

**2025-2026 Lodge
Officers**

Exalted Ruler [Bill
Desjardins](#) **PCT**

**Esteemed Leading
Knight**
John Desjardins

Esteemed Loyal Knight:
TBD

**Esteemed Lectur-
ing Knight:**
[Randa Newsome](#)

Esquire: Vacant

**Chaplain: [Tammy
Polley](#)**

**Inner Guard: [Peter
Lee](#)**
Tiler
[Gail Howes](#), PER

**Secretary [Cheri
Swenson](#)**

Treasurer
[Steve Dupuis](#)

TRUSTEES

1 Year

[Bill Thompson](#) ,

2 Year

[Phil Bowden](#)

3 Year

[Michael
Desjardins](#), PER

4 Year

Sean Molloy

5 Year

Wally Holmes

State Trustee

Floyd Howes, PER

Biddeford –Saco Elks Lodge 1597

The friendliest Lodge in Maine



Jan 2026



Exalted Ruler's Message

Fellow Members,

Happy New Year, and Happy 100th Anniversary to my fellow Elks!

The month of December was very busy here at the Lodge. We hosted a successful Member Appreciation Night, which included a membership drive and an MCCP fundraiser. The drive resulted in 13 new membership applications and \$2,763 raised for MCCP! A heartfelt thank you to Denise Rancourt for spearheading this effort, and to all the volunteers who helped make it such a tremendous success.

Terry Petit led the charge for our Adopt-A-Family for Christmas program, supporting three families this season. Thank you to everyone who grabbed a mitten from the tree and helped provide these families with a Christmas they may not have otherwise had.

December was also Hoop Shoot month, and I'd like to thank Scott Descoteaux and his dedicated team of volunteers for running another great event. We had 14 participants, making it a wonderful success.

Additionally, we provided backpacks filled with food items for Jameson Elementary School, thanks to our grants program led so diligently by Randa Newsome. Thank you to everyone who helped pack and deliver the backpacks to the school.

Looking Ahead to January

We will be hosting Cornhole Fridays at 6:30 PM—come on out and bring your game!

There are many ways to get involved at the Lodge, and we truly survive because of our volunteers. We are currently in need of:

- Friday Night Supper cooks
- Tuesday Night Bingo helpers (callers, ticket sellers, and runner)

If you're unable to volunteer, please consider coming out to support the many activities happening at the Lodge. Football Sundays have been proving to be a lot of fun!

Have an idea for an event that could spark more involvement? Please share it—or better yet, step up and help run with it. We are always open to new ideas to make the Lodge a fun and welcoming place for all.

Lastly, choosing an Elk of the Month is always difficult, as so many of you consistently step up and make a difference. This month, I would like to recognize Denise Rancourt for her outstanding dedication—helping organize Friday Night Suppers, filling numerous open bar shifts, and leading the Member Appreciation Night that was such a success. Thank you, Denise

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2026, and I hope to see many of you around the Lodge in the coming months.

Fraternally yours,

Bill Desjardins,

Exalted Ruler

BE THE DIFFERENCE



12/31/2025

Membership: 431

Lifetime: 127

Candidates 14

Delinquent Membership:
23**2025/26 DUES**

Life Member \$49.25

Member \$89.25

Delinquent Members as
of the end of June = 38

Online Payment

Click to pay

[Elks Lodge Payment](#)**Lodge Hours**

Sun 12pm –8pm

Mon 5pm-9pm

Tues 12pm –8pm

Wed & Thurs 3pm - 8pm

Fri & Sat 12pm - 9 pm

Secretary's Page - Cheri Swenson

Membership information

Membership Information

2026-2027 Membership cards will be ready for purchase soon! Dues are staying the same this year! All the details will be out in an email soon!

We have 12 new members that are in the investigation stage and will be balloted on at our January meeting! Such a great time to show up at a meeting and welcome our newest candidates for membership. We also have two reinstatement requests that will be read on the floor.

We are down to 23 delinquents, but that is still too many! We pay the grand lodge for each member their portion of dues at the beginning of the year, not when we are paid by you. If you are delinquent, I would appreciate a phone call to discuss. We really don't want to lose you! All delinquents get dropped for non-payment in March.

