



"THE UPSTART"

Volume No. 27 - Issue No. 01 - January Edition - "Published since 1964"

LODGE OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ed Moore

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Chaplain

Sharon Lewis, RN

Inner Guard

Mark Curtin



Hours of Operation

Mon.-Thur. 3 PM - 8 PM

Friday 3 PM - 10 PM

Saturday Noon - 9 PM

Sunday Noon - 7 PM

Permittee: Chris Brown

glastonburyelks.org

Our Exalted Ruler's Message

Happy New Year! Now the challenge will be remembering to write "2026" instead of "2025".

I hope with all my heart that the coming year is better than the last. Looking back, there were lots of good things to celebrate and be happy about, but there were a few sad things as well. There was one particular thing that happened that left me confused and sad. I'm talking about a poster that had been vandalized with a racial slur. The poster was in the men's room adjacent to the bar. We have almost 1600 members now, and this was the action of only one, but the word that was used is so hateful and reprehensible that it was a shock to see it in our Lodge. Shame on the person who did it. How can a person who does that call themselves an Elk? The Elks stand for brotherhood, not hate. I hereby invite that person to turn in their membership card and never

return to the Lodge. Hate has no place here, racial or otherwise.

On a happier note, I am looking forward to all the dinners the House Committee has planned. Just look at the calendar! And in February, the Range Committee will be doing the Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner again. If you like to cook, serve others, or you enjoy the satisfying feeling of accomplishment after washing a huge pile of dishes, you are hereby invited to step up and do that!

We continue working on the financial status of the Lodge. Bill Purtill, our Treasurer, completed the preliminary work required to restore our 501c(8) status. We have reported this progress to our District Deputy, Ralph Tosto of Wethersfield / Rocky Hill. The next steps are in place, and we hope to have it all resolved by mid February.

We still need new (or old) ideas for fundraisers - please give it some thought and email your brilliant ideas to the Lodge. Silent Auction? Spaghetti Dinner? Let's hear from everyone! Of course, don't just send a suggestion without details of how you see that idea working, and how you would help make it successful.

Fraternally,
Don



Rob Claffey

For your dedication and interest in doing what's best for the Lodge. Enjoy the VIP parking space for the month of January!



Glastonbury Lodge No. 2202 found no difficulty in organizing, despite the fact that Glastonbury was already well settled with Lodge representation of other orders. Through the faithful and diligent guidance of former East Hartford's Michael Kiro, PER, its progress was assured.

The Lodge's first meeting was held on October 19th, 1960 at the Grange Hall and since that initial meeting, we have found encouragement and satisfaction. Bill Colgan, Past Exalted Ruler of Bridgeport Lodge No. 36; Frank Gioielli of the former East Hartford No. 2063 and Frank Milardo had given the original members unflinching guidance since their inception. The second meeting will always be remembered because of the generosity of Brother Charles Rocci, whose doors were open to the new lodge's every need.

The organization period, chaired by Judge Walter Downes, brought to each prospective member the acid test of sincerity. They came, stayed, and multiplied through the worst storms in the State's history. Lodge meetings were held in the Grange Hall on Naubuc Avenue until 1964 when the Lodge began to rent the Polish Home on Concord Street. Growth and activity continued, and in the spring of 1966 ground was broken for the construction of our present building by Brother Charles Monzeglio. Completion of the building was celebrated by a New Year's Eve dance held on December 31st, 1966.

Also during this time, members of the Lodge were busy dismantling a tobacco shed which had been donated. It needed to be transported from East Hartford, and the present Pavilion was erected from the recovered material, which stands in the field below the Lodge building. This outdoor area also provided entertainment such as horseshoes, bocce ball, and shuffleboard. John and Andy Dondero were the prime movers of this project.



Under the leadership of Joe Galka and Jack Leslie, our fine trap shoot facility was built in 1967. In addition to the electrical clay pigeon firing system, there is a paved firing line and a small lodge well equipped with a fireplace, stove, and other necessities for comfort in hot or cold weather. Trap shooting is a regular, as well as popular event on Sunday afternoons. This amenity is also open to anyone in the community that wishes to participate.

Horse show grounds were constructed including show rings, jumps, and trails. Baylis Earle directed the operations of this feature, which hosted some of the largest shows in New England. Emphasis has now been shifted to cooperation with local pony clubs who utilize the extensive trails through our eighty acres of woods and fields.

