



# NEWSLETTER

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

January 2023 | VOLUME 262

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ER's Message .....	1
House Report .....	1
Mission Statement .....	1
Lodge Information .....	2
Secretary's Corner .....	3
Quarter Pool .....	3
Sunday Breakfast .....	3
Bingo Report .....	3
Sickness and Distress .....	3
Blood Drive .....	3
In Memory Of.....	3
Volunteers Needed .....	3
Membership Information .....	4
Save the Date.....	5
Rensselaer Elks in Action .....	5
Grand Lodge News.....	6
Firefighter Appreciation.....	7
Firepit and Gazebo.....	7
ENF.....	8
January Birthdays .....	8
In Focus: Elks National Foundation.....	9
Tip of the Antlers .....	10
ENF Grants .....	10
11 O'Clock Toast.....	10
Veterans Remembrance .....	11
Help Us Help Vets .....	11
Holiday Parties .....	12
Stay Up to Date.....	12
Golf Tournament Proceeds .....	13
All American Lodge Update.....	13
Superbowl Party .....	14
Revised Hours .....	14
Antlers Program .....	15
Delinquents / Sponsors List .....	15
Veterans Committee .....	16
Upcoming Calendars .....	17
Newsletter Supporters .....	18

## MISSION STATEMENT

*"To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share."*

## ER's Message

A new year brings about a clean slate and a fresh perspective. Hopefully you are excited about 2023 and all the possibilities that it holds for our Lodge. We have been racing at a torrid pace and as we head into the home stretch, a little renewed sense of the big picture is warranted.

We really do have one of the finest Lodges in the entire country with amazing, servant-hearted Members willing to step up whenever called upon. I truly believe that and we intend to continue to showcase it in our work.

What's really exciting is that we had our first applicant for the Antler's program recently with more to follow. We only need

fifteen (15) children, between the age of 12 to 20, to be able to apply for a charter from the Grand Lodge. Please help us get this program off the ground with your children or grandchildren. We have some great local leaders who have stepped up to get involved as mentors. This has great potential in my humble opinion.

The Veterans Committee has picked up steam and has been very busy during the holiday season as noted. Thank you for all of your efforts to help our Veterans in need. It is the least we can do to support those who have done so much for all of us.

Please support the Superbowl Party as we try something different at the Lodge.

## A Clean Slate...

Finally, please consider sponsoring a new Member in our Lodge. We are within striking distance of our goal of 800 Members for the year but we need a strong final push from all. Our current Membership recruitment effort stems from the work of just 5% of the Members. We can do better on this. Thank you for your help and best wishes for a healthy, happy, prosperous 2023!

Greg Collins

Tel: (407) 495-7561

E-mail: [gregecollins@gmail.com](mailto:gregecollins@gmail.com)

## HOUSE REPORT

I hope you had a Happy Hannukah, great Christmas and an awesome New Years! I find myself being reflective this month. Reflective of all the GREAT things that Greg Collins and his Chairpeople have accomplished in 2022. So many positive things have been accomplished for the Community and the Lodge. Our Lodge is a resource for other Lodges in our district, State and Nation for social media information. We continue to increase our views and interactions of our Facebook page monthly. I want to thank everyone for being an Elk and participating when possible. I am amazed at the number of new Members joining us monthly. Thank you to all the sponsors and families promoting our membership to all. I look forward to watching and supporting the Lodge continue to grow in the future.

The future of the Lodge is dependent on the membership electing the next years Officers and Trustees. As with any election, it is your membership privilege to be part of this process. Everyone's voice is important in selecting candidates that have the best interest of the Lodge that promotes growth and vitality now and into the future. I support Greg in any decision that he chooses in supporting our Lodge. I also support the existing officers in advancing to the next steps of progression in the fraternal organization. I feel our Trustees have demonstrated good guidance in the past during the difficulties of the past 3 years. They all deserve our appreciation and respect in the future.

I would like to communicate the role that I was tasked with by the current Exalted Ruler. He has tasked me and my appointed committee members with the day-to-day operations of the Lodge. It is the House Committees responsibility to set good business practices that meet the needs of the Lodge and predict its needs in the future. The House Committee is a group of

people that want the Lodge to prosper and grow. I know this Committee is dedicated to achieve the business needs of the Lodge. We are each of your advocates to facilitate change that brings about good business for all in our Lodge. We do not make decisions in a vacuum and have an open-door policy will all to expression solutions. We strive now and, in the future, to take everyone's input into consideration to achieve common goals of the Lodge. I look forward to continuing my volunteering in support of the membership. Fraternal organizations are managed by the majority. We all pay the same dues, and we all have one vote. We are ALL vested in the success of the Lodge!

As our membership is growing by leaps and bounds, the new local residences of many different age groups want our Lodge to be the social beacon of our community. The House Committee has been approached by many Members wishing for us to extend hours on Friday and Saturday nights. The Lodge hours have changed and modified due to and during the past Public Health Emergency. I have read as much as possible about the effects of this pandemic has brought upon business. I have spoken to many business-minded people from our Lodge and the community, and the indicators indicate additional profits may be reflective of the past but drive new business revenue by being creative, smart and insightful to the needs of the community. We feel that the time is right to test the resolve of our membership. We are going to extend the business hours of the Lodge on Fridays and Saturday night till midnight. The bartenders have bought into this trial. They will be available those nights in February. Please remember their first two responsibilities are to protect the liability of the Lodge and to ensure the safety of our members. The bartenders have the right to refuse service to anyone that they feel is intoxicated. They

will be promoting good business to all. I will be promoting "GAME NIGHT" on Saturday evening. Be in the Lodge by 8:30pm to sign up to plays of change and or tabletop sports related games. I am encouraging people to bring people back to the Lodge after your family function is done, after attending dinner, concert or sporting event in the Capital District. If anyone has an issue with the service during this trial, that can be verified by another, please bring it to the attention of a House Committee member. Everyone must buy in and support our Lodge to achieve good business in the short term and possible the future.

