



NEWSLETTER

Charity | Justice | Brotherly Love | Fidelity

FEBRUARY 2023 | VOLUME 263

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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

The finish line is in sight and I am very pleased with the work our Lodge has done this year. It hasn't been perfect but we have made tremendous progress thanks to all of your hard work.

When I started the year, I set out with some very clear goals and objectives in mind. Bob Myron, PER gave some sage advice and I tried to be well prepared on day one to hit the ground running.

From my first missive, you may recall the gameplan we set out to accomplish. For the most part, we have generally hit our objectives.

1. Focus on the Lodge and Our Members

- * Initiate a General Lodge Fundraiser
- * Offer Regular Entertainment / Events
- * Expand Food Service / Selection
- * Upgrade the Club Amenities

2. Do the Work

- * Receive All ENF Grants
- * Support Our Veterans
- * Enhance Youth Activities
- * Aid the Less Fortunate

3. Tell Our Story

- * Implement a Coordinated Marketing Effort
- * Better Communication
- * Grow Membership

4. Get Recognized

- * Obtain the All-American Lodge Designation

There are still number of areas for improvement which I hope our Lodge and future leadership will consider. I am happy to offer my views on this offline to anyone wishing to move the Lodge forward in a positive direction. I will also continue to be a resource in any manner that is desired in the future.

I would urge the Lodge to press ahead on a number of initiatives including:

- Investment in a comprehensive and effective Wi-Fi upgrade as outlined to the Secretary and Trustees.
- Continuation of the successful building improvements and complete renovation of the upstairs.
- Better communication and increased input from our Members.
- Development of a comprehensive playbook for all incoming ER's and House Committee Chairs. We shouldn't start from scratch every year.
- Building on key programs from this year such as our

Looking Ahead...

strong commitment to Veterans, the Science Series, Ladies Night, the Antlers Program, social media and live music.

Our Lodge has made unprecedented progress in a very short time frame. The question is where do we take it from here? I would urge us to continue the progress and not look back. We truly have one of the finest Lodge's in all of the Country. Let's work together, communicate better, and really focus on reducing the negativity and drama.

Trying to keep 800 people happy is no easy task, as I have learned. I have tried my best to put the collective Membership first though and act as a steward in the best interest of the Lodge. I hope I have done the Lodge well. It has been my honor to serve all of you and I sincerely thank you for the opportunity.

Greg Collins

Tel: (407) 495-7561

E-mail: gregecollins@gmail.com

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

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 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 st 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 \$78.00 due to increased Grand Lodge and State assessments.

- Dues for fiscal year 2023 – 2024 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 number in the "Memo" portion.
- **Stop In:** Come visit me at the Lodge or see the bartender



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 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: FEBRUARY 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 you 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.

DECEMBER QUARTER POOL

01	3305	17	3320
02	3338	18	3085
03	1696	19	3253
04	3033	20	3340
05	3390	21	1158
06	1735	22	2933
07	2586	23	2236
08	2388	24	3295
09	2430	25	Closed
10	1387	26	0559
11	1092	27	2994
12	3005	28	1757
13	2441	29	2792
14	2793	30	3190
15	3347	31	
16	1910		

No 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!

DECEMBER | 6-MONTH | ANNUAL REPORTS



- **Chair:** Mark Mann
- **Events:** 5 | 25 | 50
- **Players:** 426 | 2,128 | 4,192
- **Gross Receipts:** \$15,490 | \$79,315 | \$153,928
- **Prizes:** \$9,535 | \$47,726 | \$94,281
- **Net:** \$5,960 | \$31,612 | \$57,643

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Please keep Rose and Joe in your thoughts and prayers

Please contact the Lodge for any sickness and distress notices 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