A spring-fed fish pond was developed under the chairmanship of Dick Anderson. In addition to providing recreation for our members, it has served for years as the site of our Annual Handicapped Children's Fishing Derby. Just before this event the pond is well stocked, assuring that the youngsters have a memorable day filled with fun and excitement. Swimming lessons were also provided for members and their families throughout the summer. Over the years the Glastonbury Elks has given their time and money freely and enthusiastically on both a State and National basis.



Elks Care - Elks Share

Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love & Fidelity



Our Secretary's Observations:

Hello Glastonbury Lodge, 2202
As I write this letter today, I have just returned from sledding at the lodge with our member Bobby Kelley (my son in law) and his two girls, Haley and Natalie (my granddaughters). What a great day we had on the hill by the pavilion. The snow was great for sledding, and the kids had a ball. I was a little winded from trudging up and down the hill, but it was worth it. A little later we were joined by Joe Monfette and his family to enjoy the day as well. Just another great day at the lodge taking advantage of what there is to offer here. As I have written before, I use the grounds here frequently and really enjoy all there is to see and do. From trap shooting to hunting and fishing or hiking, the grounds have a lot to offer, and they are yours to use.

As I reflect on the last couple of months, I would like to update all on the charitable giving your lodge has made in November and December. In

the last two months we made donations to the following: Glastonbury Fuel Bank, FISH (friends in service here) of Glastonbury ABC (a better chance), Breast Friends Glastonbury police, fire and EMS Glastonbury Food Bank

All these donations were made possible by you! Our lodge collects funds from dues, functions, or fund raisers. The Board of Directors creates a list of where to donate, and you the members vote on who and how we should donate. It's a great feeling to be able to give to those who need it most.

In December we had two of our largest attended events. The Camp Sunrise Christmas party and the Veterans Dinner and Bingo. The Camp Sunrise event was extra special this year as all the costs of the event came from member donations. This included presents for every child and a dinner for 200 guests. The Glastonbury community center hosted the event for us as our hall could not accommodate such a large group. Thank you to all the members that donated to this wonderful cause. The veteran's dinner and Bingo were also a huge success with just over 40 Vets attending. Bingo was played with cash prizes, and all had a great time.

Both events were organized by the

House committee and 25 or 30 volunteers to help cook and serve. I hope you had a chance to attend at least one of the events. I would like to congratulate Mike Sclafani for his election to the open Trustee position and to thank Drew Lethbridge for all his contributions to the Board.

I hope that all of you are taking advantage of all your Lodge has to offer. The grounds here are amazing as well as the people. The events that we hold are fun and if you have not attended anything you really should consider coming up to the lodge. We hold meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month and would love to see you there. Please remember that if you have not paid your dues for this year there is still time. Our lodge year ends on March 31, 2026, at which time all delinquent members will be dropped. As of today, we have 89 members that have not paid dues for this year. We currently have 1599 members and at our next initiation meeting we will top 1600 members.

Thank you for supporting our lodge and Happy New Year to all. May 2026 be your best year ever.

Fraternally
Chuck Fraser.
Lodge Secretary.

wELKome to our new members on December 03, 2025. We're still growing.



THE GLASTONBURY ELKS PAVILION IS AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK FOR RENTALS!



-Need help with your companies' luncheon or dinner ideas?

-Got a Glastonbury Elks member in your ranks?

Ask about a lower rate

Call Chris @ 860-682-5819

chrisbrown_12@comcast.net

Veterans Bingo-12/8/25

All of our Awesome volunteers!!

And those who made this wonderful night happen for the Veterans Christmas Dinner & Bingo Night!!



The final winner of the night of the largest cash prize!
He won \$340 on his bingo card!


With Dawn Hinckley from the Connecticut Veterans Affairs

Reported by:
C. Graham

Photos provided by:
C. Graham & T. Prindle



Never Criticize A Volunteer

 Live music on
Friday, 1/2/26
5:30-8:30



Chad Fisher

Clam chowder in a bread
bowl 5-7 - \$9



"SETBACK LEAGUE"
Begins
January 8, 2026.
Signup sheet will be at the
lodge bar on
December 1st!!!!




Thursday Dinners in January

01/08 ~ Chicken Quarters with sides
~ \$12.00

01/15 ~ Pork Chops with sides
~ \$12.00

01/22 ~ Sausage Grinder with Chips
~ \$12.00

01/29 ~ Queen Cut Prime Rib w/ sides
~ \$15.00



"Loaded Bloody Mary's"
New Years Day 2026
January 1st

Open at Noon


**NEW
YEAR'S
DAY**



Limited amount of these Bloody Mary's are available, so once they are gone, they are gone. Of course you can still get one of our regulars.

