



RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073

Newsletter

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

Greetings and welcome to October, my Elk Sisters and Brothers

Thanks to Paul Muzio for taking over as editor of our monthly newsletter and sending out requested email blasts.

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

Special thanks to our Veterans Committee for their never-ending commitment to our veterans.

Again, they threw a Veterans appreciation BBQ, it was a huge success.

Thank you to Chairpersons Mark Mann, Val Grugan, Angie Vroman, and Tara Niesen for helping us thank our veterans.

Thank you, bingo crew, for preparing the great spread for our veterans.

I'd like to thank all the crews and volunteers who worked on events throughout September.

Events such as Music Bingo, Karaoke, Lodge Appreciation Day, etc.

It is in large part thanks to you that this lodge is successful.

Please remember that we can always use volunteers for the various activities we do here at our Lodge.

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

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

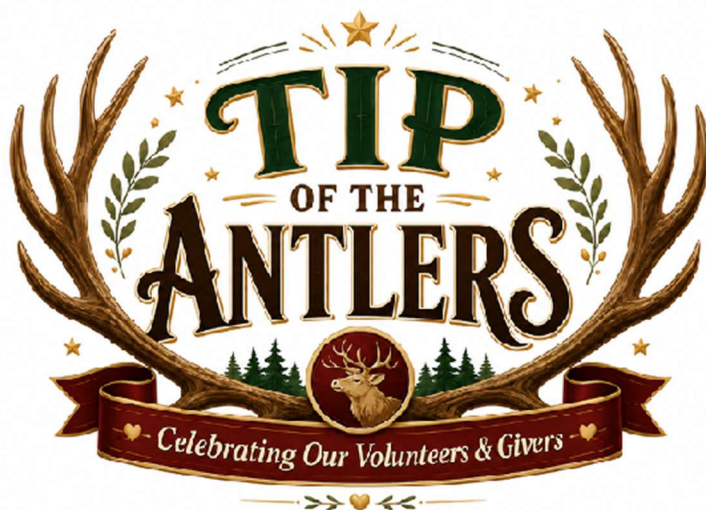
Fraternally,
Exalted Ruler Jerry Wendel

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



VETERANS BBQ COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEERS

BRINLEY'S BAGS VOLUNTEERS

STREET SOLDIERS VOLUNTEERS

Becky Geisel and Jeanette for a very successful Music Bingo Night.

ANCHOR FOOD PANTRY



BINGO TOTALS



4-events

374 - players

\$14,802.00 - Gross

\$9028.00 - Payouts

\$5792.00 - Net

Kitchen Gross: \$\$1630.00

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!**

PER TRAINING

The PER's are presenting training for the Lodge.

The next session will be Tuesday, October 13th at 7 PM.

The topic of this session will be "Where to find the Elks on the Internet"
It will include the National Elks, NYS Elks and our own Rensselaer 2073 Virtual Home Page.

Topics will include:

Grand Lodge statutes, finding your ENF donation summary, exploring the Members Only area, Magic Mystery Lodge, looking up your Digital Lodge Card, find the current Lodge Newsletter and Previous Newsletters.

You will need an Elks user account to access these websites. I will be at the Lodge on Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm if you need Help setting up an account, Chuck Adams PER

COUNTDOWN TO ZERO DELINQUENTS



LET'S BRING THIS NUMBER DOWN

SNOWPLOW BID

2026-2027 Snowplow Bid

The Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073(the Lodge), 683 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush, NY, is requesting bids for the 2026-2027 winter season for snow removal/plowing, sidewalk clearing and salt spreading. Storms of two inches or more require services and priorities will be specified.

BID DUE DATE: October 31, 2026.

Member and guest safety is paramount to this agreement regarding the treatment of our parking lot, rear and front/back sidewalk entrances.

Hours of Operations:

Monday	2:00pm – Close
Tuesday	2:00pm – Close
Wednesday	2:00pm – Close
Thursday	2:00pm – Close (Bingo night)
Friday	2:00pm – Close
Saturday	2:00pm – Close
Sunday	7:00am – Close (Breakfast)

In the event the Lodge closes due to inclement weather, a contact name and phone# from the contractor shall be provided to the Lodge. A Lodge representative will contact the contractor to inform them of the situation.

Bid – Scope of Work – Provide snow plowing/removal pursuant to this proposal. Entire parking lot plowed and treated with calcium chloride. Unique storms of icy conditions when requested. Front and rear sidewalks completely cleared and treated with calcium chloride. Calcium chloride to be provided by contractor.

The main hall canopy entrance and member entrances should allow entry from the street and back entrance from the rear.

All parking spots must be cleared for a vehicle to park appropriately. Snow must not be plowed against building or back garage.

Because of prior damage to Lodge property, \$500 will be withheld until winter ends. Marking stakes are encouraged.

The Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bid documents, to waive technicalities or abnormalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interest of the Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073. Certificates of Insurance naming Rensselaer Elks #2073 as additional insured must be provided by the awarded contractor.