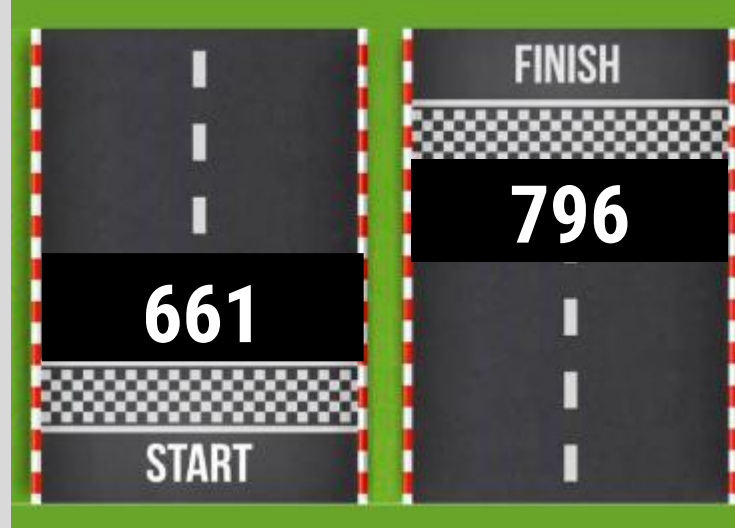


February 6, 2023
1:30 PM - 6:30 PM

MEMBERSHIP

Race to 800 Members!!!

As you know, our goal for the Lodge year has been to reach 800 active Members. We started on April 1, 2022 with 661 Members and now we have 796. With that being said, we have had 12 Members pass away during the Lodge year and we also still have 21 delinquent Members which are a drag on Membership. We are very close to hitting our stretch goal. Please reach out to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and past Members to help us finish strong and get across the finish line! Thank you to all who have helped with our membership recruiting efforts this year. You are very much appreciated! Let's make it happen...



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Applications on Hand	
Waiting to Read	19
Investigation Committee	0
Ready for Balloting	0
Ready for Orientation	10
Ready for Initiation	0
Ready for Affiliation	1
Ready for Reinstatement	0
Other	0
Total	30
Beginning Membership Total 4/1/22	661
Increases	
Initiated	121
Affiliated	2
Reinstated	22
Subtotal	147
Decreases	
Dropped	0
Transferred Out	0
Absolute Dimit	0
Deaths	12
Expelled	0
Subtotal	12
Calculated Membership Total	796
(CLMS Active Members)	796
Average Age	59.15
Gain / Loss	135
Delinquency	
Six Months	0
One Year	21
Over One Year	0
Total	21
Lapsation Rate	3.18%



Welcome new Members of Rensselaer Elks Lodge 2073!

Pictured in the photo: MJ Robison, PER, Chuck Adams, PER, Robert Young, Chris Vallee, Tyler Nolan, David Hilker, PER, Natalie Young, Lawrence Rowse, PDDGER, Megan Klugo, Jennifer Crewell, Linda Rowse, DDGER, Kevin Dougherty, Andrew Garrigan, Kimberly Doran, Ron Barner, PER, Dale Knick-enbocker, John Christiansen, PER, and Pat Cancilla, PSVP. Thank you to the PERs!

MEMBERSHIP PIPELINE

Leighann Brown	By Kayla Grugan
Kimberly Joy Carey	By Deborah Ganance
John Conte	By Anne Conte
Thomas Endres	By Fred Endres, LM
Nathaniel Ferreira	By Greg Collins
William Jordan	By Melissa Lurie
Kimberly Nalley	By Conrad Jones, PER
Sherri Smith	By Kayla Grugan
Leonard Smith Jr.	By Jeff Grugan
Joyce Zbras	By Cheri Pierce Rigsbee

TOP PROPOSERS

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee	16
Tom Nardacci, PDDGER	12
Conrad Jones, PER	8
Paul Muzio	5
Tim Davis	5
Bob Myron, PER	4
Melissa Lurie	4
James Walsh	3



March 6:	Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30 PM
	House Committee Meeting 6:30 PM
March 10:	St. Patrick's Lodge Event 5:00 PM
March 13:	Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM
March 14:	Ladies Night 7:00 PM
March 20:	Lodge Initiation 6:30 PM
March 25:	Lodge Appreciation II
March 27:	Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM
March 31:	Karaoke 7:30 PM

Special Lodge Meetings

Pursuant to the Elks National Grand Lodge Statues 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.

Next Special Lodge Meeting: Wednesday, February 15th at 6:30 PM

Purpose: Progressing Awaiting Candidates for Initiation



VETERAN FRIENDS



Hank Rivet



Harold Williams



XBOX Donation



It's hard to believe that on February 16, 2023, our great Order will celebrate its 155th year of existence. Happy birthday to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks!