Other dates :

Our next lodge meeting is on Thursday, January 29th at 7pm. We will be accepting nominations for Loyal Knight.

There will be a Board of Directors Meeting that night at 5:45.

Members are encouraged to attend our lodge meetings! It was great seeing so many at our last couple of meeting.

NEXT MEETING NOTICE

The 1805th sessions of the Biddeford-Saco Lodge No. 1597 of the B.P.O.
Elks will be held in our Lodge at 68 Ocean Park Rd., Saco on

Thursday Jan 29th 7 PM

Announcements



CORNHOLE FRIDAYS
ROUND ROBIN!

When no special event is booked,
join us for casual cornhole fun.

- ✓ Online Registration: \$15
- ✓ Reserve your spot today!

Bring your friends, enjoy
the game, and make Fridays
a blast!



Potluck Sundays!

Bring a dish...Bring a
friend and let's watch
some Football!!



BINGO Night
Every Tuesday

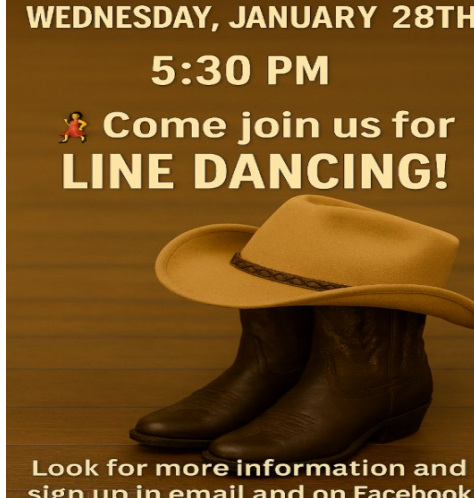
Doors open: 4:00 PM
Paper sales: 4:30 PM
BINGO starts: 6:00 PM

- \$25 to play — Seniors receive a discount!
- Extra cards available for purchase
- Light menu available from 4:30–6:00 PM
- Pull-tabs & 50/50 raffles

Open to the public — must be 16+ to play.
Come join the fun and bring your friends!

Doors Open At
4:00 PM

68 Ocean Park Rd, Saco ME 04072



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28TH
5:30 PM

 **Come join us for
LINE DANCING!**

Look for more information and
sign up in email and on Facebook.



2025—Committee Members

Accident prevention

- Bill Thompson

Adopt a Family

- Terry Petit

Americanism

Community Activities

Craft Fair

- Rori Dargie

Drug Awareness

ENF Scholarship

Friday Night Suppers

- TBD

Auditing

PER Association

- Phil Guimond

Bingo

Board of Directors

- Bill Desjardins

Building Maintenance

MCCP

- Michael Desjardins

Cribbage

Gaming

- Stephen Dupuis

ENF

- Randa Newsome

Entertainment

- Wally Holmes

Flag Day

Veterans

Youth Services

- Peter Lee

Meat Raffle

- Cindy Boulay

- Terri Petit

Memorial Service

Visitation

- Tammy Polley—Chaplin

Newsletter

- Kim Molloy

Mothers Day Service

- Knights

Hoop Shoot

- Scott Descoteaux

Investigating

Public Relations

- Katelyn Smith

Ritual

- David Perkins

Soccer Shoot

- Vacant

Standing Relief

- ER, Knights, Secretary and Treasurer

Thanksgiving Baskets

- Vassie Fowler

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Suppa	3
4	5 Cribbage 7pm	6 Bingo	7	8	9 Suppa Cornhole	10
11	12 Cribbage 7pm	13 Bingo	14	15	16 Suppa Cornhole	17
18	19 Cribbage 7pm	20 Bingo	21	22	23 Suppa Cornhole	24
25	26 Cribbage 7pm	27 Bingo	28 Line Dancing 5:30	29 7Pm lodge Meeting	30 Suppa Cornhole	31

NOTE: If you would like to become part of a committee, please contact any officer or the Chairperson of that committee.



