



NEWS	LETTER
Charity Justice	e Brotherly Love Fidelity
* *	February 2024 VOLUME 274

ER's Message

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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."

Hello Members,

With Ground hog day behind us and moving ever onward towards spring. We have events to look forward to Friday night fish dinners are fast approaching and volunteers are needed to keep this long tradition moving forward. There is a music night in the works featuring the GCE " Greg Collins Experience " slated for early March . Keep an eye out for the details via an email blast. Thank you all that came out for the super bowl tailgate fund raiser Mike G. And his team of fundraising bandits knocked it out of the park again. The proceeds fund all of our kids programs throughout the year . We appreciate their dedication and hard work.

Keep an eye out for the sign up sheet for the St. Patrick's Day bash featuring Triskele. This party was over the top last year with special guest appearances from people like our one and only Mayor Jimmy Walsh on the bag pipes . We have lots to look forward to and be thankful for . If anyone has suggestions for lodge events please don't hesitate to contact me.

Fraternally yours,

Tim Davis

Exalted Ruler

518 229 3654

<u>Timfixer@gmail.com</u>

LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Tim Davis		
Leading Knight	Al Campisano		
Loyal Knight	Patrick Skelley		
Lecturing Knight	Gerald Wendel		
Esquire	Barry Betz Jr.		
Chaplain	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee		
Inner Guard	Brian Hedge		
Tiler	Joel Rigsbee		
Secretary	Tom Nardacci, PDDGER		
Treasurer	John Christiansen, PER		
House Chair	Paul Muzio		
	Patrick Skelley		
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Skelley		
	Patrick Skelley Trustees		
	•		
	Trustees		
5-Year Trustee	Trustees Chuck Adams, PER		
5-Year Trustee 4-Year Trustee	Chuck Adams, PER Ronald Barner, PER		

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	Chair		
Accident Prevention	Chris Linck		
Activities Committee	Open		
Adopt-A-Highway	Brian Kirch, PER		
Adopt-A-Family	Angie Vroman		
Adopt-a-Neighborhood	Jason Terrence		
Americanism	Mary Jean Willis, PER		
Antlers Program	Elaine Rudzinski		
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	Shelley Viola		
Community Activities	Bob Myron, PER		
Community Awards	Chris Linck		
Dart League	Conrad Jones		
Drug Awareness	Barry Betz Jr.		
Elks National Foundation	Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER		
Elk Training	Dave Hilker, PER		
Entertainment	Open		
Flag Day	Marylou Hedge		
Fraternal	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee		
Fundraising	Open		
Government Relations	Tom Grant / Phil Danaher		
Grants	Greg Collins		
Grounds	James Walsh		
Hoop Shoot	Scott Galarneau		
Ladies Night	Patti Embree		

House Chair	Marylou Hedge
Indoctrination	Linda Rowse, DDD
Internet / Electronic	Dominic Indelicato
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	Jerry Wendel
Marketing	Open
Meat Raffle	Steve Frese
Membership	Open
Memorial Sunday	Jack Coyne
National Veterans	Cheri Pierce Rigsbee
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Skelley
Pavilion Restoration	Paul Muzio
PER Association	Brian Kirch, PER
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

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

LODGE INFORMATION

Website:	www.2073elks.org				
Telephone:	(518) 477-9947				
ER Tim:	Timfixer@gmail.com	Timfixer@gmail.com			
Lodge E-mail:	2073elks@gmail.com				
Newsletter:	renss.elksnewsletter@	gmail.com			
Events:	house chair manelks 207	3@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

From the Secretary's Desk: February 2024

I have received letters from Members Tom Bolani and Rich Carpinello requesting Life Membership.

Having met the requirements for Life Membership (At least 30 years as a member and obtained 65 years in age), Members Tom and Rich has met these requirements.

The vote on this request will be taken at the first meeting in February 2024.

Tom Nardacci Secretary, PDDGER

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.

JANUARY QUARTER POOL

01	1009	17	3392	
02	2090	18	3502	
03	1147	19	3359	
04	3063	20	3032	
05	3504	21	3194	
06	3290	22	3496	
07	0653	23	2478	
08	2576	24	3619	
09	3334	25	3389	
10	2210	26	2738	
11	3645	27	3418	
12	2952	28	3213	
13	3045	29	3108	
14	3390	30	2826	
15	3482	31	3308	
16	n/a			
1 Winner!				