February is an extremely busy month for us as Elks. There are only two months left in your Lodge year. I respectfully request that you review the progress of your Lodge programs. It's not too late to achieve the goals you haven't yet reached. Your Lodge certainly can get a lot done in the remaining two months. I can't think of any better way of "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" than to proudly tell all your Members you have successfully achieved your per capita for the Elks National Foundation, reached a +1 in membership, and accomplished the goals of the programs that are so important to the Elks and your community.

The month of February is also a time when new officers are nominated and elected for the new Lodge year. I encourage all the Lodges in our great Order to elect someone who is going to be dedicated to the affairs of your Lodge and your community. The success of your Lodge programs will depend upon

their leadership. A fine way of "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" is for your Exalted Ruler to demonstrate dedicated leadership to all the Members of the Lodge. It truly shows your community that "Elks Care – Elks Share" when we have a great group of officers.

Lodge Secretaries should note that February is the time when you must file the Statutory Lodge Committee Chairpersons report and the Local Lodge Directory information report in the respective CLMS2 online forms. This information is extremely important so that updates are done in a timely manner.

February is also when our Past Exalted Rulers perform the ritual during your Lodge's Past Exalted Rulers Night. To our PERs: This is your time to shine by performing an excellent rendition of the initiatory ritual for the incoming Members.

On February 2, Punxsutawney Phil emerges from his burrow on Groundhog Day. This day is important to me since I live in the Northeast. If Phil sees his shadow that day, it means six more weeks of cold and snow. Brrrrr.

During February, we recognize American Heart Month. This is when we get our Local Lodges and communities together to raise awareness to prevent heart disease. Proudly wear red during this month to show Elks care about addressing heart disease.

Let's not forget Valentine's Day on February 14. Cupid catches each of us so we express our love and affection for each other. To my wife, Helen: Happy Valentine's Day. You are the love of my life.

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

Bruce Hidley, GER

House Committee Report

Hello,

Who will win the Super Bowl? The day light is getting longer. The Ground Hog did its thing. I am looking forward to warmer weather. This makes me think about Rensselaer Elks #2073's planning for the next 90 days and beyond. I always advise people, that are doing thing for the lodge, to plan events as early as possible. The more planning the better the possibilities of success of achieve the goals. Officers, Trustees and Chair people reflect on what you accomplished in the past, set goals and build upon the success to take our lodge to the next level. Be open to change and do not let negativity hold you back.

I encourage EVERYONE to participate in Lodge activities, create events with your family and friends and communicate your ideas. People ask me all the time as to what is the BEST way to know what is going on in the Lodge. The three biggest ways are: 1) come into the Lodge and read the information posted on the doors/bulletin board 2) talk to the bartenders (they are well informed) and 3) request viewing rights to the Lodge's "Google Calendar". Our Google Calendar can work in association with your personal Google Calendar. It is very easy to set up, create and view and be part of the good communication provided. The more you know the more fun you can have!

Let us ALL pull together to make Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 one of the best Lodges in the entire nation! I feel this way. We want our community to know it too. Thank you!

Bob Myron

House Chair

Tel: (518) 283-7784

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 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



NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION

NYSEA President Cameron M. Ricci & First Lady Jo-Anne
cordially invite you to attend their Homecoming Celebration

Saturday, April 29, 2023
Delta Hotels by Marriott
200 Genesee St. Utica, NY 13502

Cocktail Hour 6-7 pm
Open Bar (Cash Bar thereafter)
Hors d'oeuvres included

Formal Dinner & Event Program 7-11 pm
Dress Code: Men - Jacket with Tie, Ladies - Equivalent

Dinner Choices
(Entrees include - Caesar salad, bread/rolls, dessert, coffee & tea)

- Grilled Salmon in spinach cream sauce served with rice pilaf and garlic roasted asparagus.
- Grilled Chicken with a balsamic glaze topped with goat cheese served with truffle potato marquis and garlic roasted asparagus.
- Pork Tenderloin with cranberry apple chutney with truffle potato marquis and garlic roasted asparagus.
- Vegetarian dishes are available upon request.