Payment for the winning bid will be made monthly.

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!

VETERANS BBQ NEWS

On Thursday, September 17th, our Lodge came together for a spectacular afternoon dedicated to honoring those who have served our country. This year's Veterans Appreciation BBQ was an overwhelming success, bringing together 158 veterans, family members, and guests for fantastic food, great music, and wonderful camaraderie.

We were especially honored to welcome two buses that arrived from the Stratton VA Medical Center, bringing some of our truly most dedicated honored veterans to share in the day's festivities. We were also thrilled to receive visits from New York State Senator Jake Ashby and Rensselaer County Legislator Dan Casale, who dropped by to show their support for our local heroes.

Rensselaer Elks Veterans Committee member Val Grugan opened the event with an impactful welcome message. She shared a special thank you to all our veterans for their incredible sacrifice and service, and expressed the sincere gratitude felt by the entire Rensselaer Elks Lodge.

In addition to the festivities, attendees had access to valuable resources and give aways thanks to informational booths set up by the Dwyer Program from Columbia County, the Adopt a Soldier Program from Saratoga County, and the Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency—represented by our very own Elks member, Chris Albert.

The success of an event like this relies entirely on the dedication of our community and members, and we had 18 fantastic lodge members volunteer on the day of the event to make sure everything ran seamlessly. Among our dedicated volunteers, a special thank you goes to Deb Nash, Kim Vallee, and Janette Stasack for lending their time and energy setting up and serving. We were also blessed to have the support of some wonderful non-member volunteers, Quinn Hodson and Krissy Donahue, relatives of Tim Grugan, who stepped up to help our cause. A massive thank you also goes out to our incredible Rensselaer Elks Veterans Committee members— Angie Vroman, Val Grugan, Terra Niesen, and Mark Mann for their hard work in planning and executing a flawless afternoon to thank our local heroes.

Of course, no barbecue is complete without phenomenal food! The main meal was beautifully prepared by Mark Walsh and Vicki DeJulio, who made sure everyone was left well-fed and smiling. We also want to send a huge thank you to Karen Peak, Donna Pasternak, Mar Muzio, PER Paul Muzio and our Lodge Secretary Tom Nardacci, for making the delicious potato salad, macaroni salad, and antipasto that rounded out the feast.

A special thank you also goes to Tim Grugan, who kept everyone refreshed by serving iced tea, lemonade, and soda throughout the event. We are also incredibly grateful to our lodge confectioner, Mary Ann Hilker, who provided all the wonderful desserts; to Terra Niesen's daughter, Ashley Cohn, who baked four delicious pumpkin cakes; and to Stewart's, who generously provided all the ice cream and toppings to make delicious sundaes. While enjoying their treats, attendees were treated to fantastic live music provided by Eric Hoffman and Dena Peckham, which kept the atmosphere lively and festive throughout the day.

As a small token of our endless appreciation, every veteran in attendance went home with a special "Thank You Veteran" coffee tumbler and a 250th anniversary commemorative coin.

Thank you to every single volunteer, attendee, and contributor who made this day so deeply meaningful. It was a true reflection of our commitment to ensuring that our veterans are always remembered and celebrated.

Fraternally,

Veterans Committee

VETERANS BBQ PHOTOS



RENSSELAER LODGE 2073 MEDALLION

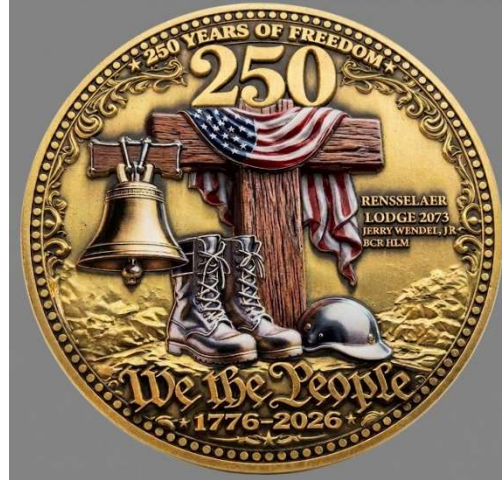
We Would Like to Offer These Beautiful Medallions Celebrating Our Countries' 250th Anniversary.

Medallions Are 4" in Diameter

Cost Will Be \$10.00, Payable when Ordering

\$2.50 Per Medallion Being Donated to Elks National Foundation.

Please Sign Up at the Lodge. A Medallion is at the Bar for viewing.



SEPTEMBER NEW MEMBERS

Jason Basle Jr., Joshua Carey, Bernadette Carmen, Lucas Creter, Bernice Edwards, Colin Lansing
Michelle Miller, Kim Salisbury, Victoria Shaw and Norman Vitale.

Photo on right, Basle, Creter, Lansing and Vitale all members of the US Army, Sponsor: Mason Albert



ELKS DART LEAGUE NEWS

Rensselaer Elks Dart League

Dart Season will officially begin on Wednesday October 7, 2026, 6:30 PM.