Events: 4

Players: 339

Gross Receipts: \$10,991

BINGO REPORT – JANUARY

Prizes: \$7967

Net: \$3915



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 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

need a break!

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

We are all sorry to hear that Tammy Parker is not well and will benefit from our members' prayers. Tammy has battled cancer twice over the past four years and won! Unfortunately, she is once again faced with another occurrence of cancer and is fighting to survive.

During this very difficult time, Tammy cannot accept phone calls nor visitors. However, friends may text or send messages through Facebook. Please contact me for her address, if you'd like to send a card to cheer her up.

Thanks.

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chaplain Email: Cheri2073@yahoo.com

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!



February 17: Veteran's Night Out

February 24: Meatball Throw-Down!

March 18: Veterans Tech Help

March 30: Easter Egg Hunt









GRAND LODGE NEWS

Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler RANDY P. SHOOK

Previous Officers can assist the next generation

We did it. We finished.

The retiring Officers deserve the thanks of all the Members for the successful way in which they have handled their duties in the past year. The work that was accomplished is a tribute to their leadership and effort. It is our hope they will continue to assist the incoming Officers with the work in which our Order is engaged. The fact that each one was a member of the leadership team marks each of them as one of the Lodge's most valuable Members. The experience and knowledge each of you possess has been, and will always be, invaluable to your Lodge.

Congratulations to the new Officers of every Lodge throughout our great Order. The Members of your Lodge placed their confidence and trust in you and your abilities; you should be very proud. You should consider it an honor to be chosen to be a leader within your Lodge. As the new leader of your Lodge, it is extremely important to put together a dedicated group of people, to create a plan and set the necessary goals for each committee to

achieve success. The committee members are the people who work to make your Lodge a success in your community.

Never be afraid to ask questions. Your best source of information is the former Officers whose knowledge and experience is at your disposal, just for the asking. They have been there, done that, and can give you excellent advice. March is also a time when many Lodges participate in St. Patrick's Day celebrations such as parties or community parades. Please be safe during these celebrations. Wanda and I want to wish everyone Happy Easter. Finally, check your calendar for awards, citations, and contest deadlines. Remember "Elks Care — Elks Share" and "We Are THE Elks." God bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.

(Grand Lodge Newsletter Volume 59, No. 8)

www.elks.org

House Committee Report

FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Hours

The Lodge hours are as follows:

Mon, Tue, Wed from 2:00pm-8:00pm

Monday Lodge Meeting night (2nd Monday of the month) and Friday and Saturday nights, the hours will be 2:00pm–10:00pm Thursday BINGO nights 2:00pm-10:00pm

Sunday 12:00pm - 8:00pm during NFL Sundays

Friday Dinners

Friday dinners are always welcome, asking for Volunteers, anyone looking to host, contact Myself or Tim Davis for assistance/planning. Lenten Dinners begin February 16th and go up until Good Friday. Holiday parties for the children and for the adults were a complete success.

Bookings

We had 7 event bookings in January. Many thanks to ALL our House Committee members and others for all you do for our lodge.

JANUARY:

Revenue \$ 6,277.57 Expenses \$ 2,547.20 Net Profit \$ 3,730.37

House Committee

It's February 2024. The Committee is ready to handle bookings for the coming months, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduations, Weddings, Baby Showers. Booking dates are available, now is the time to reserve the Pavilion or Hall for your future upcoming event. The House Committee stands ready to assist all our members with any type of event.

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed, step up and say I'd like to help or at least learn!

Hope to hear or see you soon.

Fraternally,

Paul Muzio

House Committee

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

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.

Happy Birthday B.P.O. Elks (February 16th 1868)

(History of the Jolly Corks taken in part from elks.org) by Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chair Fraternal Committee

Pictured to the right is Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian, who is credited with founding the Jolly Corks, and The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States in America.