Thank you to Brian Kirch and Joe Herbst for being available to cover a rental when I was experiencing flu like symptoms. Thank you to the House Committee members for that you do. Thank you to the Officers and Trustees for your support of the Lodge. Thank you to the bartenders for the service you provide the membership. We can all achieve great things for the Lodge!

As a constant reminder, you just have to be willing to volunteer to achieve the goals of the Lodge. Look for sign-up sheets in the Lodge to help with the many different roles needed. Also, if you wish to see the calendar of events and the open volunteers position...if you have a Google email account, send an email to [2073elks@gmail.com](mailto:2073elks@gmail.com) and ask to be given permission to look at events calendar. Then you can sign up in the Lodge or communicate your desire to me or a member of the House Committee.

Bob Myron  
House Chairman 2022-23

## Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler	Greg Collins
Leading Knight	Paul Muzio
Loyal Knight	Steve Frese
Lecturing Knight	Patrick Skelley
Esquire	Gerald Wendel
Chaplain	Al Campisano
Inner Guard	Barry Betz Jr.
Tiler	Natalie Wagner
Secretary	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Treasurer	John Christiansen, PER
House Chair	Bob Myron, PER
Newsletter Editors	Greg Collins / Alan Hedge
Trustees	
5-Year Trustee	Chuck Adams, PER
4-Year Trustee	Ronald Barner, PER
3-Year Trustee	Dana Murphy
2-Year Trustee	Jim Walsh
1-Year Trustee	Tim Davis

## New Lodge Website

We are working on the next update of the Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 website. We built a nice foundation already and we are ready to put some meat on the bones. Our website address is [www.2073elks.org](http://www.2073elks.org)

If you have ideas for the website, or would like to do some work to help build it out, please contact Greg Collins at [gregecollins@gmail.com](mailto:gregecollins@gmail.com) or (407) 495-7561.

Stay tuned in the months ahead!

### Support Your Lodge!

- Like / Share on Facebook
- Invite a Friend
- Volunteer Your Time
- Share Your Ideas
- Attend Lodge Fundraisers
- Attend Lodge Meetings
- Say No To Lodge Drama

## Committee Chairs

Committee	Chair
Accident Prevention	Chris Linck
Activities Committee	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Adopt-A-Highway	Brian Kirch, PER
Adopt-A-Family	Angie Vroman
All-American Lodge	Greg Collins
Americanism	Mary Jean Willis, PER
Antlers Program	Marylou Hedge
Auditing	Mike Bobersky / Andy Koenig
Bar Stewards	Tim Grugan / Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Bell Jar	Nick Vecchione, PER
Bingo Chair	Mark Mann
Charitable Reporting	Linda Rowse, DDGER
Christmas Party	Nancy Hunt
Cigar Tasting	Bryan Van Deusen
Coats for Kids	Jo Anne Netzer
Community Activities	Bob Myron, PER
Community Awards	Chris Linck
Dart League	Charles Megyesi
Diversity	Natalie Wagner
Drug Awareness	Barry Betz Jr.
Elks National Foundation	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
Elk Training	Dave Hilker, PER
Entertainment	Dan Lang / Eileen Collins
Flag Day	Marylou Hedge
Fraternal	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Fundraising	Natalie Wagner
Government Relations	Tom Grant / Phil Danaher
Grants	Greg Collins / Natalie Wagner
Grounds	James Walsh
Hoop Shoot	Scott Galameau

House Chair	Bob Myron, PER
Indoctrination	Linda Rowse, DDD
Internet / Electronic	Greg Collins
Justice	Joseph Slater
Kids Coaching Program	Cheryl Higgins
Lapsation	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
Liquor Steward	Jeff Grugan
Lodge Historian	Ronald Barner, PER
Lottery	Chris Adams
Major Projects	Paul Muzio
Marketing	Greg Collins
Meat Raffle	Steve Frese
Membership	Greg Collins
Memorial Sunday	Jack Coyne
National Veterans	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Newsletter Editors	Greg Collins / Alan Hedge
PER Association	Brian Kirch, PER
Photography	Greg Collins
Public Relations	Greg Collins
Recreation	Ronald Barner, PER
Ritual	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER
Scholarship	Lori Bishop
Sickness and Distress	James Walsh
Soccer Shoot	Patrick Skelley
Steak and Lobster Bake	Steve Frese
Toys for Tots	Nancy Hunt
Trunk or Treat	Rose Herbst
Turkey Bowl	Joseph Slater / Steve Slater
Turkey Shoot	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER
WELKcome	Chris Trumbull
Youth Activities	Cathy Scoons

## Lodge Information

Website:	www.2073elks.org		
Telephone:	(518) 477-9947		
ER Greg:	gregecollins@gmail.com		
Lodge E-mail:	2073elks@gmail.com		
Newsletter:	renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com		
Events:	housechairmanelks2073@gmail.com		
Mailing Address:	683 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061		
Lodge Hours:	Sun through Wed 2 PM – 8 PM; Thurs 2 —10 PM; Fri and Sat 2 PM —12 AM		
Lodge Meetings:	2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM		
Trustee Meetings:	2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM		
House Committee Meetings:	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 PM		
Facebook:	@2073elks	Linked In:	2073elks
Twitter:	@2073elks	Tik Tok:	2073elks
Snap Chat:	2073elks	Pinterest:	@2073elks

## SECRETARY'S CORNER

Lodge dues have increased this year to \$71.00 due to Grand Lodge and State assessments.

