



RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073

Newsletter

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

Greeting and welcome to September, my Elk Sisters and Brothers

Lots of good “stuff” happened in August. Some of which are mentioned below:

Our annual Elks Carnival was another great success. Thanks to all those who organized and worked on this event. Thanks too to our Lodge members, their families and friends where were largely responsible for this successful event.

August had another Street Soldier donation delivery. Thanks to all who worked this effort for our veterans.

August also had another very successful Music Bingo night. All tables under the pavilion were full of participants and word has it they all had a great time.

Brunswick Lodge hosted a DD Clinic. Thanks too to all our officers and members who attended and represented our lodge.

We had a Veterans boat ride on the Dutch Apple Cruise line. It was a great shout out for our veterans. Thanks to the Veterans Committee and our amazing Bingo crew who prepared a great BBQ dinner.

Thanks to all our volunteers who work ongoing events, such as Bingo and Sunday Breakfast.

Thank you Pat Skelley for your service to the Lodge. You done a fabulous job assembling our monthly newsletter, sending out requested email blasts and other requests.

As Summer transitions into Fall, a friendly reminder that football season will soon be here. Support our Lodge by stopping in on Sundays to enjoy wings and hot dogs with your fellow Elks.

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

As we hit the halfway point on the Lodge year, please remember our Elk brothers who have passed, and say a prayer in their memory.

Doug Hadley, Richard Broughton, James Malone, Bob Seward Jr, Jim Meineker, Joseph Lacivitia, Nick Vecchione and Emerson Giddings

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



No tip of the antlers this month!

BINGO TOTALS



4-events

401 - players

\$13,876.00 - Gross

\$9052.00 - Payouts

\$5831.00 - Net

Kitchen Gross: \$\$1965.00

FAMILY CARNIVAL REPORT

This year's carnival was successful despite the attendance being lower than last year's. Considering our trustees' board approval of a \$1,000 budget for the 2026 Elks Community Carnival, we were able to net raise \$1,371, which was used to purchase school supplies for Rensselaer and Schodack Central School District students in need. School supplies were purchased at Staples using Alex Hilker's teacher discount of 20%, in addition to the regular back-to-school sale prices, making our community's donations go a long way! Both Schodack/Castleton School District and Rensselaer School District benefit from the support of our lodge and community members. Each of the two districts received almost \$600 in school supplies and a \$100 Staples gift card, which a district teacher can use with their teacher discount to buy \$125 worth of supplies for \$100.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of the Carnival committee members: Beverly Rauch, Erika Beardsley, Mary Ann Hilker, and Marylou Hedge. A huge thank you to True Value of East Greenbush for donating the dunk tank 4 years in a row. East Greenbush Police Department donated their time and had an excellent drone presentation. Thank you to Smile's Soft Serve Ice Cream of Nassau, Mike Dianda, and the Elks National Foundation for donating back part of their proceeds. We also received multiple private monetary and carnival prize donations, which we were very grateful to receive. We had many people donate their time running games, serving food and desserts, or selling prizes. We also had many community members donate back-to-school supplies, completed baskets, or gifts to include in our baskets, which we raffled off.



Our basket raffles brought in over \$900, so thank you to all who donated and to Mary Ann Hilker, who organized and created baskets with the donated materials. A big thank you goes out to Erika Beardsley, who advertised and organized our vendors. Thanks to her, we had 6 wonderful vendors at our event. Thank you to Beverly Rauch for organizing all of our prizes. We had a lot of delicious food thanks to our volunteers who cooked and Marylou Hedge for organizing. We had amazing hamburgers, hot dogs, popcorn, and fried dough. We also had great desserts baked and donated by our Lodge Confectioner, Mary Ann Hilker. Thank you to all who attended our event and to anyone who shared or advertised this event for us. Thank you to Moose and Linda for greeting our guests with a smiling face! Lastly, thank you to everyone who donated their time setting up/breaking down or running game booths, tables, ticket sales, and anything else during our event. We would not have been successful without everyone's help!

