barry Burdick, secured third place with a score of 2,353. Windsor followed in fourth place with a score of 2,343.

The Cornhole team of Austin Lauzon, Todd Bubier, Morgan, and Brian Hewitt took first and second respectively. In darts Joe Heuschkel and Haley Pinsonneault qualified for the finals in March along with Don Roy and Kelly Kervan in shuffleboard. In Cribbage Action the team of Steve Marsdon, Mark Rancourt, Chris Dussault, Noel Olin, Kelly Maloney, Tim Cumm, Andrew Marsden and Jim Marsdon places second.

All of these teams will be competing in the State Finals against the North finalists on March 1st in Bennington.

#### Hoop Shoot

Bennington held its annual hoop on January 6th sending the first-place winners to Springfield to participate in the Southern finals.

Sophie ZampiniGirls 8-9Liam Pinsonneault Boys 8-9Ivorie MuckleGirls 10-11Easton SmithBoys 10-11Paislee PotvinGirls 12-13John RyanBoys 12-13

Of the six players above, John Ryan will move on to the State Finals in Barre Vermont on January 25th. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Fraternally, Kelly

# Lodge Officers 2024-2025

Bennington Elks Lodge

125 Washington Avenue Bennington, VT 05201 802-442-2736 www.benningtonelks.org

Exalted Ruler	Kelly F. Kervan , PER, PDD
Esteemed Leading Knight	Haley Pinsonneault
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Melvin Mills
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Kathleen Wilkinson
Secretary	Kristen Lewis
Treasurer	Gregory A. Pinsonneault, PER,PDD
	Joseph Heuschkel
	Joseph A. Crawford
Esquire	Robert P. Poblocki, PER, PDD
	Alexander Nicol
Trustee	Charles F. Boyle, PER
	David Woodward
Trustee	Thomas P. Kinney, Jr. PER
Trustee	Frederick C. Gilbar, PER
Trustee	Vacant
State Trustee	Ruth Rudnick

#### ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION NEWS- FEB-MARCH 2025

This will be the last bulletin in the this Elks fiscal year. The new Lodge year starts April 1, 2025. Our goals for this year were \$7,610.00 in donations with 230 donors. We currently stand at \$6,986.00 in donations and 204 donors. As far as what came back as grants and Scholarships, we stand at \$9,000 received in grants and we expect at least one scholarship, so in total it will be over \$10,000.00 Where else can you get \$1.31 back for every \$1.00 donated? At the same time we help a lot of people who need assistance by donating to Food Pantries, Veterans and many others. Thank you to all that have already donated and if by chance you haven't there is still time. All donations have to be received at ENF before March 31.

Thank you—Charlie Boyle, ENF Fundraising Chair

Bennington Lodge Website - www.benningtonelks.org You will find a lot of interesting information. Misplaced your bulletin? It's on the website. Let us know if there is information that you would like to see.

# Wednesday Night Dinner for ENF Always the first Wednesday of each month

This is a monthly dinner, your choices include, Fried Fish, Baked Fish, Oven Roasted half chicken (from Henry's Market), scalloped or French Fried potatoes, Cole slaw, Clam Chowder, cookies and coffee. Only \$10. Doors open 5:15 serving starts 5:30. This is open to all and benefits Veteran's Programs and Scholarships through Elks National Foundation. Eat in or take out. 50-50 Raffle

**Wednesday February 5th- Wednesday March 5th** always the first Wednesday of each month except in January 2025 when it will be January 8

A great dinner, a great price and a great cause, see you there!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS-COMING EVENTS FEBRUARY-MARCH 2025

Every Monday- Bingo

Every Friday- Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm

Every Saturday \$2 Book Drawing 8pm

Wednesday Feb 5- Fish or Chicken Dinner for ENF Door open 5;15 serving 5;30pm

Thursday Feb 6-Pitch League 7pm

Sunday Feb 9 Pre-game Super Bowl Party 1-3pm

Tuesday Feb 11- BOD meets 6pm/Regular meeting 7pm/ nomination of officer

Thursday, Feb 13- Pitch League 7pm

Sunday Feb 16 Daytona 500 & Bloody Mary's

Tuesday Feb 18- Steak Night, Doors open 6;15 serving 6'30

Thursday Feb 20- Pitch League 7pm

Friday Feb 21- Third Friday Lunch noon -1:30 or till gone

Friday Feb 21- Appreciation Night 5-7pm

Sunday Feb 23- Meat Ball Cook Off 1-3pm

Tuesday Feb 25- Trustees Meet 6pm/ Regular Meeting 7pm/Election of Officers

Thursday Feb 27- Pitch League 7pm

Saturday Mar 1- VT Elks Interlodge Games, Finals at Bennington Lodge

Sunday Mar 2- Basket Bingo at the Lodge to benefit VEA President Fred Gilbar

Wednesday Mar 5- Fish or Chicken Dinner for ENF doors open 5:15 serving 5:30pm

Thursday Mar 6- Pitch League 7pm

Tuesday Mar 11- BOD Meets 6pm/Regular Meeting 7pm

Thursday Mar 13- Pitch League 7pm

Saturday Mar 15- St Paddy's Day Celebration, Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