Homecoming Dinner - \$70.00 per Person

If you have any questions or if you wish to make a presentation at the dinner, please contact:
Herkimer Elks Lodge 1439 PER Jack Lynch at (315) 868-3496 or email: johnlynch330@gmail.com

Rooms are available at group rate, \$139.00 plus tax. Parking is available at an additional charge.
Guests should make their own reservations using the following link: www.marriott.com/ucade
enter the dates of stay, click special rates and add the "Group Code" CH4CH4A for a double bed room or CH4CH4B for a king size bed room or call the Delta Hotel directly at (315) 797-8010.

ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- Nomination of Officers** - Please attend the Lodge meeting on February 13th at 7:30 PM. Strong leadership is needed to continue progress.
- Membership Retention** - The single biggest key for next year is to develop a plan to actively engage and retain all of these new Members.
- Upstairs Renovations** - The Lodge should hold a meeting to discuss the proposed plans and solicit input from all good Members prior to commencing this project. A demolition crew should also be assembled now.
- Kitchen** - The Lodge should consider selling the two existing **Fry-a-lators** and replace them with the correct solution. We should also invest in an additional food **speed racks** or two to assist with events.
- Building** - A meeting was held to review the proposed solution for the **wireless network**. The **outside of our building** is a mess from people dinging it with their cars and should be fixed. A clear date should be set for the **front of the Lodge building** renovations. An **automatic external defibrillator (AED)** should be installed in the Lodge. A **United States Flag receptacle** has been placed in the Lodge to collect and properly retire them. The re-staining of the **pavilion** is desperately needed. The **base-ment** should be vented to eliminate the stench in the bar area.
- A date should be set soon for **Lodge Old Timers Day**.
- We are establishing the **Paul V. Obermayer 2023 Teenager of the Year Award** with a \$1,000 prize. Applications are available through our local school guidance counselors and are due by March 1, 2023. Please help us spread the word!
- Delinquent List** - Please help us work this list toward zero. This represents the biggest opportunity for remaining AALC points.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS ARE YOU CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY?

First	Last	Day
Gene	Morton	01
James	Doonan Jr LM	02
Sheri	Smith	02
Thomas	King	03
Richard	Scoons	03
Michael	Wagner	03
Leonard	Welcome Jr	03
Creig	Cullum	04
Patricia	McMahon	05
Thomas	Viola	05
Thomas	Brownell	06
Tim	Davis	06
John	Travers LM	06
David	Deluca	07
Jeanette	LaPorte	07
Christopher	Linck LM	07
Kammi	Phillips	07
Louis	Polsinello Jr.	08
Richard	Carpinello	09
Jason	Coyle	09
Bruce	Huddleston	09

David	Lutz	09
Beverly	Rauch	10
Joseph	Swahlan Jr LM	11
Jennifer	Trumbull	11
Kristen	Alderman	12
Jason	Mills	12
Joel	Rigsbee	12
Sheryl	Opitz	13
Edward	Parady	13
Lawrence	Farrell LM	14
James	Crouch LM	16
Gary	Crist	17
Joseph	Miller	17
Christopher	Pergolino	17
Raymond	Ingoldsby LM	18
William	Morgan	18
Stuart	Eastman LM	19
Alan	Hedge	19
Tyler	Michalak	20
Franklyn	Sanderson LM	20
Catherine	Scoons	20
Eileen	Grant	21

Justin	Nolan	21
Orson	Richards LM	22
Thomas	Bolani	23
Paul	Franchini	23
Christopher	Vallee	23
Barry	Bedrosian	24
Theodore	Kulpa LM	24
Alice	Smith	24
George	Brehm	26
Alexander	Hilker	26
Brian	Koreman	26
Michael	Paluba LM	26
Mary Beth	Plonka	26
Christina	Teator	26



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)



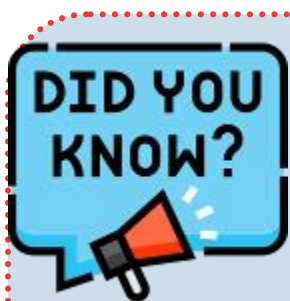
Elks
National
Foundation

Rensselaer Lodge #2073

District: North Hudson, NY #6260	New Donors: 78
Members as of 4/1/22: 661	Second Year Donors: 8
Individual Donors: 164	Third Year Donors: 7
Amount Donated by Individuals: \$8,015.50	Renewed Donors: 30
Per Member Giving: \$12.13	Renewal Rate: 100%
Lodge Support: 24.81%	Reactivated Donors: 46
District Support: 12.57%	Total Donors: 169
State Support: 14.09%	Fidelity Club Goal: 3
National Support: 11.35%	Fidelity Club Donors: 7

Tip of the Antlers...Job Well Done!