Next year we plan to advertise more and will even start an advertising subcommittee. If you are interested in joining the advertising subcommittee or helping in other ways, please reach out to Alex Hilker at (518) 542- 9771 or hilker2@gmail.com. Save the date for next year's carnival, which will be held on August 14th, 2027, from 12-3.

MUSIC BINGO IS BACK...AGAIN!

Music
BINGO
NIGHT

Fun Music! Great Prizes!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

at the Elks Lodge

STARTS AT 7PM

GAMES!
Great music and lots of fun!

PRIZES!
Awesome prizes up for grabs!

FOOD available!
Yummy food to enjoy!

GREAT MUSIC. GREAT PRIZES. Great Company!
Bring your friends and get ready for a night of fun!

SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE! For each donation item for Out of the Pits, you'll receive an entry into our prize drawing—one entry for every item!

OUT OF THE PITS
HELPING SHELTER DOGS FIND LOVING HOMES
Out of the Pits is a non-profit rescue dedicated to saving dogs from high-kill shelters and finding them forever homes.

GREAT MUSIC. GREAT PRIZES. See you there!

BREAKFAST PRICES



**RENSSELAER
LODGE #2073**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAKFAST PRICE INCREASE

Due to rising food costs and increased operational expenses, we will be increasing our breakfast prices.



**EFFECTIVE
THE FIRST SUNDAY
IN SEPTEMBER**

*Thank you for your understanding
and continued support!*

BRINLEY'S BAGS



BRINLEY'S BAGS FUNDRAISER DINNER

All proceeds to Brinley's Bags

All proceeds go to Brinley's Bags



Host: Brinley's Bags
Contact: Nancy Hunt Email nminkhole19@gmail.com
Mission: Brinley's Bags are care packages designed to bring comfort to Capital Region NICU families.



**PIZZA (ROUND) -
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT**



Cheese: \$10 each
Pepperoni or Sausage: \$12 each



WINGS



\$12 for 12 wings (1 dozen)
 Choice of garlic, mild, medium, hot, or barbecue



DESSERT



\$2.00 each
 Donated by Mary Ann Hilker and Erin's mother



DONATIONS AND RAFFLES:

- Basket raffle:** Anyone may donate a basket or items for a basket
- 50/50 raffle:**
 Tickets for each Raffle: 3 for \$5 | 7 for \$10 | Arms-length for \$20



DATE:
September 25, 2026



TIME:
5-8pm



LOCATION:
Rensselaer Elks Lodge 2073,
683 Columbia Turnpike,
East Greenbush, NY

COATS FOR KIDS



COATS FOR KIDS

WARM HEARTS, WARM COATS: HELPING
LOCAL CHILDREN STAY WARM THIS WINTER

 **DATES:**
SEPTEMBER 1st -
NOVEMBER 1st

 **DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:**
Rensselaer Elks Lodge 2073,
683 Columbia Turnpike,
East Greenbush, New York

NEW OR GENTLY USED COATS ACCEPTED • TODDLER TO YOUNG ADULT SIZES

**ALL COATS WILL BE DONATED TO LOCAL SCHOOLS IN OUR AREA.
JOIN THE RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

TRUNK OR TREAT



Elks Lodge 2073
Sponsoring
Rose's Trunk a Treat
Open to the community
Saturday



Oct. 31, 2026

11:00 am-2:00 pm

Ways you can help.

Sponsor a trunk; pick a spot –

or text 518-221-9000 (we will sign you up)

Trunks – things to think about

Pick a theme; decorations make it.

Each car will have a table in front, so don't forget a
paper/plastic table cover to match your car's theme.

It's that time of year again for our Annual Rose's Trunk or Treat event! We are looking for Elks to volunteer by decorating a table or their vehicle's trunk.

- When: Sat. October 31st, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Where: Elks Parking Lot

How to join the fun:

We usually welcome around 200 trick-or-treaters, so all you need to do is bring some Halloween decorations and treats to hand out. Don't worry about running short—I will have \$600 worth of extra candy on hand to help refill your stock. If you need financial assistance purchasing candy, just let Marylou know and she will gladly provide supplies for your table. I will also have plastic tablecloths available for anyone who needs them.