- Dues for fiscal year 2022 – 2023 went out in the mail beginning in February so you should have received notice. If you did not, please make sure we have a current mailing address.
- **Pay Your Dues Now!** If you are delinquent, please pay your dues so you don't become inactive for payment.
- Please remember that only Members current on their dues may enter the building and you may not sign in delinquent members as guests.

There are now two ways to pay your dues:

- **Mail in a check:** Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073, Attn: Lodge Secretary, 683 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061. Be sure to include your membership # in the "Memo" portion.
- **Stop In:** Come visit me at the Lodge or see the bartender with cash / check



We have a critical need for help! Please contact the House Committee Chair or ER to find out ways you may get involved. The Lodge only functions because of the hard work of our Members. It isn't fair to tax the same 12 people for all tasks all year long. They need a break!

- Cook chicken wings or hot dogs
- Chaperone a party
- Clean up after an event
- Fill up care packs for Vets
- Volunteer for a youth activity
- Be a server

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK: JANUARY 2023

### Let's Get Our Membership Current...

We currently have **21 delinquent members** who need to pay their dues for the 2022-2023 Lodge year. Please check the delinquent list and see if may know someone on the list. We kindly ask all Members, especially Sponsors, to help us reduce the number of delinquent Members in our Lodge. The Grand Lodge sends out monthly delinquent statements, at a charge to the Lodge, and should be used to remit your dues. If I could process these dues payments, that part of my duties would be completed, and I could move on to other Lodge business.

Thank You, Tom

## SUNDAY BREAKFAST



The Lodge hosts breakfast every Sunday morning from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM and members, their guests and the general public are welcome to attend. Our full service menu offers the most reasonable prices in town and a wide variety of food options with generous portions certain to please each guest. Help us to build our breakfast

crowd by inviting a friend to join you. Groups are welcome, but please call ahead for reservations.

## NOVEMBER QUARTER POOL

01	3423	17	3317
02	1733	18	2838
03	3265	19	1083
04	3273	20	1245
05	2793	21	3088
06	3175	22	1443
07	2067	23	3380
08	1443	24	Closed
09	2284	25	0760
10	3321	26	3029
11	3309	27	3317
12	2868	28	2834
13	3157	29	2933
14	2638	30	3297
15	1126		
16	0946		

2 Winners

## BINGO REPORT

Every Thursday night starting at 7:00 PM. Open to players age 18+. Doors open at 5:00 PM. \$1,300 in prizes.

Food specials and the best Bingo Crew on the planet!



### NOVEMBER REPORT

- Chair: Mark Mann
- Events: 3
- Players: 277
- Gross Receipts: \$9,987
- Prizes: \$5,861
- Net: \$4,129

## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

### All is Well...

Please contact the Lodge for any sickness and distress at (518) 477-9947. If you know of someone who has lost a friend or family member, or someone who could use a cheery word or assistance from fellow Elks, please let us know. Elks Care!



## In Memory Of...All Our Departed Members

In vain we call. They have passed into the light which is beyond the valley of the shadows of death; the places that have known them shall know them no more. Their faults we write upon the sands but their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.

Rest in peace, dear friends. Until we meet again at the hour of 11...

AMERICAN RED CROSS



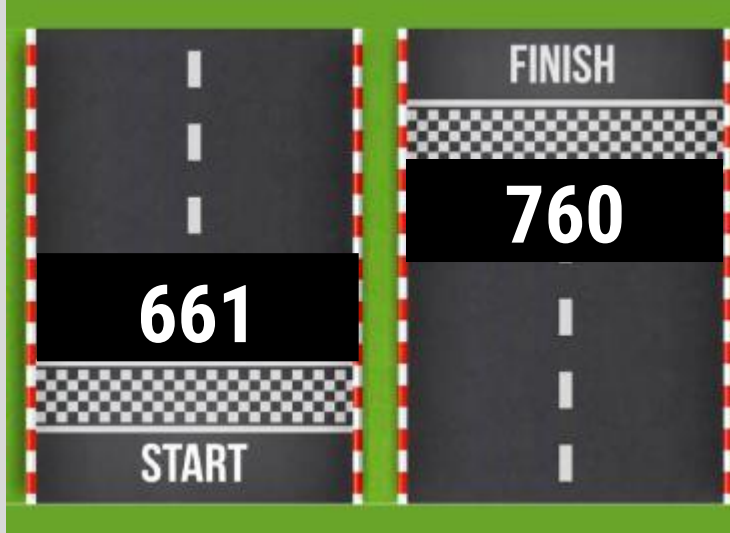
Tuesday, January 3rd  
1:30 PM - 6:30 PM



# MEMBERSHIP

## Race to 800 Members!!!

Our goal is to hit 800 active Members of the Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 this year. That is a formidable goal as we are currently at around 760 members. We are on a mission, however. We need your help to grow our membership! Membership ensures the future of the Lodge and it is the responsibility of all good Members. Any Member who brings in 10 or more candidates through initiation into the Order will be rewarded with a private party thrown by the Exalted Ruler at year end. The top proposers in the Lodge will receive special recognition and prizes. Let's make it happen...