Tuesday Mar 18- Steak Night Doors open 6:15 serving 6:30pm

Thursday Mar 20- Pitch League Final and end of season Banquet 7pm

Friday Mar 21- Third Friday Lunch noon-1:30pm or till gone

Tuesday Mar 25- Trustees meet 6pm/regular meeting 7pm

Friday Mar 28- Wing Night 5-7;30pm or till gone

Saturday Mar 29- Installation of Officers and Dinner

#### Future dates to mark on your calendar

Saturday April 5- State President Fref Gilbar Homecoming celebration and dinner Sunday April 13- Children's Easter Egg Hunt 1pm

Friday, Saturday & Sunday May 2-3-4- Vermont Elks Association Convention Lake George, NY

E-MAIL bennelks567@gmail.com TO RECEIVE YOUR BULLETIN AND REMINDERS VIA E-MAIL!



# PARTY! PRE-GAME SUPER BOWL CELEBRATION! Sunday, February 9th

Enjoy complementary Super Bowl Snacks between 3-5 p.m. Members & Qualified Guests

9

#### BENNINGTON ELKS APPRECIATION NIGHT

Friday, February 21st • 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

You are invited to join us for an evening of great appetizers and fun for all! Bring a new candidate for membership & you'll be entered to win a \$25 Amazon Gift Card. Beat the winter chill & join the warm camaraderie!

Children's Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 13th - 1:00 p.m. Bennington Lodge Members' Children/Grandchildren Birth through 10 years. – Sign up at the Lodge!

#### STEAK NIGHTS- FEBRUARY 18 AND MARCH 18, 2025

A great steak (from Henry's Market) with all the trimmings. The menu starts with a fresh garden salad and choice of dressings, a prime steak prepared to your order, baked potato, hot vegetable, sour cream, butter and a dinner roll. All this only \$20.

In the kitchen for February will be the team from the Stark Hose Co. with lead chef Ron Barnard. For March it will be our Exalted Ruler Kelly Kervan and team.

On the desk February- Carol and Nick, March- Kate and Bill, April- Carol and Nick See you there !!!

# THIRD FRIDAY LUNCHES! ONLY \$10

Noon to 1:30 p.m. (or till gone) **February 21 – March 21 – April 18 FOURTH FRIDAY WING NIGHTS!** 

5 to 7:30 p.m. (or till gone) Feb. No Wing Night – March 28 – April 25 Watch for more information on the Lodge Facebook Page: Look up "Bennington Lodge # 567" and become a member.

## Don's Corner February-March 2025

Hello everyone! Welcome to my corner. We seem to have finally made it past most of the bitter cold weather and with that comes spring, Super Bowl, Valentines Day, Daytona 500 and St. Patrick's Day.

As you can see we have many things for you to come to the Lodge and celebrate. Our Social Committee will have snacks, games and raffles for you to try. Grab a friend, come on down and show them what the Elks are all about. Speaking of friends, I would like to welcome our many new members that have joined the Lodge, hope to see you there. **Remember, everyday is a good day at the Elks!** Lodge steward, Don Roy

BIRTHDAY?- Fill out the card shown below on your Birthday and present it to the Bartender

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday

#### Secretary's Message February - March 2025

Hello members and Happy New Year!

I hope this bulletin finds you well. You should be receiving your dues billing notices in the mail from the Grand Lodge soon if you have not already. If you do not receive it, please check in with me to be sure we have the correct address for you. Thankfully, we were one of the lucky lodges who did not see an increase in their Grand Lodge portion of dues this year. Just a reminder that current yearly dues are \$80.00/regular member and \$40.00/Life Member due before 4/1/25. To qualify for Life Membership, you must be a member in good standing who is 65 years of age or older and have been a member for 30 consecutive years or more. To request life membership, please write a letter, sign it and submit it to me.

We have 25 people who are on the delinquent list who owe for this year and the upcoming year. Unfortunately, if they do not pay before 3/30/25, they will be dropped on 3/31/25. Please consider donating to Silver Towers and ENF when you send in your dues, every little bit helps our lodge reach our large yearly assessments. ENF gives out scholarships each year to local students in our area, more than what we take in for donations. Silver Towers is a wonderful camp for people of all ages with disabilities. This camp provides round the clock care so they can experience a camp setting and have a blast while there! So much work goes into making this camp successful every summer.

As you can see by the many Facebook posts, e-blasts and flyers at the lodge, we are trying to have more fun events and food at the lodge for you all to enjoy! We have our popular Steak and Fish/Chicken nights, we have Wing Nights, Pitch League, Pools and raffles to enter, a Pool table and shuffle board table in the game room, lunch at the lodge, our first Club night, functions to show appreciation for our Veterans, many youth activities, and other fundraisers. We have plenty of returning volunteers helping at these events and dinners. Have you thought about volunteering one of these events at the lodge?