House Committee

Volunteers are always needed.
Committee Meeting is 4pm on
January 6th

 Thinking about joining a Lodge committee?

Send an email to upstart@glastonburyelks.org with subject "Committee interest" and add your name & lodge member number.

Committee members and volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Your email be forwarded to the right folks.

~The Editor

Camp Sunrise Christmas Party- 12/14/25

More of our Awesome volunteers!!
Making the Camp sunrise Christmas Party another success.

Photos provided by:
T. Prindle



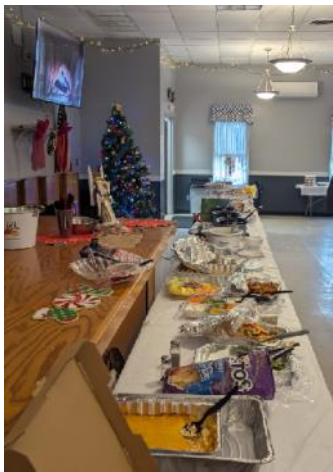


January 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 New Years Day Lodge opens at Noon Loaded Bloody Marys 	2	3
4 Trap—11am 	5	6 House Committee—4pm	7 Range Committee—6:30p	8 Setback League 6p 	9	10
11 Trap—11am 	12	13 BOD— 6pm	14 Lodge Meeting—7pm (i)	15 Setback League 6p 	16	17
18 Trap—11am 	19 MLK Day Lodge opens at Noon 	20	21	22 Setback League 6p 	23	24
25 Trap—11am 	26	27	28 BOD— 6pm Lodge Meeting 7p	29 Setback League 6p 	30	31

Lodge Christmas Potluck-12/20/25

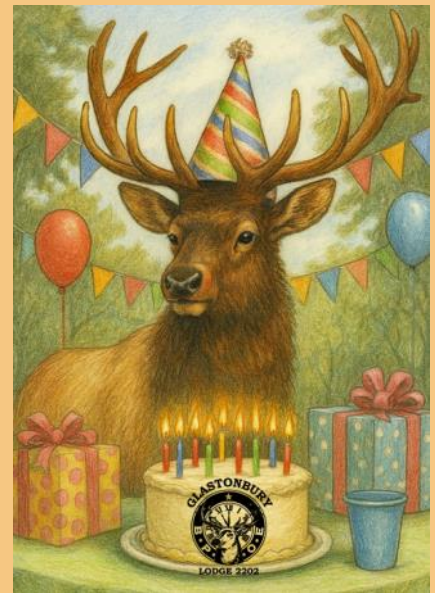
Members Christmas Party
What a HUGE turnout! The variety of food and deserts was outstanding. Venison stew, Moose stew, Bear (yeah we have allot of hunters), crab & lobster cakes, etc. And so many sweet treats.
Biggest turnout at the 2202 EVER!



Happy Birthday to Our Members!