How to sign up:

A sign-up poster is available at the lodge, or you can text Marylou Hedge at [518-221-9000](tel:518-221-9000) to reserve your spot.

It is always a blast, and we can't wait to see your creative setups!

PER TRAINING

The PER's are presenting training for the Lodge.

The first session will be Tuesday, September 15 at 7 PM.

The topic of this session will be the "Local Lodge".
It will include the organization of the local lodge, committees
and procedures for the local lodge.

Topics will include:

Elected Officers, Appointed Officers, Appointed Positions, Required Committees, Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, House Committee, Annual Elections

A training session for October is planned. The topic will be Where to find the Elks on the Internet.

VETERANS BOAT CRUISE

Honoring Our Heroes: Rensselaer Elks Host Veterans Boat Cruise and Dinner

The Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 Veterans Committee hosted a memorable boat cruise and appreciation dinner on August 29th, bringing together local veterans for an afternoon of relaxation and camaraderie aboard the Dutch Apple Cruise Line on the Hudson River.

Over 105 veterans and a family member spent a peaceful time on the water, sharing stories and taking in the scenic waterfront views. We went back to the lodge where our volunteers prepared a phenomenal meal. The event was filled with a welcome from our ER, warm connections, and a deep sense of community, serving as a meaningful tribute to our local veterans for their outstanding service and sacrifice.



A special thank you goes out to our incredible kitchen volunteers—Tom Viola, Mark Walsh, Nina Walsh, Keith Boniface, and Deb Nash—whose hard work and dedication in preparing that phenomenal meal made the afternoon a massive success. And a special thank you to Mary Ann Hilker for making and providing all the wonderful desserts.

DART LEAGUE

Rensselaer Elks Dart League

Dart Season will officially begin on Wednesday October 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM. There will be a kickoff meeting on Wednesday September 30 2026 at 7 PM. All persons interested in playing are encouraged, but not required, to attend. New players of all skill levels are most welcome!

Look for the sign-up sheet posted at the bar.

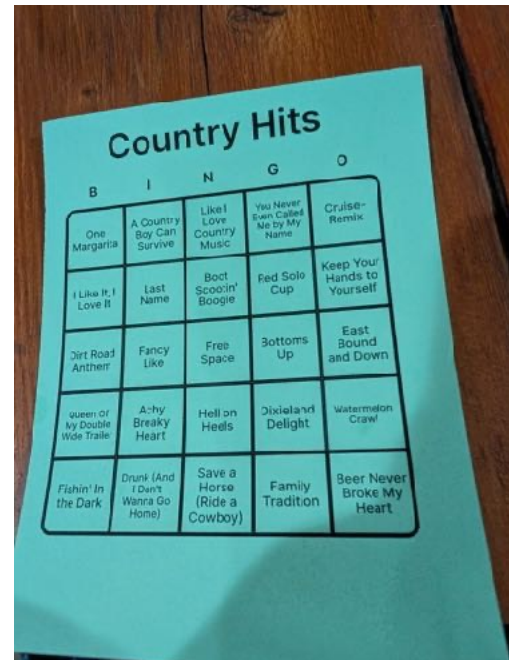
20 WEEK CLUB

20 WEEK CLUB FIRST DRAWINGS IN 2 WEEKS! GET YOUR
TICKETS NOW AT THE BAR! FIRST DRAWINGS
SEPTEMBER 17TH!

Thanks, JUDE.

[518-560-9396](tel:518-560-9396)

FUN PHOTOS FROM MUSIC BINGO!



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Golf League	2 Cornhole	3 Bingo 5pm	4	5
6 Breakfast 9am	7 Labor Day	8 Golf League	9 Lifeline Screening Cornhole	10 Bingo 5pm	11	12
13 Breakfast 9am	14 Lodge Meeting	15	16 Cornhole	17 Bingo 5pm	18	19
20 Breakfast 9am	21	22 Music Bingo!	23 Cornhole	24 Bingo 5pm	25 Brinley's Bags Dinner	26
27 Breakfast 9am	28	29	30 Cornhole			

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.