



RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073

Newsletter

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

Welcome to August, My August Elk Brothers and Sisters

Well, as normal, July proved to be a busy month here in Elkdom.

I had the honor to attend the Grand Lodge Convention for four days in Chicago, Illinois. It was a very impressive display. Several-thousand Elks from around the country. I would like to thank Rensselaer Elks 2073 for sending me to be a part of this annual convention. Also, thanks to our very own State Vice President, Tim Davis, for accompanying me there and helping me navigate not only the conference but also the "art" of commercial flying. It had been over 30 years since I last flew. Before 911, before TSA and before the age of smartphones and electric boarding passes. Without Tim help, I would have undoubtedly made many frustrating, time delaying missteps. Tim also introduced me to some very palate pleasing bourbons as we waited out our stop overs in Baltimore and Chicago.

Also a shout out to other Lodge 2073 attendees PDDER Ron Barner and his wife Karen, PDDERs Larry and Linda Rowse.

The Rocky Prinzo Golf outing was held July 31. Rocky was well loved and respected by all that knew him. The proceeds go to such noble causes, as support for our veterans, scholarships and more. Winners of Flight A are 1st place - Thaddeus. Rudzinski 2nd place - Dan. Colvin.

Winners of Flight B are 1st place – K. Wood 2nd place – Jim Walsh. (He would have won 1st, but the beer cart ran out of Heineken Light.)

Congrats to Lynn Burns who achieved a Hole in One. Well done.

Many thanks to Patrick Skelley, Dirck Van Deusen and Bryan Van Deusen-who worked tirelessly over the past few months to organize this event and make it a fun and great success.

I'd like to thank all the crews and volunteers who worked on events throughout July. It is in large part thanks to you that this lodge is successful.

Upcoming in August

August 10th Lodge Meeting

August 15th It's Carnival time

On the 15th we have the Annual Elks Carnival chaired by Alex Hilker. Proceeds for this event go to school supplies. There's food, games, prizes, raffles, dunk tank and more. Please come and support this community cause. The Carnival crew are looking for baskets to raffle off at the carnival. If anyone would like to contribute a basket or gift card for raffle, they can contact Val Grugan or Alex Hilker. Also, there is a sign up sheet in the lounge.

August 16th Stratton VA Ice Cream Social More details to follow

August 30th Veteran's boat trip More details to follow

Keep on the alert for Flyers and email blasts to keep informed on events happening in August.

We are always in need of people to help out. If you have some free cycles and wish to help, please see Brian Kirch, our House Committee Chair.

A Peep behind the curtain

Last month we had several members who worked diligently to solve a problem with drainage in our Kitchen. I failed to give recognition to Brian Hedge who also helped address that issue.

After several plumbers were called by Chuck Adams and none could help, Chuck called Brian around 7pm. Brian promptly came to the lodge and snaked and plunged the drains

Thank you, Brian, for giving up your evening and helping in this matter.

I would like to thank Jakob Westman, our Chaplain, who filled in for me at the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler's dinner. He and his wife Bernice did a great job representing our Lodge.

Thanks to Pat Skelley for assembling our monthly newsletter and sending out requested email blasts. Is that guy good? Nope, He's really really good!!

Don't stop believing in America, Elks, and this Lodge.

God Bless America, our Troops, Our Veterans and our First Responders.

Fraternally,

Exalted Ruler Jerry Wendel

Officers

Exalted Ruler	Jerry Wendel
Leading Knight	Al Campisano
Loyal Knight	Jude Kanaly
Lecturing Knight	Janet Budd
Esquire	Richard Seeley III
Chaplain	Jakob Westman
Inner Guard	Steve Frese
Tiler	Bob Bennett Jr
Secretary	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Treasurer	John Christiansen, PER

Trustees

5-Year Trustee	Beverly Rauch
4-Year Trustee	Dana Murphy
3-Year Trustee	Robert Miller
2-Year Trustee	Tim Davis, PER
1-Year Trustee	Chuck Adams, PER

TIP OF THE ANTLERS



Pat Skelley for Installing the new TV in the Lounge.

Jakob Westman for Filling in for ER Jerry at DD Dinner.

Dirck Van Deusen, Bryan Van Duesen and Pat Skelley for
organizing and Running Another Successful Rocky Prinzo Golf
Tournament.

Jay Coonrad for the Annual Maintenance of the Pavillion Picnic
Tables.

Jean Probst for Her constant care of the flowers at the Lodge.

HOUSE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear Members—

Hope everyone is enjoying the final stretches of our summer! Where did the time go? There still remain a few weekend dates for your last minute picnic plans. Please call or text me at 518.265.3141 to reserve your dates now or call with any questions. As always, the house committee is recruiting all members to assist with cooking, prepping or serving food for our many events...just reach out to any house member or Brian to learn how you can help the Lodge. Also, keep your eyes open for email blasts about upcoming special events and dinners .

We are shocked by the news of our brother Nick Vecchione's recent passing. On behalf of the house committee, I'd like to express our deepest condolences to the Vecchione family and all those who had the privilege to know Nick . Nick was a great Elk, and even better friend and one of the most generous people I have ever known..he was always willing to help out as needed. He will be sorely missed by all.

Fraternally,
and God Bless.

Brian Kirch, PER, HC

ENF REPORT

On a recent report to the Lodge at an Lodge meeting, I asked that members come to me with their donation to ENF. Sadly, it has not happened on the frequency that I had hoped for. However, led by our Exalted Ruler Gerry Wendel and our most recent PER Jim Walsh, two leaders known for leading the charge, stepped forward and made a donation to the ENF. PER Jim followed up with another gift soon after. There were some folks that beat them to it, but the response overall has been poor.