- Thank you to all the sponsors who have stepped up to help press our Membership drive especially Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Conrad Jones and Tom Nardacci, Tim Davis and Paul Muzio.
- Larry Rowse has done a commendable job as our ENF Chair. Thank you for your leadership. You better pray those missed ENF extra credit points don't come back to haunt us though...
- East Greenbush Police Chief, Elaine Rudzinski deserves a shout out for helping to drive the Antler's Program forward. Without her help, this project likely does not get off the ground this year.
- East Greenbush Police Detective Sergeant, Mike Guadagnino and Chief, Elaine Rudzinski deserve recognition for solving a cold case murder investigation in our community, dating all the way back to 1994.
- Kayla Grugan and Jason Rector repeatedly get accolades for their steady work behind the bar.
- Charles Megyesi has done a lot of work around the Lodge lately which doesn't go unnoticed.
- Val Grugan has been a very solid presence this Lodge year helping with Bingo and the liquor basket raffle, most notably.
- The Family of Paul V. Obermayer generously gifted the Lodge \$1,000 following the December Elks Memorial Service to be used in support of our local youth. We genuinely appreciate this gift and plan to use it for our Teenager of the Year Program.



• Our Lodge is currently first in all of New York State for the amount of grant funds received, at \$21,000, as well as first in the ENF Chairman's Challenge Contest with 924 points out of 1,000. Well done!

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...

Concerns-U

DD Linda and I had occasion to deliver some clothes to Concerns-U recently and while there they asked if we could supply the with about 200 packages of Scalloped Potatoes and also Dish Soap for delivery around Easter. DD Linda has asked our Lodge Confectioner MaryAnn Hilker to spearhead this project.

So, whoever does the shopping in your household, please pick up a couple of boxes of Scalloped Potatoes and a bottle of Dish Soap the next time you go shopping. There are two boxes in the lounge for their collection. The gift boxes that Concerns-U delivers primarily go to senior shut ins and misfortunate individuals and families. Please be generous. Remember, Elks care, Elks share.

Thank you in advance. I know our Lodge will come thru.

Fraternally,

Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER

More New Members!



Welcome additional new Members!

Pictured in the photo are: Glenn Godell, James LaPorte, Craig Barry, Joe Tremblay, Gerald Wendel, Krista Walsh, James Trimmer, Daniel Skelley, Erin Wilbur, Gregor Hoghe, Mark Skelley, Sarah Donovan-White, ER Greg, Matthew Haberland, Amanda Wiggins, Rory Hayes, Christopher Albert, Corey Johnson, Jay Coonrad, and Anthony Clark.



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

DART TOURNAMENT RECAP

Greeting Brother's and Sister's,

Saturday, January 7th the Dart League hosted our annual tournament. Not like in years past, we made a change, playing was moved from Sunday to Saturday. We had our doubts switching days, but we had a very successful tournament.

Having 34 teams registered for play is the most we've ever done, 24 teams on the 12:30 pm squad and 10 teams on the 4:00pm squad, making January 7th a very profitable day for the Lodge (bar & kitchen).

With that many teams entered; we paid out the top 4 teams. The Rensselaer contingent placed 3 teams in the top 4, 1st place, 2nd place, and 4th place. Individual awards were earned by Tom Bolani (Hi Game Over Average, and, Joe Miller (Hi Total Over Average). Congratulations to all, Great Job!

Making this event successful requires a lot of volunteers. A great big THANK YOU to the following volunteers; Dan Nickels, Rob Miller, Gary Wager, Sheri Smith, MJ Willis, Alan Hedge, Ron Barner, Joel Rigsbee, Tim Davis, Tom Clinton, Kent Robison, Paul Mason, Nick Vecchione, Ron Adriance, Tom Bolani, John Christianson, Joe Miller, Bryan VanDeusen, Bruce Huddleston, Stephanie Deyette, Jay Deyette, Bev Rauch, Marylou Hedge, Ed Serian, Bob Myron, Brian Kirkland, Chris Adams, Rich Saville, Aggie (Cohoes Elks), Lisa Canfield, Kayla Grugan, Jeff Grugan and Tim Grugan.