Biddeford –Saco Elks Lodge 1597
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Around the Lodge Let's all get involved!!

Lodge will be open on Mondays!!

5-9PM Starting Jan 5th For Cribbage season!
Cibbage at 7PM please arrive early on the 1st
night 6:30/6:45



Cold Weather Drive

During Line Dancing on Jan 28th we will be doing a cold weather food drive for Veterans at this event for anyone who would like to bring gloves, hats, coats, blankets, food, etc. Buffie will be collecting as Maine Women of Service Classic Title holder from 5- 5:15 and taking pictures for anyone that would like to participate . You do not have to dance to donate!

Love to cook?

We need volunteer chefs!!

Pick a Friday and a meal of your choice! Reach out with questions!



B I N G O
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
SIGN UP TODAY!

Hall Rental

Our Function Hall is available for rental to the public.
Please email for Prices and Options available

For additional information or to book the Function
Hall please email:

BPOE1597EVENTS@GMAIL.COM or TEXT 207
-934-7680 and someone will get back to you.





Grants Corner

In December we finished our work on the Spotlight grant. We stuffed the final round of food bags for our Jameson Elementary school food insecurity program on December 11 and delivered them to the school the next day. This concludes our grant program for the year! We applied for, executed, and reported on four different grants, totaling \$10,000! This all went to needs in our communities.

Remember, the money for our grants comes from the Elks National Foundation (ENF) as part of the Community Investments Program (CIP). The Elks National Foundation also funds many of our other programs, such as Hoop and Soccer Shoots, Scholarships and Drug Awareness. When you give to ENF, your tax-deductible contributions find their way back to us at Lodge 1597.

If you don't already give to ENF, please consider doing so. You can give online at enf.elks.org/give, by check at the lodge, by mail to ENF, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave, Chicago, IL, 60614-2256, or as part of your annual dues. There is also a "Fidelity Club" option that you can set up to do contributions automatically. I am very excited about the difference we can make. Remember, Elks Care, Elks Share!

Randa Newsome

Lecturing Knight & ENF Grants Coordinator



Our Adopt-A-Family Christmas program was a wonderful success! With the incredible generosity of our members and a little help from our Elks "elves," we were able to provide food and gifts to three families, helping make their Christmas truly magical. Thank you to everyone who made this possible!



Elks Care - *Elks* Share



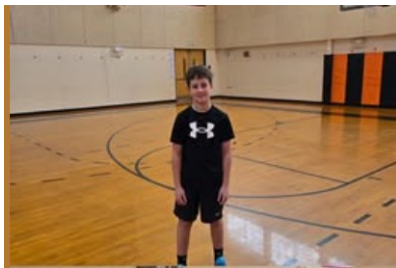
Around the Lodge

Our member appreciation night was an incredible success, and we couldn't be more grateful! The lodge was full of excitement, holiday cheer, and amazing people coming together for a great cause. Thanks to everyone who came out, supported, and helped make the night run smoothly — and a huge thank you to Denise for all her hard work and dedication in making this event possible!

We raised just over \$2,700 for MCCP and had 14 applications submitted (new & reinstatement!) The lodge was absolutely bustling and full of fun Thank you again to everyone who played a part in making the night such a huge success. We truly couldn't do it without you!



The Biddeford-Saco Elks Lodge is proud to recognize the talented youth who competed in this year's Hoop Shoot contest. Your hard work and great sportsmanship truly showed! Winners by Age Group: 8-9 Boys: Tucker Wyman / 10-11 Boys: Nikolas Galiardi / 10-11 Girls: Sandra O'Hara / 12-13 Boys: Braxton Dineen / 12-13 Girls: Mia Douville



A Warm Welcome to our newest members who were Initiated In December!