January Birthdays

Silkia Bonilla	01	James Knight	12	Anthony Wiggins	24
John Cotter	01	Ronald Morrone. <i>Trustee</i>	12	Sebastiano Buccheri	25
Stephen Dresty	01	Geoffrey Wilson	12	Michele Conran	25
Paul Tardif	01	Todd Bissonnette	13	Emanuel Hatzikostas	25
David Taylor	01	Lawrence Brush	13	Sharon Lewis, <i>Chaplin</i>	25
Ryan Fazzino	02	Lawrence Davis	13	Timothy Raiche	25
Mary McManus	02	Desmond Doyle	13	Delphine Cyr	26
Kathleen Stevens	02	Joseph Prytko	13	Philip Fuschino	26
Deon Elmore	03	Robert Girard	14	Joseph Melzen Jr.	26
Thomas Molloy	03	Wendy Griffin	14	James Otis	26
Vincent Shaheen	03	Kevin Murphy	14	Marion Burke	27
Earl Strodel	03	John Rosito	15	Austin Dundon	27
Nicholas Walker	03	Giovanni Serrao	15	Joshua Freeman	27
Anthony Lazzaro Jr	04	Rocco Boni	16	Steven Brenza Sr.	28
Christopher Clarke	05	Gene Langan Sr.	16	Stanley Gamarsh	28
Michael Gabor	05	Brendan Howley	17	Eric Hoy	28
Theodore Stebbins	05	James Sirignano	17	Jonathan Morton	28
John Wicklund	05	Amy Veilleux	17	Ruth Shea	28
Christian Drouin	06	Peter Yacovone	17	Andrew Heymann	29
Kenneth Dubois	06	Brian Dugay	18	Denyelle Plenzio	29
Paul Morgigno	06	Jeffrey Valerie	18	Elisabeth Gorgoglione	30
Michael LaTorre	07	Mark Budziszewski	19	Jose Rivas	30
Alan Solek	07	Justin DiLauro	19	Salvo Veneziano	30
Michael Bartolotta	08	Scott Majeski	19	Eric Leclerc	31
Donald Lavery	08	Luis Moren	19	Elizabeth Vitti	31
Richard Shaw	08	Joseph Vazquez	19		
Paul Bisi	09	William Meadows	20		
John Blake	09	Christopher Picard	20		
James DeMichele	09	Kimalee Williams	20		
Michael-John Hills	09	John Cavanna	21		
Brad Kelly	09	Ronald Lemire	21		
Alexander Pericolosi	09	Sharlene Radican	21		
John Vullo Jr.	09	Anthony Warchut	21		
Jay Zamal	09	Cherie Kerzner	22		
Lisa Lanzano	10	Paul Lavoie	22		
Alexander Norris	10	Craig Malone	22		
Jazmin Beacham	11	Pamela Bayer	23		
Jason Granatek	11	Ryan Caruso	23		
Ralph Gross	11	Daniel Gonzalez	23		
Wakime Hauser	11	Jose Irizarry	23		
Richard Hauzeur	11	Michael Lami	23		
Lucas Hoge	11	James Fantone Jr.	24		
Joseph Kulo	11	Carl Irizarry	24		
Patrick Lambert	11	Roger Kamm	24		
William Rau	11	Karen Midura	24		
Joann Cardini	12	Sergio Moren	24		



Elks Care ... Elks Share

PROPOSITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Secretary's Office has received applications from the following individual (s), and have read their names on the floor of our Lodge. Any member knowing why any of these candidates should not be duly elected to membership should notify a member of the Investigation Committee or one of the Lodge Officers. Each will be balloted on during a regularly scheduled Lodge meeting.

Candidates Name

Joshua Aponte
Paul Costello
Craig Ginman
Joseph Gustavsen
Reed Harmon
Stephanie Kopchick
Russell Larsen
Joseph Mack
Patricia O'Connor
Paulo Pereira
Douglas Pollak
Richard Romeo
Gregory Sargis
George White
Johnathon Woolfork

Residence

Farmington
Vernon
Glastonbury
Colchester
South Glastonbury
Manchester
Glastonbury
Glastonbury
West Hartford
New Haven
Old Lyme
Middletown
Wethersfield
Middlebury
Durham

Proposer

Edwin Vazquez
James M Zocco
Edwin D Cruz
Josephine Gustavsen
Joseph Monfette
Roland L Vegiard
Michael Vannie
Andrew M Pulvermacher
Alicia Fiducia
Michael Dudzinski
Drew Lethbridge
Rick Difazio
Dylan Bassette
Luis Moren
Adam J Burrier



"Recovering"

Jerry McDonald
From Back Surgery

Andrew Pulvermacher
*From Knee Replacement
Surgery*

"Get well soon."

Tip of the Antlers



Goes to ...
Chuck Fraser, Mike Sclafani, Mike
Dudzinski .
For straightening out issues with
our lodge's internet provider.

"Distressed"

Amy Noyes
For the loss of her son on
12/20/25.
We are without words.



Never Criticize A Volunteer



Upcoming Blood Drives

Mon - 2/16/26 1-6pm

Mon - 4/27/26 1-6pm

Mon - 6/22/26 1-6pm

Mon - 8/17/26 1-6pm

98 Woodland Street, South
Glastonbury, Connecticut



January 1966 Lodge Newsletter Clip

**B.P.O. ELKS
LODGE NO. 2202**

Meetings Every Second and Fourth Wednesday
Instituted 1961 At The Elks Lodge Concord Street

JANUARY 1966

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 8:00 P.M., LODGE HOME.
First monthly meeting. Last night to turn in applications for next initiation class.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 8:00 P.M., LODGE HOME
"Open House." See the paragraph headed "Open House" for more details.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 8:00 P.M., LODGE HOME
Second monthly meeting. Balloting for candidates. 2202 Club will meet immediately before the Lodge meeting.