New players of all skill levels are welcome!

See Adam Shaw, Alan Hedge, or Dirck VanDeusen for more information.

MAJOR PROJECTS – 20 WEEK CLUB

Weekly drawings are now in progress...
Thursday Evenings

November 21, 2026
Auction – Dinner - Raffles

Need Baskets to Raffle
Need items to make Baskets

Monetary Donations also accepted

SEE: Mary Ann Hilker or Mary Muzio
Chairperson – Jude Kanaly

ITEMS NEEDED

2 Bottles Vodka
Gift Cards
Liquor
Coffee Mugs - K-Cups
Cocoa
Christmas Items
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Beer - 6pack
Chocolates (Box), Chocolate Chips
Small Garbage can
Cleaning Supplies
Broom, Mop, etc.
Movie Tickets, Candy, Popcorn
Carwash Gift Card, Supplies
Cat Supplies, Toys, Treats
Kitchen and Baking Supplies
Snacks

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	01 Bingo 7pm	02	03
04 Breakfast 9am	05 Red Cross 12pm House Meeting 6:30pm	06	07	08 Bingo 7pm	09 Dinner/Trivia	10
11 Breakfast 9am	12 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	13	14	15 Bingo 7pm	16	17
18 Breakfast 9am	19	20	21	22 Bingo 7pm	23	24
25 Breakfast 9am	26	27	28	29 Bingo 7pm	30 Scaryoke State President Visit	31
01 State President Breakfast	02	03	04	05	06	07 DD Visitation Lodge Initiation 3pm

Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073**2026 Election Information**

Election Day is November 3rd, 2026, and there are many important elections this year, including NYS Governor, Congressional Representatives, NYS Senator, NYS Assembly Members and many essential local offices. Make sure your voice is heard in shaping the future of our Country and Community.

Here are some important resources:

Register to Vote:

Visit here to sign up to vote
<https://elections.ny.gov/registration-and-voting-deadlines>

Where do I vote:

Find your polling place here
<https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov>

DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 24TH to be eligible to vote in this year's elections

Early Voting

October 24, 2026, through November 1, 2026

Rensselaer County Voting Hours:

- Saturday and Sunday 9am to 5pm
- Monday & Wednesday 12pm to 8pm
- Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am to 5pm

Rensselaer County Polling Locations:

- Federal Street Building, 500 Federal St., Troy, NY 12180
- Town of Brunswick Office Building, 336 Town Office Road, Troy, NY 12180
- Schodack Town Hall, 265 Schuuman Rd., Castleton, NY 12033

WREATH LAYING SARATOGA NATIONAL

Wreath-Laying Ceremony

10:30 a.m. – Gather at Memorial Pathway for Arrival of NYSEA President. Members & Elk Dignitaries proceed to Ceremony Site at the end of Memorial Path.

➤ Lodge Veterans assemble behind their respective Branch of Military Service Flags. They will proceed to Ceremony Site, along with Gold Star Mothers, behind Albany Police Department Bagpiper followed by TAPS Bugler. Patriot Guard Riders will form a Flag Line along the Memorial Path & on either side of the Saratoga County Veterans Memorial

➤ Opening Prayer –

➤ Poem –

➤ National Anthem – Vocalist

➤ Pledge of Allegiance –

➤ Welcome - State Capital District Veterans Service Chair

➤ Poem –

➤ Introduction of NYSEA President – State Capital District SVP

➤ Speech - NYSEA President

➤ NYSEA President & First Lady lays Wreath at Saratoga County Veterans Memorial (All Pause for Moment of Silence)

➤ Musical Selection – Albany Police Department Bagpiper

➤ Speeches – Chief Elected Officials (To be determined)

➤ Poem –

➤ Musical Selection –Vocalist

➤ Closing Prayer –

➤ TAPS –

➤ Recessional – Albany Police Department Bagpiper

➤ Dismissal –State Capital District Veterans Service Chair

NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS



THE LODGE IS ACCEPTING NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS

\$5.00 PER YEAR – DONATIONS TO RENSSELAER LODGE NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS 2026-2030

APRIL

SHAWNA LAMBERT 2026-2030

IN MEMORY OF: DAVID L. RIFFLEY

EILEEN GRANT 2026-2027

TOM GRANT 2026-2027

TOM NARDACCI, PDD 2026-2027

KITTY NARDACCI 2026-2027

MAY

TIM OPITZ (MOOSE) 2026-2028

IN MEMORY OF JOHN "CHUCKERS" BERRIGAN

LINDA WEBER 2026-2027

PAUL MUZIO PER 2026 – 2027

MARY MUZIO 2026-2027

JUNE

EXALTED RULER JERRY WENDEL 2026-2027

IN MEMORY OF DOUG HADLEY

JAMES ADAMS 2026-2027

SEPTEMBER

MERRILL AND DEBBIE BONIFACE 2026-2027

DANA MURPHY 2023-2027