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Applications on Hand	
Waiting to Read	16
Investigation Committee	0
Ready for Balloting	10
Ready for Orientation	4
Ready for Initiation	1
Ready for Affiliation	1
Ready for Reinstatement	0
Other	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>
Beginning Membership Total 4/1/22	661
Increases	
Initiated	92
Affiliated	3
Reinstated	16
Subtotal	111
Decreases	
Dropped	0
Transferred Out	0
Absolute Dimit	0
Deaths	12
Expelled	0
Subtotal	12
Calculated Membership Total	760
(CLMS Active Members)	760
Average Age	59.43
Gain / Loss	99
Delinquency	
Six Months	0
One Year	21
Over One Year	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>
Lapsation Rate	3.18%

## WELCOME ABOARD!



**Our 22 newest members of Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073. Please make them feel at home!**

Welcome to Elksdom! Pictured in the photo are Mary Plonka, Jean Mayhew, Mark Davenport, Michael Groves, Stephanie Donovan, ER Greg, Bruce Huddleson, Heidi Gleason, Angelo Ventura, Elizabeth Chenot, Karen McLaughlin, Karyn White, Sharon Wheeler, Thomas Siggia, Christine Morawski, Anne Conte, Jean LaPorte, Deborah Nash, Deborah Talar, Noreen Cancelliere, Claudette Mink, Kathleen Schoyer, and Karen Lorette

## MEMBERSHIP PIPELINE

Jennifer Crewell	By Laura Dende
Kimberly Doran	By Greg Collins
Kevin Dougherty	By Thomas Dougherty
Thomas Endres	By Fred Endres
Andrew Garrigan	By Matt Durivage
Corey Johnson	By Greg Collins
William Jordan	By Melissa Lurie
Meagan Klugo	By Laura Dende
Dale Knickerbocker	By Paul Muzio
Tyler Nolan	By Jeffrey Nolan
Christopher Vallee	By Kim Seebaum
Erin Wilbur	By Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Natalie Young	By Mark Mann
Robert Young	By Mark Mann
Joyce Zbras	By Cheri Pierce Rigsbee

## TOP PROPOSERS

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee	14
Tom Nardacci PDDGER	5
Conrad Jones PER	5
Bob Myron PER	4
Paul Muzio	4
Tim Davis	4
Melissa Lurie	3
James Walsh	3



February 6: Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30 PM  
House Committee Meeting 6:30 PM  
February 12: Superbowl Party 11AM — 4 PM  
February 13: Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM  
February 16: BPOE Birthday Celebration  
February 20: Lodge Initiation 6:30 PM  
February 25: Capitol District Ritual Contest  
Lodge Dinner and Live Music 6:00 PM  
February 27: Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM

## Billy Russell Award

13 good Members went to the graveside service of Billy Russell including members of his family this year which was the best turnout in some time.

Bob Seward II took home the Billy Russell Award for 2022—2023 at the Elks Memorial Service in front of Billy Russell's daughter, Tammy and son, David. This award is given every year in our Lodge to the Member labeled, "Nice to have around, nice to be around".

Congratulations and well deserved! Your pleasant nature, friendly conversation and constructive ideas have been appreciated this year!



## RENSSELAER ELKS IN ACTION



Toys for Tots



Dictionary Project



Kids Christmas





Helen and I want to wish each of you and your families a very Happy New Year as we welcome in 2023. New Year's Eve is a time when we reflect upon the events of 2022 with our family and friends. It's a time when new resolutions are made regarding yourself, your family, your friends, and Elkdom. The most common resolutions made include exercising more, improving diet habits, saving money, and pursuing career ambitions.

For us, as Elks, I'm hoping that "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" is also added to the list. Why not add becoming more active in your Lodge by working on a committee that will assist with your community image and charitable endeavors? Get your membership retention and arrears program into full stride.

Have your membership retention committee reach out to delinquent Members and speak with them personally. There is a chance this personal touch will bring those Members back into our folds. These Members must not be forgotten. They joined our great Order for a reason. Bring that burning spirit back into their thoughts by reminding them why they joined and how much they mean to your Lodge operations.

Wouldn't it be great for your Lodge to boast a +1 membership gain in 2023? With these thoughts in mind, I

hope each of you will have a very prosperous new year in Elkdom in 2023.

Let's now take a moment to reflect upon what January means to us in the Elks. January means a greater commitment to your Grand Lodge, state association, and Lodge programs. It's a time when you and your Lodge Officers should be reviewing how you stand with your Lodge per capita. If you see that your Lodge is falling short with the per capita goal, make January, February, and March your one last push over the goal line and score that touchdown. Use your Past Exalted Rulers Association and Board of Directors meetings to focus on how your Lodge is doing with all of the Lodge committees programs.

By reviewing your Lodge programs you may also begin to decide on who would deserve an award for the great work they have done for your Lodge. Some of the awards you can proudly present to Members and officers who have done so much to promote the cardinal principles of our Order are: Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Citizen of the Year.

There is no better way to say thank you for the hard work and dedication they have demonstrated. Maybe you might just get another Member of your Lodge to get involved and promote the good work your Lodge does in your community.

Another way that the Elks can be "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" is by participating in National Blood Donor Month, which has been observed since January 1970. Organizations such as the American Red Cross and the America's Blood Centers work together during the month to encourage people to donate blood. Perhaps your Lodge can be used as a location. You can save a life by donating blood. This is just another way we as Elks can prove that "Elks Care – Elks Share."

God bless all of you, God bless our troops past and present, and most of all, God bless America.

Bruce Hidley, GER

Watervliet / Colonie Lodge #1500

## Community Event



**FIREFIGHTER  
APPRECIATION DAY**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH, 2023**

**3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**



**PRESENTED BY  
RENSSELAER ELKS LODGE #2073**

**683 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE  
EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061**

**☎ (518) 477-9947    ✉ 2073ELKS@GMAIL.COM**

## LODGE NEWS

Want to include something in the Newsletter? Please submit by the 20th of the month. Please sign up to receive your newsletter by e-mail. Please e-mail submissions to [renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com) or place in mailbox by the bar.

