BPOE Watertown Lodge # 496 February 2026

728 Bradley Street, Watertown, NY 13601 (315) 788-1270 www.elks496.org

Exalted **R**uler's Message:

Hello to all! Hope everyone had a great holiday and a Happy New Year.

Seems like we have gotten our fair share of snow this year. We had a super turnout for Geoff's benefit. Big thanks to David Clement and Janet Gardner and to the many volunteers that made it all come together. The generous donations by so many people was truly remarkable.

February 5th is our PER night and also the nomination of officers for the next year (2026-2027).

Please stay warm and safe.

Thank you for all the help and support.

Fraternally yours,
ER Philip K Nuffer

Secretary's Message:

January has come and gone. We still have all of this month and 19 days in March before spring arrives. A lot of snow and the freezing cold can go away any time! Let's hope the groundhog doesn't disappoint us on February 2nd.

Dues notices have gone out during the month of January. Please see to it that your dues are paid before April 1st. I am at the Lodge on most Saturdays through the month of January from late morning until early afternoon. For those members in good standing, if you do not wish to renew, PLEASE request an Absolute Dimit before the end of March. When you don't renew, our Lodge suffers a loss of $39 per member.

Notice to the DELINQUENT members: If your dues aren't paid BY March 27th, you WILL be dropped from our membership roll. We have already suffered a $39 per member loss for the past year when you didn't pay. Why March 27th instead of March 31st? Because anything can happen between the 27th and the 31st. We may lose internet due to storm, or the secretary gets ill, or anything. And if delinquent members aren't dropped before April 1st, we will suffer another year's loss on delinquent members. Also note that delinquent's names will be posted on the board rather than member number. If you don't want your name on the board, please either pay up now or ask the secretary to drop you from the membership roll.

Meeting minutes from Lodge sessions, Trustees meetings and House Committee meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the Lodge Room (meeting room) next to the Secretary's Office door. If you wish to review past minutes, see the February.

Applications to be acted upon in February

Incoming Transfer: John Anzenberger—Watertown—from Closter NJ Lodge # 2304; New Membership: Anthony Stockman—Adams—Self Employed—proposed by Darcia LaValley; Karrie Madlin—Adams—TTS Office Manager—proposed by Darcia LaValley; Mark A Raleigh—Watertown—Medical Support Assistant @ Defense Health Agency—proposed by Anne M Cavanaugh; Michelle M Raleigh—Watertown—Teacher Aide @ Watertown City School District—proposed by Anne M Cavanaugh; Cody Horbacz—Watertown—Sales Consultant @ Advanced Business Systems—proposed by Anthony DeMiceli—Deborah Lynch—Three Mile Bay—retired teacher—proposed by Thomas Lynch; David Richardson—Felts Mills—self employed mechanic–proposed by Anthony DeMiceli; Janice Biezad—Watertown—retired—proposed by Anthony DeMiceli; Nicholas Lennox—Watertown—Fitness Trainer, Coach, Staff @ SUNY Jeffferson—proposed by Anthony DeMiceli; Angela Rich—Watertown—Insurance Navigator at ACR Health—proposed by Kelly Monteith-Bragger; Alekzandra Huttemann-Kall—Watertown—Community Relations Manager at Davidson Auto Group—proposed by Natalie Hurley; James Loomis—Watertown—Gotta Bounce—proposed by Don Boshart.

TWO IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP:

FEBRUARY 5TH—NOMINATION OF OFFICERS **FEBRUARY 19TH—ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

If you have not paid your dues yet, you will not be allowed in any Elks Lodge, including ours and may not be signed in as a guest. You can still pay your dues by check payable to Watertown Elks # 496 either in person or by mailing to the Lodge with the address shown below.