The Jolly Corks consisted of 16 entertainers. While the Jolly Corks meetings were held regularly, they lacked form and substance, except for the adoption of a toast to members not in attendance. Hence, the eleven o'clock toast.

After the death of one of its founding members, who left behind a destitute wife and children, the Jolly Corks decided – in addition to good fellowship – they needed a more noble purpose of not only serving their own, but others in need as well.



A few months later, their purpose statement and set of rituals were created. They also wanted a symbol of strength that was an identifiable animal of stature and indigenous to America. Out of the 15 remaining members, 8 voted for the elk, and 7 voted for the buffalo. So, the elk was adopted as their symbol of strength and the new fraternal order was launched.

"The rest is ELKS history."



The Legend of Saint Valentine

Where did Valentine's Day originate? The history of the holiday, and its patron saint, is shrouded in mystery.

February has long been celebrated as a month of romance -but who was Saint Valentine? Saint Valentine was a clergyman -- either a priest or a bishop -- in the Roman Empire who ministered to persecuted Christians.

One legend says Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, so he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice, defied Claudius, and continued to perform secret marriages for young lovers. When discovered, Claudius ordered that Valentine be put to death.

Others say, it was emperor Aurelius who imprisoned Valentine in 272 AD for continuing to marry young lovers in secret.

Yet others say it was Saint Valentine, while imprisoned, cured the blindness of his jailor's daughter and the pair feel in love; hence, 'love at first sight.'



A Valentine's card, c. 1909

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured.

It's said the imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is unclear, the stories all portray St. Valentine as a sympathetic, heroic, and romantic figure.

Cupid is a whole other story!

Happy Valentine's Day to All!

Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chaplain

Veterans Services Committee Announcements

by Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Chair

Welcome Home Mr. & Mrs. D.W.!

An elderly Veteran and his wife were referred to us as they transitioned into an apartment after living on the streets and in and out of motel rooms for 4 months. The couple was taken to Walmart to purchase items through Grand Lodge's Welcome Home Kit Program.

Thanks to Diana Murphy for connecting Nassau Resource Center donors with us to help the couple. On the second day in their new apartment, the couple received a delivery of a sofa bed, accent chairs, rug, and 4 kitchen chairs. Additional combined deliveries resulted in a TV, end tables, kitchen table, microwave, decorative items, and kitchen items. We have a Queen bed, mattress, and box springs lined up, if anyone would like to offer a truck and assist with moving those items. Please call/text Cheri at (518) 598-3067, if you can help; thanks!

Valentines for Veterans at the Albany Stratton VA:

The Committee will be preparing 125 Valentines Goodie Bags for distribution to inpatients at the VA on February 14. If you would like to help assemble bags and/or distribute them, please email Cheri2073@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Call for Volunteers at the Albany Stratton VA:

Our Lodge is scheduled to service ice cream and popcorn to VA residents, in 8 wards, on Sunday, March 31, beginning at 11:30 a.m. This volunteer assignment can be fulfilled with four or five Lodge Members/Antlers Members.

Please let me know if you'd like to volunteer by sending an email to: Cheri2073@yahoo.com.

Tickets for Troops and Veterans:

Veteran Tickets Foundation's Tickets for Troops Program is dedicated to giving back to those who gave so much. They team up with major sports teams, leagues, promoters, organizations, venues, and other event ticket holders to provide free tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational, and family activities across the nation. Their growth since inception is astounding:

In 2008, 2.5 thousand tickets were issued; and

In 2023, 4.9 million tickets were issued!

All branches of currently serving Military and Veterans, including immediate family of troops KIA, can sign up at: Vettix.org.

CAVARTS Online Community:

Challenge America Veteran Arts Community (CAVARTS) was created by Veterans for Veterans and is a national hub that brings together Veterans of various backgrounds who support one another as they connect, learn, and grow through the Arts. Membership to CAVARTS is FREE and exclusive to Veterans and service members! Check it out at: CAVARTS.org.

Guitars 4 Vets (G4V):

On their website, G4V states, "800,000 U.S. Veterans struggle with physical injuries, PTSD and other emotional distress." G4Vs further states, "...playing a guitar can help Veterans safely connect with their surroundings and other people.....music helps decrease anxiety, increase self-esteem, and reduce episodes of panic attacks, nightmares and flashbacks."