Respectfully,

Charles Meygesi, Dirck VanDeusen and Paul Muzio



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
- Monthly Lodge Meetings
- Ask the ER, an Officer or a Bartender
- E-mail Questions to
2073elks@gmail.com



Congratulations!!

Columbia High School plans to recognize two of our own this year as East Greenbush Police Chief, Elaine Rudzinski and acclaimed musician, Eddie Kilgallon were recently announced as incoming inductees to their Alumni Hall of Fame.

Chief Rudzinski began her career in 1995 and is the first female to lead the East Greenbush Police Department. She is the first woman in the department to attain a rank above patrol officer. She has done a tremendous job during her tenure since 2019 and has focused on building relationships in the community including a number of events with the Lodge.

Eddie Kilgallon has deep roots at our Lodge having been a Member for over 30 years. He got his musical start locally and joined the successful band Ricochet. He has written music for a number of country stars, most notably the number one hit, *One Night at a Time*, for 'King' George Strait. More recently, he was the keyboardist and bandleader for the multi-platinum country duo, Montgomery Gentry.



Celebrate With Members and Friends!

\$25.00 Fee

Sunday, February 12, 2023 11:00 AM—4:00 PM

Outdoors – Bring a Lawn Chair!

- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs
- Italian Sausage and Peppers
- Chili
- Pot Luck—Bring a Dish to Share
- Coors Light Draft and Miller Lite Cans
- T-shirt for Sale



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

The logo for Zappala Block is an oval with a green background. "ZAPPALA" is in large, bold, yellow letters with a red outline, and "BLOCK" is in the same style below it. "RENSSELAER, N.Y." is in smaller white letters at the bottom.

(518) 465-1685
ZAPPALABLOCK.COM
rviola@zappalablock.com

Broadway & Fifth Avenue,
Rensselaer, NY 12144

The logo for Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073 features a circular emblem with a stag's head and antlers, surrounded by the letters "R.E.L." and "2073".

Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073

Beginning February 1st

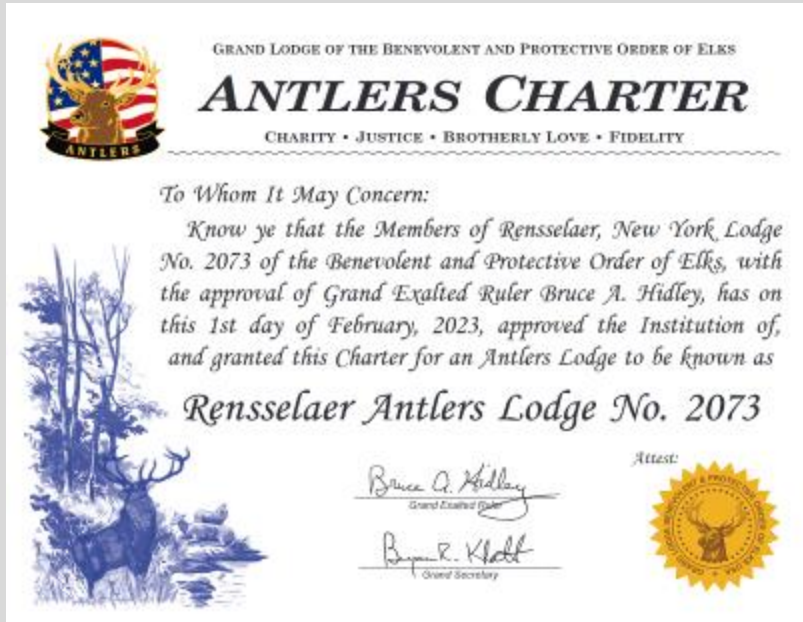
New Hours

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

Our Antler's program at Rensselaer Lodge is a go for launch! Thanks largely to the work of East Greenbush Police Chief, Elaine Rudzinski, and our Advisory Council, we have some momentum going. We had twenty-eight young Antlers attend our informational session and sign an application to become part of the program. We also applied for and were granted our official Grand Lodge Antlers Charter dated February 1, 2023. The next step is to adopt the Rules and Bylaws, review the Membership applications, vote all these Charter Antler Members in, and continue nominations to finalize the Officers in February. Once this administrative work is completed, the group will be ready fly on its own and to do some good community service to help those in need. These are exciting times!