Our new online
store is
now available!!



SCAN the
QR here w/
Your phone



Or go to the website:

<https://shopglastonburyelks.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

TSE processes the orders every 2 weeks, then it takes

1-2 weeks to order and embellish the items.

The brick & mortar store will always be open.

How to check your Lodge store order:

<https://link.com/>



Do you use Facebook?

Here are some good **ELKS** groups to join.

Connecticut Elks Local Lodge News and Events
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/210135596344109>

Connecticut Elks Facebook Group.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/129380927766244>

Find us on ELKS.ORG at:

<https://www.elks.org/lodges/home.cfm?LodgeNumber=2202>

Find us on The CT Elks Association:

<https://ctelks.org/lodges/glastonbury-lodge-no-2202/>

Never Criticize A Volunteer

Range Committee News

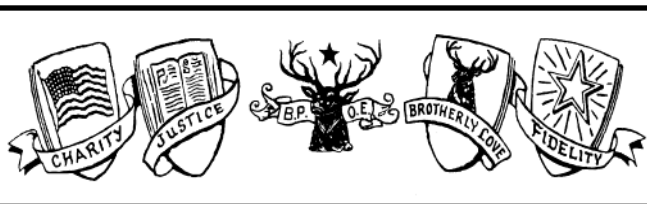
For Range Info ~ elksrange2202@yahoo.com

> Reminder: 2202 members can bring a guest to the range twice after which the guest must become a member of 2202 to continue to come to the range. *(this does not apply to immediate family members).*

> Trap is open to the public. Begins on Sunday, September 28th. *Eye and hearing protection are required in order to use the range and shoot trap.*

> Range Committee meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30p
Anyone unauthorized, found to be at the range, will be prosecuted.

Scan the QR code for the Range Rules



The Lodge will open and 12- Noon
 January 19th

Community • Friendship • Charity
 elks.org

Housekeeping!

PLEASE KEEP YOUR RANGE CLEAN AND SAFE!

- Put all rubbish in the barrels, dumpster at the Lodge parking lot OR bring it home with you.
- Sweep up your brass after shooting and place in the receptacle provided for recycling. Wait until a cease fire is called before collecting brass beyond the firing line.
- If the trash cans are full and you have the ability, please take the trash can to the dumpsters below and return them to the range - **this would be GREATLY appreciated!**

Thank you in advance - Range Committee

Come on up for a TrapTastic day!!

Trap Shoot!

Every Sunday @ 11:00AM till the Spring!

If you have your own shotgun, bring it!
 If you don't have your own, one will be available for you to borrow!

Open to the public and to all levels!

Eye and ear protection are MANDATORY and available at no cost.

*Range will be closed during the Trap Shoot!

Elks Care - Elks Share

BEAUTIES & BULLETS IS HIBERNATING FOR THE WINTER

SEE YOU IN MARCH/APRIL WHEN IT WARMS UP!

STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES

Team Reach App
 Group Code: BBGELKS

QUESTIONS?

Call/Text
 Mary 860.659.7109
 Tracey 860.424.7476





Through the Voluntary Service program, Elks provide ongoing, monthly support to thousands of veterans in more than 350 VA Medical Centers, State Veterans Homes, transitional centers, rehabilitation clinics and other veterans facilities across the country.

<https://www.elks.org/vets/>

JOIN THE CLUB

Scan the QR code to join the Fidelity Club with a monthly donation to the Elks National Foundation through your credit card or bank account. It is an easy and secure way to support your Foundation!

Learn more at enf.elks.org/FC



Elks National Foundation, Inc.

Helping Elks Build Stronger Communities



Welcome to the resource center for the Elks National Drug Awareness Program - the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the United States. We are very proud of our dedicated army of volunteers who freely give their time and talents to this most noble cause.

The Elks are committed to eliminating the use and abuse of illegal drugs by all members of society and believe that in order to ensure a bright future for our country, it is essential that our children be raised in a drug-free environment.

<https://www.elks.org/dap/>



The newest program in Elkdom is an old one! Yes, it is the Junior Elks Program called "the Antlers." It is a chance for young people in our communities to get involved with the Elks in the many service-related projects our Lodges sponsor.