### E-mail Address Capture

Please help us to build better communication by providing your e-mail address. Whether you have given it to us before, please send a new message with your current e-mail so that we can update our system to [renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:renss.elksnewsletter@gmail.com)

## Firepit and Gazebo

Our Lodge added another value-added feature to the outside grounds by installing a beautiful gazebo above



the fire pit. Special thank you to our Secretary for dreaming this project up and to all who helped make it happen including: Steve Freese, Bob Myron, Jim Walsh, Tom C Nardacci and Tom Viola / Zappala Block.

Note: Please turn off the damn gas when finished if you ever want to have a prayer to actually using it.

## Special Lodge Meetings

Pursuant to the Elks National Grand Lodge Statutes in Section 15.070: Special Meetings may be called by the Exalted Ruler upon three days' notice to all Members of the Lodge.

The notice shall state the special business to be considered such as initiating candidates, and no other business shall be considered or transacted.

The notice can be sent out via email or placed on the Lodge bulletin board. Since there is no voting or other business, the Exalted Ruler has the authority to call the Special Meeting.

More to follow as we try to press ahead to initiate all of our outstanding candidates before the end of the Lodge year.



## ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

WOW! What a GREAT year for our Lodge ENF support. When I set the goal for our Lodge back in March for this year's ENF support, I thought I had a small hope of achieving what I thought were lofty goals. This was before I knew of Exalted Ruler Greg Collins goal of ALL AMERICAN LODGE. I set a goal of raising \$6,610, which is \$10.00 per member. As it turns out, we have surpassed those lofty goals. As of this date, we have raised \$7,649.50, which translates to \$11.57 per member. Membership support is at 24.51%.

Our Lodge has received \$21,000.00 in Community Investment Grants. To all members who have donated, THANK YOU! To the new 92 members who have been Initiated this Lodge year, I hope you will join your Brothers and Sisters and support the Elks National Foundation with a donation of at least \$10.00 and if possible more. And to the existing Members who

have not made a donation this lodge year, it is not too late. See Larry Rowse and he will take care of your donation and make sure you get credit for it.

For older Members, if you are thinking of Estate Planning, please consider a bequest to the ENF so your legacy will live long after your passing.

So, thanks to you the Members support we have far surpassed other Lodge years for the number of Lodge members giving. Again, THANK YOU!

Fraternally, Lawrence E. Rowse,  
PDDGER  
Lodge ENF Chairman



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS ARE YOU CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY?

First	Last	Day
Michael	Condo	01
Fred	Endres LM	01
Douglas	Lebrecht Sr LM	01
Tim	Miano	01
Thaddeus	Rudzinski	01
Kenneth	Schanz LM	01
David	Albarelli	03
John	Arnold	03
Jeffrey	Grugan	03
Richard	Matters Jr	03
Heidi	Gleason	04
Eric	Hart	04
Lisa	Howard	04
Dennis	Davis	05
Sandra	Waldron	05
Mary	Hart	06
Michael	Felock	07
Joseph	Lacivita	07
Thomas	Nardacci	07
Helen	Rossiter	07
Joan	Daniell	08

Peter	Daniell	08
Carolyn	Felock	08
Gingeretta	McDade	08
Michael	Murphy	08
Robert	Teliska LM	08
Michael	Schwind	10
Jason	Colliton	12
Tonya	Leighton	12
James	Fenton	14
Gary	Fuller	14
Karen	Adams	16
Gerald	Colbert	16
Raymond	Frankoski LM	16
Barrett	Rowse	16
Lisa	Giddings	17
Thomas	Nastars	19
Jillian	Rigsbee	19
Karl	Heidenreich	20
Conrad	Jones	20
Gregory	Keller	20
Stephen	Frese	21
Michael	Meehan	21

James	Poole	22
Marshall	Wagner	22
Paul	Erkkinen	23
Steven	Hedge	23
Lisa	Canfield	26
William	Cleary LM	27
Robert	Clow	27
Nelson	Williams LM	27
Dale	Hunt	28
Robert	Loveridge	28
Douglas	Smith	28
Dan	Colvin	29
Michael	Truss Jr	29
Timothy	Freemantle	30
Barry	Betz	31
Joseph	Buscini LM	31
Andrew	Hirsch	31
Daniel	Lang	31
Paul	Mason	31
Nicholas	Petramale	31



# MAKE GIVING EASY & JOIN THE CLUB!

## Sign up for our monthly, sustaining giving program—the ENF Fidelity Club!

- › Give automatic, regularly scheduled donations each month from your credit card or bank account.
- › Receive special membership benefits and recognition pieces.
- › Update, adjust or modify your gift any time online or by calling us.
- › Sign up by scanning the QR code and make a sustaining difference in Elks communities today!



Use the QR code to sign up today.



Elks  
National  
Foundation, Inc.

## In Focus: Elks National Foundation (ENF)



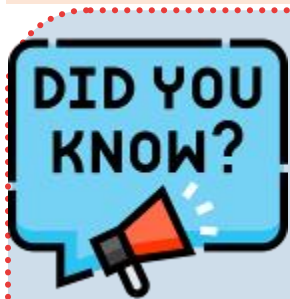
Elks  
National  
Foundation

### Rensselaer Lodge #2073

District: North Hudson, NY #6260	New Donors: 77
Members as of 4/1/22: 661	Second Year Donors: 8
Individual Donors: 162	Third Year Donors: 7
Amount Donated by Individuals: \$7,649.50	Renewed Donors: 30
Per Member Giving: \$11.57	Renewal Rate: 100%
Lodge Support: 24.51%	Reactivated Donors: 45
District Support: 12.48%	Total Donors: 167
State Support: 13.45%	Fidelity Club Goal: 3
National Support: 10.83%	Fidelity Club Donors: 6

