

BRATTLEBORO LODGE OF ELKS NO 1499

**December 2025**

PO BOX 8051, BRATTLEBORO, VT 05304

SOCIAL ROOM 802-254-5933

SECRETARY 802-254-0105

EMAIL [elks1499@comcast.net](mailto:elks1499@comcast.net)

CLUB HOURS Mon. – Sat. 11 - 9 / Sun. 11 – 8



**Exalted  
Ruler  
Message**

As we enter the final month of 2025, I'd like to wish everyone safe and happy holidays!

Coming up December 6th will be our Children's Christmas party at 10 a.m.

Our Annual Elks Memorial Service to honor our departed members will be held this year on Sunday, December 7th at 11 a.m.

The Hoop Shoot will be held on Saturday, December 13th at the Brattleboro Middle School Gymnasium. Registration will begin at noon with shooting to begin at 12:30. The Hoop Shoot is open to children ages 8-13.

On Saturday January 4, 2026, our 100th Anniversary Committee will hold their final event, another "Bloody Mary Sunday."

Lastly, this year we will have the honor of hosting the VT Elks Southern Interlodge games on Saturday, January 31, 2026. There will be a signup sheet posted in the social room for those interested in participating in these events.

Jeff Dixon, Exalted Ruler

On Sunday December 7, at 11:00 a.m. we will be having our annual Elks Memorial Service to honor those members who passed away during the past year. Please join us in tribute. A light luncheon will follow the service.

**- In Memoriam -**

**David M. Austin, LM**

**Norman A. Johnson, LM**

**Brian L. Kent, LM**

**C. Henry Chevalier**

**Travis Wellbrock**

**Judith Butynski**

**William Solomon, LM**

**John P. McDonald, LM**

**William P. Bedard, LM**

**Robert J. Lanoue, LM**

**Anne Marie Henry**

**Robert A. Yantiss, LM**

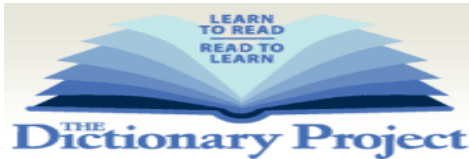
**Michael J. Finnell, LM, PER, PSP, PDD**

**Propositions for Membership:**

Cynthia Falvey	Proposed by Karen Bergstrom
Kelley Aither	Proposed by Keegan Jameson
Laura-Lee Martin	Proposed by Jennifer Thompson
Troy Revis, Jr.	Proposed by Colin Young, Jr.
Dennis Nadeau	Proposed by Barbara Wallace

**Donations:**

Wreaths Across America	\$ 340.
Vermont Assoc. for the Blind	\$ 100.
Brattleboro Walk-in Clinic	\$ 400.
Kurn Hattin Home	\$ 250.



The Dictionary Project was founded in 1995 by Mary French of Charleston, SC. Its primary focus is to promote literacy to children in third grade as they transition from learning how to read to identify and use information. The Elks joined the movement in 2004. Nationwide, they have donated more than 1.3 million dictionaries to third grade students. There are 600 lodges that actively participate in the program. Brattleboro Lodge #1499 is one of those lodges. This fall, Frank Lopez delivered 260 dictionaries to local third graders. Excellent job, Frank!!

### “From the House”

#### Meals for December:

12/5 No meal

12/12 Chicken sandwich with choice of French fried or onion rings

12/19 Wings

12/26 No meal

12/31 Adult New Years Eve Appetizer Party by Tiffany & crew

#### Raffles:

Nancy puts a lot of effort and work into the raffles which benefit our Elks Charities and the members of our community. If you have an item or service that you would like to donate to the cause, please let Nancy know.

It has been decided that Deck Dogs will start up again in the spring when our members can continue to enjoy them outside while mingling with their fellow brothers and sisters. Thank you to Mark Gouger and Heather Brown for all you do.

On behalf of the House Committee, I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.

Thank You.