However, we received 41 donations one day and another three another. Those making a donation directly to me, the Lodge Elks National Foundation Chairman, are the following: Patrick and Lorraine Cancilla, Robert Leddick, Brian Gauthier, Rebecca Geisel, Steve and Susan O'Malley, Robert T. Myron, Rebecca Nardacci, Steve Freese, Jakob Westman, Robert W. Bennett Jr., Anthony Miller II, Anthony Miller, Susan Miller, Shari Miller, Robert R. Miller, Joseph Miller, Deborah Nash, Thomas and Eileen Grant, Tim and Jenn Davis, Lynn Turmel, John Christiansen, Sheila Kern, Lawrence E. and Linda Rowse, Morgan Rowse, Barrett and Christine Rowse, John Rowse, Steve and Emily Smith, Kellynn Hickam, Sharon Malinoski, Eric and Beverly Rauch, Gerry Wendel, Jim Walsh, Al Campisano, Dom Indelicato, Jim Walsh (again) and new member Mary B. Max.

This list does not include our Fidelity club members who donate on a monthly basis. They are Paul Muzio, Brian and Anne Kirch, John Rowse and Lawrence and Linda Rowse and Chris Sicora. If I have missed or misspelled any one please forgive me.

AS you may or may not be aware, ENF software is being updated, therefore I cannot see who makes donations directly to ENF. We are grateful for your gift.

So, if you have not yet made your donation, PLEASE DO YOUR FRATERNAL DUTY AND DONATE TO THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION. If you have any questions about the ENF, please see me and ASK!

Our Lodge is behind in donations so please give \$10 or \$20 ASAP!
Thank you.

Fraternally,
Lawrence e. Rowse, PDDGER
Chairman, ENF

DELINQUENT MEMBERS

To Our Delinquent Members —

Is that why you're an Elk? The community still needs the Elks, and the Elks still need people who care. People like you.

Even if you're not as active as you used to be, your dues still make our charitable and philanthropic works possible. We need you, and the community needs you! 1 year to 60 years, yes, you should remain a member.

Your dues make you a member of one of the greatest organizations in the world! Your dues enable the Rensselaer Elks Lodge to continue making your community, state and country a better place to live! We used to post a countdown to zero which is going to be reinstated. Of course the goal is to get to zero.

So please help, the Lodge needs you to remain an active member.

Countdown to Zero

92

MUSIC BINGO IS BACK!



FAMILY CARNIVAL! BE THERE!



A colorful poster for a community carnival. At the top, there are two brown house icons flanking a red and blue striped tent with a red flag. Below the tent, the words "COMMUNITY CARNIVAL" are written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Underneath, "AT THE RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE" is written in brown, and "683 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush" is in a smaller brown font. A dark blue banner contains the text "SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 | 12-4 PM" in white. Below this, a light orange banner lists "FOOD | GAMES | PRIZES | RAFFLES" and "DUNK TANK | & MORE" in dark blue. The bottom section features four icons: a ring toss game, a person wearing sunglasses, a person dunking in a tank, and a raffle booth. Below these icons, an orange banner states "Proceeds support the purchase of school supplies for Rensselaer & Schodack CSD Students" with a small orange arrow. The final green banner at the bottom reads "HOSTED BY RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073" in white.

COMMUNITY CARNIVAL
AT THE RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE
683 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 | 12-4 PM

FOOD | GAMES | PRIZES | RAFFLES
DUNK TANK | & MORE

Proceeds support the purchase of school supplies
for Rensselaer & Schodack CSD Students

HOSTED BY RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073

STREET SOLDIERS - YOU GOTTA GIVE

RENSSELAER ELKS
STREET SOLDIERS
DONATIONS DRIVE

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- BRING IN A NON PERISHABLE ITEM**
- TAKE A TICKET AND ENTER THE RAFFLE!**

RAFFLE OPEN FROM NOW UNTIL
AUGUST 14TH

CASH DONATIONS
are also accepted!

Small donation. Big impact.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you for your generosity
AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY!

FUN PHOTOS!



**Congrats to Lynn Burns for her ace on the 14th hole
during the Rocky Prinzo Tournament!**

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Breakfast 9am	3	4 Golf League	5 Cornhole	6 Bingo 5pm	7	8
9 Breakfast 9am	10 Lodge Meeting	11 Golf League	12 Cornhole	13 Bingo 5pm	14	15 Family Carnival!
16 Breakfast 9am VA Ice Cream Social	17	18 Golf League Music Bingo!	19 Cornhole	20 Bingo 5pm	21	22
23 Breakfast 9am	24	25 Golf League	26 Cornhole	27 Bingo 5pm	28	29
30 Breakfast 9am Vets Boat Trip	31					

NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS



Newsletter Supporters 2026-2030

Shawna Lambert, in memory of David L. Riffley

Newsletter Supporters 2026-2028

Tim (Moose) Opitz, in memory of John "Chuckers" Berrigan

Newsletter Supporters 2026-2027

Eileen Grant

Tom Grant

Tom Nardacci

Kitty Nardacci

Linda Weber

Paul Muzio, PER

Mary Muzio

Exalted Ruler Jerry Wendel 2026-2027

In Memory of Doug Hadley

James Adams 2026-2027

The Lodge is accepting newsletter supporters. It's \$5.00 per year. Donations to Rensselaer Lodge Newsletter.