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The friendliest Lodge in Maine





BPO ELKS LODGE #1597A Fraternal
Organization P. O. Box 1597
Saco, Maine 04072-1597



In God We Trust

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Lodge Meeting Dates

2025-2026

THURSDAY, APRIL 3 2025
THURSDAY, APRIL 24 2025
THURSDAY MAY 29, 2025
THURSDAY JUNE 26 2025
THURSDAY JULY 24 2025
THURSDAY AUGUST 28, 2025
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025
THURSDAY OCTOBER 30, 2025
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13 2025
THURSDAY DECEMBER 11 2025
THURSDAY JANUARY 29, 2026
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5 2026
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2026
THURSDAY MARCH 5 2026
THURSDAY MARCH 26, 2026

BPO ELKS #1597 PAST EXALTED RULERS - 1935 - 2025

*Arthur J Lesieur	1935-1936	*Richard F Murphy	1963-1964	Ward F Grossman	1991-1992	Timothy J Crowley IV	2019-2020
*Daniel E Crowley	1936-1937	*Ralph H Pitt	1964-1965	Gary J Duranceau	1992-1993	Timothy J Crowley IV	2020-2021
*Arsene S Beaudoin	1937-1938	*Joseph A Grondin	1965-1966	Roger J Cyr	1993-1994	Vassie J Fowler	2021-2022
*Philip H Bridger	1938-1939	*C Robert Brousseau	1966-1967	John E Hill III	1994-1995	Vassie J Fowler	2022-2023
*Fred H Shields	1939-1940	*Donald C Doyle	1967-1968	Roger R Forest	1995-1996	Rori Dargie	2023-2024
*Felix T Sheltra	1940-1941	*Paul E Reny	1968-1969	Timothy J Donahue	1996-1997	Philip Guimond	2024-2025
*Joseph H Vachon	1941-1942	*William J McNally	1969-1970	Patrick R Marcoux	1997-1998		*Deceased
*Roland Duhamel	1942-1943	*Edmund F Aube	1970-1971	Richard R Williams	1998-1999		
*Arthur J Lambert	1943-1944	*George A Rancourt	1971-1972	Floyd L Howes	1999-2000		
*Oscar Clement	1944-1945	*Amos A McCallum	1972-1973	John D Surran	2000-2001		
*Edward J White	1945-1946	*Arthur N Sevigny	1973-1974	Glenn C McCallum	2001-2002		
*Joseph O Boucher	1946-1947	*Timothy J Crowley	1974-1975	*John E Hill Jr.	2002-2003		
*David C Shaw	1947-1948	*Jonathan S Foss	1975-1976	Gail L Howes	2003-2004		
*Paul Brill	1948-1949	Richard F Leone	1976-1977	*Stephen P Cantara	2004-2005		
*Frederick L O'Neil	1949-1950	*Edwin E Munford Jr.	1977-1978	*Donald A Elie	2005-2006		
*Walter D Mazzacane	1950-1951	*Maurice A Sayer	1978-1979	*Stephen P Cantara	2006-2007		
*Gene A Palmer	1951-1952	*Roger J Sicard	1979-1980	Tina M Williams	2007-2008		
*Leonard A Drapeau	1952-1953	David R Perkins	1980-1981	Glenn C McCallum	2008-2009		
*Charlemagne B Fournier	1953-1954	Roger J Raymond	1981-1982	Glenn C McCallum	2009-2010		
*Leon F Jones	1954-1955	Richard R Cote	1982-1983	David A. Guay	2010-2011		
*M Arthur Costello	1955-1956	*J Richard Yankura	1983-1984	*Harry J Desjardins	2011-2012		
*Maurice A Coomer	1956-1957	*Norman C Dupuis	1984-1985	John E Desjardins	2012-2013		
*Walter A White	1957-1958	*Harry J Desjardins	1985-1986	John E Desjardins	2013-2014		
*Charles M Gallagher	1958-1959	*Lucien D Guay	1986-1987	Michael Desjardins	2014-2015		
*Fernand M X. Cote	1959-1960	Guy P Langelier	1987-1988	Timothy J Crowley IV	2015-2016		
*Carl F Sheltra	1960-1961	Francis L Fournier	1988-1989	Timothy J Crowley IV	2016-2017		
*Conrad Fecteau	1961-1962	*Armand B Gagnon	1989-1990	Timothy J Crowley IV	2017-2018		
*Carroll J Curit	1962-1963	Richard A Fradette	1990-1991	Michael Desjardins	2018-2019		