<https://www.elks.org/grandlodge/activities/antlers.cfm?>

<https://www.elks.org/cip/>



<https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm>



Elks Care - Elks Share

Never Criticize A Volunteer

UNIVERSAL LIFE CHURCH MINISTRIES

Sharon M. Lewis

Ordained Minister

East Hampton, CT

860 -657-5550

smlewis56@comcast.net



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860-633-7319

Jose Rivera
860-990-0344

Johanna Rivera
860-922-3706



Inflatable Bounce
Houses, Waterslides,
Popcorn, Cotton
Candy, Snow Cone
Machines

DJ Entertainment,
Lighting, Speakers,
Tables & Chairs

Elks Care - Elks Share

Sick & Distressed

If you know of any member who may not be doing well, please contact the Lodge at (860) 633-2651 or by email: secretary@glastonburyelks.org

Charles Fraser ~ Lodge Secretary



New Years Resolution?

Remember that
YOU are an ELK.



From time to time, I am asked what is the best way to correct internal problems facing our Lodges today. The method is very straightforward and should constantly be in our mind as a member of BPOE. We must remember that we are Elks, and we should perform our fraternal duty. When conflicts and problems arise it seems that we have forgotten what makes us Elks: our Oath of Obligation, our cardinal principles, our motto and our foundation and groundwork.

Every dispute, challenge, or disagreement in our Lodge, that grows into larger problems, can be traced back to the fact that we as Elks have failed to live up to our promise. We allow ourselves to be affected by jealousy, hatred, pride, prejudice, desire for power and glory, and an unwillingness to listen to opposing viewpoints. We get in our mind that we have the best (and only) solution to every problem, and we forget to work together for the good of our Lodge.

When we joined our Elks Lodge, we swore an oath before God that we would try to live a better life and work together to improve our Lodge, our Elks Lodge family and our community. This fraternity that we joined has a constitution, rules and regulations to help us in our efforts. It strives to ensure that every member has a right to have his voice heard and to have an equal part in the decision-making process. Our legal system guarantees equality under our laws.

This system has continually evolved over our one hundred-fifty-year history, and provides a framework of how our officers and members should work as a team so that Elks Lodges can provide beneficial programs that help children, veterans, and the underprivileged in our cities and towns.

We are a brotherhood, a family of kind and caring people who believe in our Order, our Obligation, and our Cardinal Principles. Elks must respect each other as the motto and the foundation and groundwork of our Order requires. We cannot hope to survive if we forget our promise and not act with Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. Successful Lodges are composed of members who set aside personal differences and work together. By working together, with mutual respect, what challenges cannot be solved?

Respectfully Submitted by Richard M. Palanzo
PCGLC, PSP, PDD, HLM





"THE UPSTART" is the official publication of the
Glastonbury Lodge of Elks No. 2202, Central District

Please have all material for this publication in the hands of the publisher no later than the 24th of the preceding month. Please email to:

upstart@glastonburyelks.org . Thanks, Dave Lewis : Editor & Cyber-assistant

Lodge 2202 Email Contacts

- Exalted Ruler ~ exaltereduler@glastonburyelks.org
- Lodge Secretary ~ secretary@glastonburyelks.org
- Lodge Treasurer ~ treasurer@glastonburyelks.org
- Rental Inquiries ~ rentals@glastonburyelks.org
- Range Inquiries ~ elksrange2202@yahoo.com

January 2026 Meetings

- House Committee 01/06 @ 4:00 pm
- Range Committee 01/07 @ 6:30 pm
- B.O.D. meeting 01/13 @ 6:00 pm
- B.O.D. meeting 01/28 @ 6:00 pm
- Lodge meeting 01/14 @ 7:00 pm with initiation (i)
- Lodge meeting 01/28 @ 7:00 pm

Elks Care - Elks Share

Glastonbury Lodge No. 2202
A Fraternal Organization
 PO Box 308
 South Glastonbury, CT 06073



Are YOU one of our friends on Facebook?

NO? Why not?

Check our info on lodge events; get updates to events being held at your lodge, and much, much more.

So visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/Elkslodge2202>
Select "Like" & "follow" options



The organization period, chaired by Judge Walter Downes, brought to each prospective member the acid test of sincerity. They came, stayed, and multiplied through the worst storms in the State's history. Lodge meetings were held in the Grange Hall on Naubuc Avenue until 1964 when the Lodge began to rent the Polish Home on Concord Street. Growth and activity continued, and in the spring of 1966 ground was broken for the construction of our present building by Brother Charles Monzeglio. Completion of the building was celebrated by a New Year's Eve dance held on December 31st, 1966.



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
of the United States of America
EST. 1868