# Tip of the Antlers...Job Well Done!

- Thank you to Jack Coyne for again arranging the Elks Memorial Service. Very well done and thank you kindly for many your years of service in doing so! Bob Myron, Ed Serian, Rob Miller, Rod Leddick, Sue Miller, Shari Miller, and Rita Prinzo all cooked and served a beautiful roast beef dinner at the Memorial Service. And Jimmy, they didn't even run out of food either!
- Cathy Scoons did a heck of a job with the Kids Christmas Party. Creig Cullum was a very jolly and most convincing Saint Nick. Very well done! Thanks also to Chrissy Adams for helping out as an Elf! Nancy Hunt led the charge for the Toys for Tots again this year. Our Lodge stepped up and provided two full boxes of toys for the season! Nancy also orchestrated the Lodge Holiday Party which was a very nice affair for our Members!
- Thank you to the dictionary project delivery crew including Larry Rowse, Linda Rowse, Al Campisano, Gerald Wendel, and Karen Barner. This is great community engagement work and reflects well on our Lodge!
- Great job by the Junior Rensselaer Elks (Antler's) Committee. It isn't easy to start something from scratch at all!
- Thank you to our bartenders for all your work and effort. Some things could definitely have been handled much better recently but don't think for a second we don't appreciate your time and value. You have a tremendous responsibility and handle it well. Special thank you to Jeff Grugan for taking over the beer and liquor ordering and getting things on track.
- Amazing job by the entire Veterans Committee to step up and come through for our Vets!
- Ed Miano does an awful lot behind the scenes which gets overshadowed by his generally grumpy facade.



- Our little Facebook page is now up to 1,300 likes and 1,400 followers. Nice job!
- Our Lodge is currently in first place in NY State for the ENF Chairman's Challenge
- Our Lodge is second in NY State for total ENF donations made

## ENF Grants—Making an Impact

It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce that Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 has officially been approved for an Impact Grant from the Elks National Foundation (ENF) in the full amount of \$10,000 for a program called "Operation Be Well". The focus of the program revolves around promoting behavioral and mental health and overall wellness to lift the spirits of at-risk veterans from our area through fun, engaging and social activities in nature including kayaking, boating, fishing, hiking, and camping. Much more to follow on this program in the months ahead. To date, our Lodge has now received \$21,000 in funds from ENF to support our local community for initiatives like our Science Series, the Dictionary Project, and programs to help Veterans in need. That ranks among the top in New York State for the moment. With all of our collective effort, we have also secured bonus Gratitude grant funds for next year in the amount of an additional \$1,500.

We thank the Elks National Foundation for their tireless effort and commitment to build stronger communities and to reinforce the fact that Elks care, Elks share.



## 11 O'Clock Toast

Please help to ensure that the 11 O'Clock Toast is performed at the Lodge every night before closing time. Request that the ranking officer on hand do the toast or simply have the bartender ring the chimes and say, "To Our Absent Members". The spirit of all those good Members who have come before us should be respectfully honored in this way. This is one of the areas of Elkdom that is meaningful and important. During our travels to Elk events, the toast is done religiously and with great reverence. Please help us make this happen at our Lodge. It is important...

# Veterans Remembrance—Wreaths Across America Ceremony

Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 Members attended the solemn and respectful wreath laying ceremony at the Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach our children the value of freedom as part of Wreaths Across America. In total, over 15,000 fresh wreaths were laid by 2,000 volunteers at the final resting place of true heroes. It was a moving ceremony that we were truly honored to be a part of. Freedom, as you may know, comes with a heavy cost...



## Veterans Remembrance

Want to recognize a Veteran with ties to Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 or our local community? Send us a photo, preferably in military uniform, with the branch of service, dates of service, and any deployment locations of note. Let us know about any honors or awards received too. We will try to publish a story each month to keep the memory of these heroes alive and well.

## Help Us Help Vets!

### Care Packs

Please help us to provide "Care Packs" for our local veterans in need by donating any of the following personal items with your original receipt:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Shaving Cream
- Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Hand Sanitizer
- Deodorant
- Cotton Swabs
- Sanitary Napkin
- Tampons
- Face Towel
- Body Cream
- Tissues
- Nail Clip Sets
- Mouthwash
- \$25 or Less Gift Cards

## Welcome Home Kits

Please also help us with compiling "Welcome Home Kits" for local veterans in transitional housing by donating any of the following items with your original receipt:

Queen Sheet Set	Silicone Spatula	Scissors	Glass Cleaner
Blanket	Mixing Spoon	Shower Curtain	Laundry Basket
Pillows	Plastic Food Storage	Shower Curtain	Laundry Detergent
Comforter	age	Tension Rod	Toilet Bowl Brush
Hangers	Kitchen Towels	Bath Towels	Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Plates	Kitchen Wash Cloths	Toilet Paper	Microwave Oven
Bowls	Oven Mitt	Trash Can	Floor Lamp
Flatware	Paper Napkins	Kitchen Trash	Light Bulbs
Coffee Cups	Tin Foil	Bags	Clock Radio
Glasses	Plastic Wrap	Broom	Stackable Chairs
Cook Set	Large Ziploc Bags	Mop	
Knife Set	Small Ziplock Bags	Bucket	
Measuring Cups	Paper Towels	Dustpan	
Can Opener	Cutting Board	Sponges	
Pizza Cutter		Dish Soap	
Slotted Spatula		All Purpose Cleaner	



# KIDS CHRISTMAS RECAP

The kids Christmas party was a very successful endeavor and a good time was had by all!

Thank you to Santa Claus and his elf for their help in pulling it off along with Cathy Scoons for organizing it all.