Frank  
Committee Chair

**BLOODY MARY SUNDAY - Mark your calendars!!**

**The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be hosting another Bloody Mary on Sunday, January 4, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those who do not wish to have a Bloody Mary, a Mimosa bar will also be available.**

## **IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT ENF GRANTS**

Our lodge is fortunate this year to have received the following Elks National Foundation grants to donate to local organizations in need of our help. These grants are made possible by the donations from our members.

**Please consider a donation to ENF when submitting your yearly dues payment.** Better yet, become a Fidelity Club member for as low as a \$5.00 monthly donation. Detailed instructions can be found on the [elks.org/enf](http://elks.org/enf) website and please remember **For every \$1.00 donated to ENF, our Vermont lodges get back approximately \$2.25 back in grant funding!**

Please remember:

**Freedom Grant: \$1,000.**

Donation to Josh's House a respite care facility for Vermont veterans.

**Spotlight Grant: \$2,000.**

Donation to Brigid's Kitchen and Pantry.

**Beacon Grant: \$4,000. (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)**

Donations to area elementary schools for supplies needed for learning, comfort & playtime.

**Gratitude Grant: \$3,000.**

Donation of \$1,000 to the Veterans Canteen Service at the VA Hospital in White River Junction to provide supplies to hospitalized veterans in need.

Donation of \$2,000 to the Windham County Heat Fund to help local citizens in need of heating fuels for the winter. This grant funding was matched by a vote of the membership to be able to donate a total of \$4,000 to the WCHF.



### **BEACON GRANT**

As stated above, our lodge was able to secure a \$4,000 Beacon Grant from Elks National Foundation. Due to this grant, fourteen area schools and early education centers were provided with sleds, socks, gloves, mittens, underwear, sweatpants, basketballs, kickballs, jump ropes and water bottles. Many thanks to Lodge Secretary Mark Gouger for his work in securing this grant, to Tiffany Stanley for ordering items and to Nancy Kerylow for organizing and delivery of the items! The Elks organization continues to demonstrate that "Elks Care, Elks Share".

Our annual Veterans Breakfast was held Sunday, November 9. Although the turnout was a bit smaller than normal all those who attended had a great time! Many thanks to the kitchen crew, Bill Wallace (Marine Corps), Dana Zelenakas (Army), Sam Fontaine (Navy) and Chip Huffman (Air Force), along with Chris & Kerry Buckley, Karen Zelenakas, Ralph Buchanan and Barb Wallace.



The following members have reached eligibility to become a Life Member. To attain Life Membership a member must be 65 years of age and have been a member for 30 years. They will be voted on at the regular lodge meeting of Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

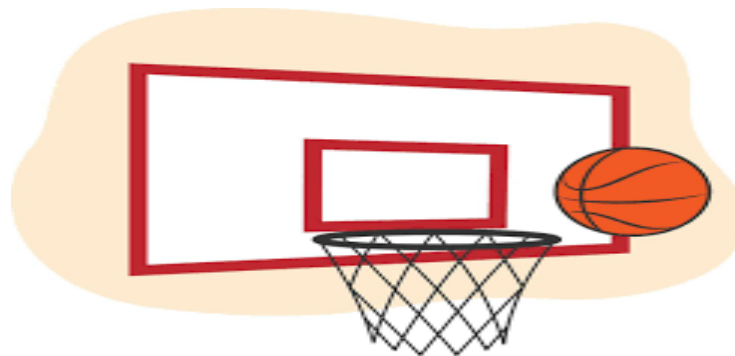
Brad Borofsky  
Thomas P. Henry  
Gregory M. Howard  
Robert Junkins  
Robert P. McCarthy  
George Newman, Sr.  
Daniel W. Oles  
Robert J. Richotte, Jr.  
David J. Sage

## HOOP SHOOT

**The Elks Hoop Shoot will be held at BUHS Middle School on Saturday, December 13.**

**Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. Children ages 8 – 13 are eligible to participate and do NOT have to be Elks members.**