While there is no local Chapter of G4V (yet), Veterans can apply to participate in their Cyber Chapter. You can find more information here: Guitars4Vets.org

Lodge Updates

January Dart Tournament

From CJ Jones, Dirck Van Deusen, and Paul Muzio

Saturday, January 6th, the Dart League hosted our annual tournament.

34 teams registered for play.

With that many teams entered; we paid out the top 4 teams. Watervliet/Colonie #1 were the winning team this year. Patrick Skelley had High Game Over, unfortunately, no Rensselaer Team placed this year. 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, Terra Neisen, Marylou Hedge, Ed Serian, Bob Myron, Brian Kirkland, Chris Adams, Rich Saville, Kayla Grugan, Jeff Grugan and Tim Grugan. We apologize if we missed a name.

Respectfully,

CJ Jones, Dirck VanDeusen and Paul Muzio

Antlers 1st Birthday

From Cheri Pierce Rigsbee, Antlers Advisory Council

Let's all wish a Happy 1st Birthday to our Rensselaer Antlers Lodge #2073, chartered February 1, 2023! The Antlers of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America has as its major objective the following:

To quicken the spirit of American Patriotism;

To teach respect for parents and love of home;

To inculcate the fundamentals of good citizenship;

To aid in a worthy cause;

To establish foundation of character;

To promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; and

To respect the conviction of others in the matters of worship and religion is true Americanism.

We are recruiting additional children between the ages of 12-20 for membership. Parents do not need to be members of our Elks Lodge.

For additional information, questions, or an Antlers Membership Application, please email cheri2073@yahoo.com.



From Linda Weber

Anyone interested in purchasing RENSSELAER ELKS 2073 shirts can go to the following website and place an order. Please choose what type, color, size, and quantity. You will pay via the website. You will have until February 16th to place your orders. After the website is closed it will take 2-3 weeks to process the shirts. When the shirts are done a notification will be sent out and you can pick them up at the Lodge.

http://elks2073.deco-apparel.com

After checking out the website if you have further questions, you can contact me, Linda Weber, via the info below.

lindaelks2073@gmail.com or text me at 518-419-1437



February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Bingo 5pm	2	3
4 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	5	6 House Committee Meeting 6:00pm	7 Dart League	8 Bingo 5pm	9	10
11 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	12 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	13	14 Dart League	15 Bingo 5pm	16	17
18 Breakfast 9:00- 11:00am	19 Antlers Meeting 6:30pm	20	21 Dart League	22 Bingo 5pm	23	24 Meatball Throw -down
25 Breakfast 9:00— 11:00am	26	27 Lodge Initiation 7:00pm	28 Dart League	29		





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George W. Wagner Owner / Manager

Michael J. Wagner Owner / Director

NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS CLUB

January 2024 Shawna Lambert in Memory of David L. Riffey March 2023 Sue Polsinello

in Memory of PER Floyd M Smith

April 2022 Cindy Jeffries

Dave Jeffries Carol McKay

Lester McKay Sue Polsinello

Rockefeller Funeral Home

Rockefeller Funeral Home

George Wagner

Michael Wagner

in Memory of Francis A. Netzer and

Lawrence E. Rowse, PDDGER

Linda M. Rowse, DDGER

John J. Rowse Barrett L. Rowse

Christine Rowse

Morgan P. Rowse

Emily Rowse Smith

Sharon Malinoski

Brian P. Rowse

Gertrude B. Rowse Kevin B. Rowse

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

Richard C. Carpinello (2022) In Memory of Albert W. Carpin

September 2022 Alan Hedge

Marylou Hedge Steven Hedge

October 2022 Jay Stagg

Charles Van Buren

Raymond Daley, PDDGER Wray E. Tibbetts, PDDGER Charter Member Hank Rivet

Jav Amodeo, PSP

George D'Ambrose, PSVF

Alexander Seney, PDDGER

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

For only \$5 a year! Your name will appear that month you sign up until the Year 2025! 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 2023). 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 683 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061

Non-Profit Organization U.S Postage Paid East Greenbush, NY Permit No. 8