Santa's other helpers included: Jimmy Walsh, Joel Rigsbee, Linda Weber, Kate Schoyer, Debbie Talar, Rick Scoons, Christina Hunt, Dominic Hunt, Linda Rowse, Larry Rowse, Creig Cullum, Chrissy Adams, Brian Kirkland, Bob Myron, and Cheri Pierce Rigsbee.

Job well done by all!



## Stay Up to Date

Want to keep informed about all the things going on with our Lodge? Use these many resources to help you...

- Facebook Page @2073 elks
- Lodge Monthly Newsletter
- Cork Board in Lounge
- Lodge Website / Calendar  
[www.2073elks.org](http://www.2073elks.org)
- Monthly Lodge Meetings
- Ask the ER, an Officer or a Bartender
- E-mail Questions to  
[2073elks@gmail.com](mailto:2073elks@gmail.com)



## Lodge Holiday Party Recap

The Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 Christmas/Holiday party was held on December 18, 2022 with approximately 70 members and their families who enjoyed great food, music, dancing and basket raffles. Everyone had fun and joined in to raise \$510.00 for the Rensselaer County Search and Rescue.

I would like to say thank you to Floyd Hunt, Mary and Paul Muzio, Lisa Canfield, MaryAnn Hilker, Beverly Rauch, Tim Grugan, James Walsh, John Snyder, Bob Myron, Brian Kirkland, Cathy Scoons, Brian Kirch, Greg Collins, Ed Serian, and Brian Hedge for making our Lodge party a success. It was a lot of work and you all did a great job which was noticed by all.

Thank you,

Nancy Hunt



# Celebrate With Members and Friends!

\$25.00 Fee

11:00 AM—4:00 PM Outdoors

- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs
- Italian Sausage and Peppers
- Chili
- Pot Luck—Bring a Dish to Share
- Bottomless Coors Light Drafts
- T-shirt for Sale



Special thanks to Mike Guadagnino for leading the charge on this effort!



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**Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073**

Beginning February 1st

# New Hours

MONDAY	2 PM - 8 PM
TUESDAY	2 PM - 8 PM
WEDNESDAY	2 PM - 8 PM
THURSDAY	2 PM - 10 PM
FRIDAY	2 PM - 12 AM
SATURDAY	2 PM - 12 AM
SUNDAY	2 PM - 8 PM

**Note: We are simply testing the expansion of these new hours temporarily to see if the members support it.**

# Antler's Program Taking Shape

We have officially signed up our first applicants for the Junior Rensselaer Elks program! At this point, the goal is to recruit 15 total applicants by our planned informational session on Monday, January 30th at 6:00 PM in order to apply for our Antlers charter with the Grand Lodge. Please consider discussing this with your kids and or grandkids to help get it started!

## Objectives

- Promoting Youth Activities and Fun
- Scholarship and Leadership Development
- Aiding the Less Fortunate
- Supporting Our Troops and Veterans
- Inspiring Americanism, Patriotism, and Respect for the Flag

## Membership Requirements

- Believe in God
- American Citizen
- Strong Character
- Ages 12 - 20
- Live in Rensselaer County

## Commitment

- One Meeting Per Month (1 Hour)
- One Service Project (As Time Permits)

## Contact

- E-mail: [2073elks@gmail.com](mailto:2073elks@gmail.com)



# Delinquents / Sponsors List

Please help us to bring our Delinquent List down to zero. The countdown currently stands at **22 delinquent Members**. For many of these folks, we have lost good contact information. Please help us get in touch and get them back in good standing. I am calling on all Sponsors to help especially in this regard. **Our Lodge needs to reduce this list to as low as possible...**

First	Last	Proposer
Frederick	Bastian	Gary P Carlson
Matthew	Burns	Gene R Schultheis
Geraldine	Colliton	Carolyn S Felock
Jason	Colliton	Dean Schermerhorn
Judith	Craft	Tedd Stalker
Shawn	Curley	Jason Colliton
Amber	Curran	Diana L Murphy
Dennis	Davis	*
Amy	Donnelly	Gregory E Collins
Randy	Donnelly	Gregory E Collins
Glen	Eggelhoefer	*

Darcy	Kadanczuk	Thomas Nardacci PDD HLM
Kevin	Kelly	Gregory Proper
Rebecca	Kinnicutt	John M Christiansen PER
Tim	Miano	Gene R Schultheis
Thomas	Nastars	Michael Paluba LM
Edward	Parady	*
Steven	Putney	Linda M Rowse DDGER
Kenneth	Schanz LM	*
Mary	Streeter	Gregory E Collins
Robert	Teliska LM	*
Edward	Wheeler	Gene R Schultheis



# Veterans Committee Update

Rensselaer Lodge's Veterans Committee and friends gathered for a holiday card writing campaign and wrote over 300 cards for local Veterans. They were distributed to:

- Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
- Albany Stratton VA Medical Center
- Fisher House
- Veterans Breakfast at Gateway
- Veterans Breakfast at the Melvin Roads American Legion



The Veterans Miracle Center (VMC) in Albany referred three elderly Veterans to Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 for our Adopt-A-Vet holiday initiative. Elks National Foundation (ENF) grant money was used to fulfill wish lists for Harold (age 99), Don (age 99), and Charlie (age 87)! Special thanks to one of our newest Elks member, Jean Mayhew, who assisted with shopping. Also, thanks to Linda Weber for assisting by wrapping the gifts! Jean and I delivered the presents to the VMC, who also bundled food items and special hygiene items for these Veterans. In return, Melody from VMC donated a Holiday arrangement to our Lodge.