**For more information, please contact Kyle Henry.**



BRATTLEBORO ELKS LODGE

2025

NEW YEAR'S  
*Eve Appetizer  
Party*

DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 5-7PM

\$15/PERSON

PLATED & PASSED

HORS D'OEUVRES

Contact Nancy at the  
Elks to reserve



# DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1  John Kilduff	2  Allen Cohen Emmy Sheldon	3  Bob Richotte Jr. Ramona Severance	4  Valerie Hughes Paul Jones Josh Roberts Diane Vergara	5 <b>No meal</b>	6  Dan Bacigalupo Serena Benedict Bill DeCosmo Allyson Gamache
7  Richard Johnson Jr Matthew Ogden Joe Spano	8  Chad Cutting Ryan Cutting Dave Follensbee	9  Bobbi Kilburn Walter Maitland	10 <b>Lodge Meeting 7:00</b>	11  Tanner Freeman Jessica Galdamez Jim McPhail Jr	12 <b>Chicken Sandwich</b>	13  Eric Mayhew Brandy Speno
14  Kerry Mulverhill	15  Daniel Boyd Larry LaBarge	16  Kelli Corbeil James Spiak	17  Chet Grenda Leslie Jo Houssan Stephanie Huestis	18  George Wright	19 <b>Wings</b>	20
21  Jim Coulombe Rachael Speno	22  David Dias Holley Thompson	23  David Bell Stephen Kerylow Tom O'Connell III John Whelan	24  Roger Aiken Donald Lavalley	25  Doug Hadlock	26 <b>No meal</b>	27  James Barrett Peter Duff
28  Lori Brown Bryce Fletcher Jean Wilde	29  Alex Richardson	30  Marcia Ann Goslowski	31  Mya McAuliffe Kelsey Waite			



## **NATIONAL AND STATE ELKS SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS and GRANTS**

ENF LEGACY AWARDS. These are available only to children or grandchildren of any Elk member in good standing. The application is available online only from September 1 at [enf.elks.org/leg](http://enf.elks.org/leg). **DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 2, 2026.**

EMERGENCY EDUCATIONAL GRANTS. These grants are for children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. Applications are available May 1 to November 2. You may access the application at [scholarship@elks.org](mailto:scholarship@elks.org).

### **BRATTLEBORO ELKS SCHOLARSHIP**

CRITERIA: These scholarships are available to any male or female high school senior who is attending Brattleboro UHS; Hinsdale HS; Leland & Gray UHS; St. Michael's or Twin Valley UHS. The student should have proof of acceptance to a College, Technical School, or University. Applications are available in your guidance office, or by request. **DEADLINE IS APRIL 3, 2026.**

### **EARL CAVANAGH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

CRITERIA: These scholarships are available to any male or female currently enrolled in a College, Technical School, or University. The applicant must be a child, or grandchild of a member, or be a member, in good standing, of the Brattleboro Elks Lodge #1499. Request applications from Gene Whitney. Contact information is below. **DEADLINE IS APRIL 3, 2026.**

Please contact Gene Whitney at 802-380-2660 or at [gwhitney@wsesu.org](mailto:gwhitney@wsesu.org) if you have any questions.

### **2025-2026 OFFICERS**

EXALTED RULER: JEFFREY DIXON  
LEADING KNIGHT: MELISSA MCAULIFFE  
LOYAL KNIGHT: AMANDA DANIELS  
LECTURING KNIGHT: RYAN SQUIRES  
SECRETARY: MARK GOUGER  
TREASURER: BRENDA EMERY  
TRUSTEES:  
KAREN ZELENAKAS  
PETER RANDALL, PER  
BARBARA WALLACE, PER, DD  
CHRISTOPHER MILLERICK  
RALPH BUCHANAN, CHAIRMAN

\*\*\* APPOINTED OFFICERS \*\*\*

ESQUIRE: ALBERT HUFFMAN, JR. PER  
CHAPLAIN: JIL MACMENAMIN  
TILER: JEAN WILDE  
INNER GUARD: PAUL BEEBE

***Elks Care, Elks Share!***

**Please submit any newsletter items to lodge secretary Mark Gouger by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

**[elks1499@comcast.net](mailto:elks1499@comcast.net)**