Delinquents / Sponsors List

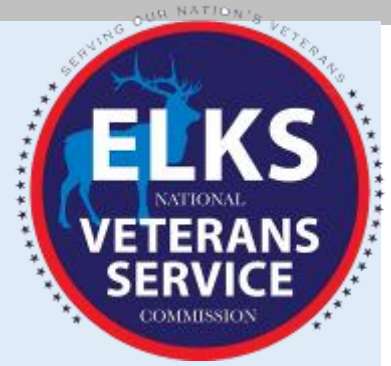
Please help us to bring our Delinquent List down to zero. The countdown currently stands at **21 delinquent Members**. For many of these folks, we have lost good contact information. Please help us get in touch and get them back in good standing. I am calling on all Sponsors to help especially in this 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
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 Report

The Veterans Committee was pleased to donate a Best Buy Gift Card, in the amount of \$750, to the Captain John J. McKenna IV Military Courtesy Room, located in the Albany International Airport on the third floor Observation Deck. Veteran John McKenna III and Doug Buzzard were grateful to receive our donation. It was their wish to upgrade their X-box system and to purchase more games and videos for our Troops who utilize the room daily.



The Military Courtesy Room was built in the memory of Mr. McKenna's son who died in Fallujah, Iraq, while under sniper attack. Over 50,000 Service Members have benefited from the hospitality of the Military Courtesy Room since it opened on March 8, 2010! Their organization is under the umbrella of the Tri-County Council Vietnam Era Veterans, Inc.

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Veterans Committee Chair

St. Patrick's Day Event

The Lodge plans to hold a celebration for St. Patrick's Day, on Friday, March 10th. Doors will open at 5:00 PM.

Our friends, Triskele, will perform that night as well, which you don't want to miss!

Corned beef and cabbage will be served for dinner, family style, beginning at 6:00 PM. A ham dinner alternative is also available.

The cost is \$250 for a table of eight, \$65 for couples or \$35 per person.

All Members and their invited guests are encouraged to attend.



FEBRUARY 2023

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

MARCH 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Darts 6:30 PM 1	Bingo 5:00 PM 2	3	4
Breakfast 9:00 – 11:00 AM 5	Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30—6:30 PM House Meeting 6:30 PM 6	7	Darts 6:30 PM 8	Bingo 5:00 PM 9	St. Patrick's Lodge Event 5:00 PM 10	11
Breakfast 9:00 – 11:00 AM 12	Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM 13	Ladies Night 7:00 PM 14	Darts 6:30 PM 15	Bingo 5:00 PM 16	St. Patrick's Celebration II 17	Friends of Castleton Library Breakfast 9:00 -11:00 AM 18
Breakfast 9:00 – 11:00 AM 19	Lodge Initiation 6:30 PM 20	21	Darts 6:30 PM 22	Bingo 5:00 PM 23	24	Lodge Appreciation II 25
Breakfast 9:00 – 11:00 AM 26	Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM 27	28	29	Bingo 5:00 PM 30	Karaoke 7:00 PM 31	



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CONTACT US

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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

Is Published Monthly by

BPOE Lodge #2073

TOM NARDACCI, PDDGER

SECRETARY

ALAN HEDGE

EDITOR

RENSSELAER

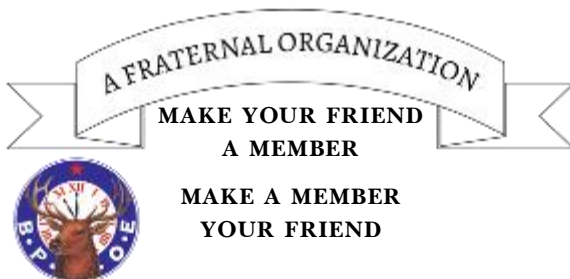
LODGE OF

B.P.O.E Lodge No. 2073

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A MEMBER**

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