Also, thanks to these power shoppers who maximized the \$4,000 shopping budget by purchasing the most items possible utilizing various discounts, without sacrificing quality: Mark & Tina Mann, Valerie Grugan, Bryan Kirkland, Greg Collins, Sophia (and her daughter), Karen Barner (and Ron), Dirck, and Paul Sweet!

Additional thanks extended to our caravan of transporters who packed their vehicles and arrived at the VA exactly at 2:30 PM including Paul Sweet, Linda Weber, Tim Opitz, and Bryan Kirkland!

We still have additional grant funds to give out to help Vets. We are planning a Veterans Stand Down Event for February or March and details will be forthcoming. Please contact me if you would like to assist us as there is much to do!

Cheers,

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee



# JANUARY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
New Year's Day 1	House Meeting 2 6:30 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive 3 1:30—6:30 PM	Darts 4 6:30 PM	Bingo 5 5:00 PM	6	Rensselaer Elks Dart 7 Tournament 12:30 PM
Breakfast 8 9:00—11:00 AM	Ritual Contest Practice 9 6:00 PM Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM	PER Night 6:30 PM 10	Darts 11 6:30 PM	Bingo 12 5:00 PM	13	NASCAR Party 14 6:00 PM
Breakfast 15 9:00—11:00 AM Firefighter Appreciation 3:00 – 6:00 PM	MLK Birthday 16 Ritual Contest Practice 5:00 PM	17	Darts 18 6:30 PM	Bingo 19 5:00 PM	20	21
Breakfast 22 9:00—11:00 AM	Lodge Initiation 23 6:30 PM	24	Darts 25 6:30 PM	Bingo 26 5:00 PM	Cookie Kick Off 27	28
Breakfast 29 9:00—11:00 AM All American Lodge Update 2:30 PM	Antlers Informational 30 Meeting 6:00 PM	31				

# FEBRUARY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Darts 1 6:30 PM	Bingo 2 5:00 PM	Four Chaplains Day 3	4
Breakfast 5 9:00 – 11:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive 6 1:30—6:30 PM House Meeting 6:30 PM	7	Darts 8 6:30 PM	Bingo 9 5:00 PM	10	11
Breakfast 12 9:00 – 11:00 AM Superbowl Party 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Ritual Contest 13 Practice 6:00 PM Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM	Organ Donor Day 14	Darts 15 6:30 PM	BPOE Birthday Celebration 16 Bingo 5:00 PM	17	18
Breakfast 19 9:00 – 11:00 AM	President's Day- Lodge Initiation 6:30 PM 20	21	Washington's Birthday 22 Darts 6:30 PM	Bingo 23 5:00 PM	Chili Cook Off 24 Contest 6:00 PM	Capitol District Ritual 25 Contest Lodge Dinner and Live Music 6:00 PM
Breakfast 26 9:00 – 11:00 AM	Lodge Meeting 27 7:30 PM	28				



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## NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS CLUB

### March 2023

Sue Polsinello

*In Memory of PER Floyd M Smith*

### April 2022

Cindy Jeffries

Dave Jeffries

Carol McKay

Lester McKay

Sue Polsinello

Tom Grant

Rockefeller Funeral Home

Rockefeller Funeral Home

George Wagner

Marshall Wagner

Michael Wagner

Frank Heller

*In Memory of Fred Hutchinson*

Walt Myers

### May 2022

JoAnne Netzer

*In Memory of Francis A. Netzer and*

*John Tiro*

Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER

Linda M. Rowse, DDGER

John J. Rowse

Barrett L. Rowse

Christine Rowse

Morgan P. Rowse

Kellynn Rowse Hickam

Emily Rowse Smith

Steven Smith

Sharon Malinoski

Brian P. Rowse

*In Memory of*

*E. Kevin Rowse*

*Gertrude B. Rowse*

*Kevin B. Rowse*

*M/Sgt. Thomas C. Rowse, USMC*

*William C. Rowse*

### June 2022

Richard C. Carpinello (2022)

*In Memory of Albert W. Carpinello*

### September 2022

Alan Hedge

Marylou Hedge

Steven Hedge

Brian Hedge

### October 2022

Jay Staggs

*for Rich Bedell and Frank Harper*

Patricia McCall

*In Memory of Leon Cellerly, PER*

Charles Van Buren

The Past Exalted Rulers of  
Rensselaer Lodge remember their  
Past State and National Leaders:

Jay Amodeo, PSP

George D'Ambrose, PSVP

Frank P. Lill, PSVP

Alexander Seney, PDDGER

Raymond Daley, PDDGER

Wray E. Tibbetts, PDDGER

Veronica Adriance, PDDGER

Charter Member Hank Rivet

### February 2022

David Kretschmar

For only \$5 a year! Your name will appear that month you sign up until the Year 2023! You can also put it "in memory of" a loved one! When the month approaches where your name is listed is when you owe \$5 to renew and be a Supporter for another year. (To those that have already renewed—you are paid through "your month" in 2022). To join – send \$5 to the Lodge.

Rensselaer Elks News

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**TOM NARDACCI, PDDGER**

**SECRETARY**

**ALAN HEDGE**

**EDITOR**

**RENSSELAER**

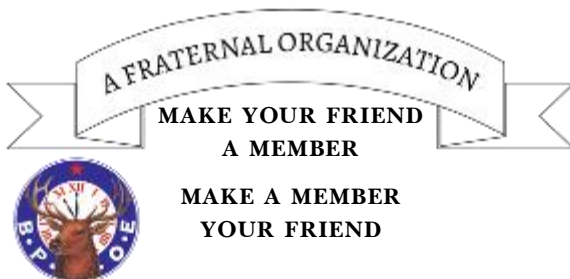
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