We have football on all TVs with a food menu for 1/26/25 and upcoming complimentary snacks for the Superbowl on 2/9/25. We have a \$1.00 off draft special all day on football Sundays as well!

We have seen an increase in new members this year! Let's keep that momentum going! We held initiation on 1/19/25 and brought in 9 new members! More to follow in the upcoming months. Do you know of a family member or friend who would like to join our lodge? If so, please propose them and have them complete and submit an application to the bartender on duty. The application fee for a new member is \$15 and they would pay dues for the year based on the Initiation date. We can even reinstate a dropped member, fill out the reinstatement app and pay \$25.00 app fee, then dues for the current year. Reinstated members do not need to attend Orientation & Initiation again.

To be sure you are receiving your bulletins and email blasts; please keep your address, phone number and email address current. Please send updates and questions to the lodge email @ bennelks567@gmail.com.

Fraternally, Kristen Lewis Lodge Secretary

#### In Memoriam

William W. Bolton, Sr. Robert B. Frazier Patrick M. Perrott, LM Joseph A. Thibodeau "Until the hour of eleven shall regularly return"

#### **Bingo Schedule**

Chairperson: Jesse THE BINGO King Coffee- Don Roy & Bruce Weaver Break Opens- Alice Stearns

Floor Kitchen

Team 1

Tom Kinney
Jessie King \*
Linda Oslizlo

Feb. 17 & March 17

Kevin Durocher
Scott Racicot
Joe Smith

Linda Oslizio Joe Sm Ruth Rudnick

Team 2

Joyce Grusaky\* Feb. 24 & March 24 Joe Crawford Linda Oslizlo Laurie Lindsey

Tom Kinney Pat Lindsey

Ruth Rudnick Noelle Crawford

Team 3

Greg Pinsonneault\* Feb 3 & March 3 Lori Pinsonneault Linda Oslizlo March 31 David Woodward

Tom Kinney
Brant Young

March 31

Greg Pinsonneault
Bill James

Ruth Rudnick Dale Corbett

Team 4

Greg Pinsonneault\* Feb. 10 & March 10 Travis Racicot

Linda Oslizlo Richard Pembroke III

Tom Kinney Ryan Bull Ruth Rudnick

\* Callers, if you cannot work your night, please find a replacement

Bennington Elks Lodge #567 Visit our Facebook for current news and events www.facebook.com/groups/benningtonelks

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH DAYTONA 500 BLOODY MARYS!

Come on down to watch the race and enjoy The Lewis' Famous Bloody Marys

Members & Qualified Guests

#### MEAT BALL COOK OFF!!!! FEBRUARY 23,2025

Free to Enter Your Meat Balls!

Drop off your "ready to eat" Meat Balls between Noon & 12:30 p.m. Be a Judge for Just \$10! Tasting and Judging 1-3 p.m.

All Funds go to Charity. Open to the public.

#### **ELKS STATE INTERLODGE FINALS!**

Our lodge will be hopping on Saturday, March 1st with Elks from all over the state joining us for the Interlodge Finals! Join in the fun and root for your Bennington Lodge participants!

Darts, Shuffleboard, Pool, Cribbage, Bowling, Cornhole! OH MY!

Food will be available for purchase for all.

6

# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
2	3 Bingo Team 3	4	5 Fish or Chicken Dinner for ENF 5:30 pm	6 Pitch League 7pm	7 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	8 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
9 Pre-Super Bowl Party and snacks 3-5pm	10 Bingo Team 4	BOD Meets 6pm Regular Meeting 7pm Nomina- tion of Officers	132	13 Pitch League 7pm	14 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	15 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
16 Daytona Beach 500 Party with Bloody Marys	17 Bingo Team 1	18 Steak Night- Doors open 6:15 Serving 6:30pm	19	20 Pitch League 7pm	21 Third Friday Lunch 12- 1:30pm til gone Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm Appreciation Night 5-7pm	22 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
23 Meat Ball cook off 1-3pm	24 Bingo Team 2	25 Trustees Meets 6pm/ Regular Meeting 7pm Election of Officers	26	27 Pitch League 7pm	28 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	

# March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 VT Elks Interlodge Games \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
2 Basket Bingo Check listing for details	3 Bingo Team 3	4	5 Fish or Chicken Dinner for ENF 5:30 pm	6 Pitch League 7pm	7 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	8 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
9	10 Bingo Team 4	BOD Meets 6pm Regular Meeting 7pm	12	13 Pitch League 7pm	14 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	15 St. Paddy's Celebration \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
16	17 Bingo Team 1	18 Steak Night- Doors open 6:15 Serving 6:30pm	19	20 Pitch League Final with Banquet	21 Third Friday Lunch 12- 1:30pm or til gone Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm	22 \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
23	24 Bingo Team 2	25 Trustees Meet 6pm/regular meeting 7pm	26	27	28 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm Wing Night- 5-7:30 or til gone	29 Installation of Officers \$2 Book Drawing 8pm
30	31 Bingo Team 3					