PER Dennis J Brady, Lodge Secretary
Watertown Elks Lodge 496
728 Bradley Street Phone: (315) 788-1270 Text only: (315) 486-0057
Watertown NY 13601 Email: dj0057@me.com

DELINQUENT MEMBER NUMBER

4086 4713 4738 4891 5413 5811 5921 5982 5985 6075 6124 6172 6289 6416 6546 6874 6911 6912 6940 7104 7179 7209 7276 7299 7377 7511 7596 7658 7714 7733 7869 7890 7935 7942 8039 8091 8199 8200 8252 8387 8452 8468 8480 8481 8482 8514 8518 8580 8606 8623 8665 8666 8673 8703 8711 8721 8766 8771 8778 8780 8819 8853 8874 8897 8900 8933 8942 8943 8957 8964 8972 8981 8985 9004 9005 9007 9013 9014 9022 9026 9041 9043 9053 9057 9087 9102

Brian Dezell—DDGER—North Central District # 6240
800 Pray Rd, Lisbon, NY 13658 (315) 322-1074
Dan Shannon—State Vice President
5501 Jackson St, Lowville, NY 13367 (315) 717-5134

To book an event at the lodge, call:
Events Phone Number: (315) 586-5954 or
Lodge Phone Number: (315) 788-1270
Email: elks496@centralny.twcbc.com

LODGE EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Friday, February 13th at 7:00 PM
Trivia Night
(Activity Committee Event)

Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 PM
Bingo at the Bar
(Activity Committee Event)

All Lodge activities are open to members in good standing and sponsored guests.
Pub Menu will be available during the above activities.
Next Committee Meeting: Monday, February 9th, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Pub Menu

On the nights of activity committee events such as Trivia Night, Bingo at the Bar night, or other events, pub menus will be available. They include: Chicken Fingers for $8, Pizza Log $8, Mozzarella Sticks $7, Jalapeño Poppers $7, Basket of Fries $4. Extra dipping sauce—$.50.

PIZZA SALE

Ordered your pizzas?
PICK UP ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th
Noon—4:00 PM

February 21, 2026

3rd Annual Winter Bash!

Come and party with Full Circle and help raise money for Major Project!
$10 advanced ticket purchase or $15 at the day of event.
Doors open at 5:00 pm for Cocktail Hour
6 pm to 9 pm—LIVE Entertainment!
Food, Raffles, Auction and LOTS of Fun!

Lisa Green—Major Project Chair

See next page for information on NYS Elks' Major Project. Help our Lodge achieve $8 per member per capita.
Please note that your donation to ENF, Major Project, Veterans, Scholarship can be made at any time throughout the year.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN ELKS.ORG ACCOUNT???

If not, sign up for yours now! It's free and a great resource should you ever have any questions about anything to do with Elks. A ton of resources available at your fingertip!

Friday, February 6th, 2026
Friday Night Dinner
Fish Fry
5:30 PM until GONE

Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance

Saturday, February 14th
5:00—8:00 PM—Dinner

PRIME RIB $35
Shrimp cocktail, salad, roasted potatoes, cake
BAKED FISH $25
Shrimp cocktail, salad, roasted potatoes, cake
Presale only—limited to 140 dinners. Tickets will be sold until February 9th. First come, first serve—
pick your dining time: 5:00—6:25 pm or 6:30—7:55 pm.
Open to members and sponsored guests.
Skipp Starr and the Renditions will take the stage at 8 PM and perform 50's—60's music!

Friday Night Dinner

Friday, February 27th 5:30–7:30 PM
Cooking will be done by our own Joseph Fiorentino & crew.
Items on the menu:

Lasagna ~ $13.95
w/ salad and bread

Fish Fry ~ $13.95
w/ macaroni and cheese

Coming up in March…
Orientation and Initiation of New Members
Volunteer Appreciation/Installation of Officers Ceremony, dinner and Karaoke!

Delinquent Members…

WE NEED YOU

After reviewing our Lodge membership roll, we noticed that you were listed as a delinquent member of this Lodge. If your decision not to pay your membership dues is based on your lack of time to attend meetings or social functions, or otherwise utilize your club facilities, I ask that you reconsider. Hopefully you will be able to find the time to enjoy your Lodge in the coming year, but even if this is not the year that you can become more active in the Lodge, your continued membership helps support our many charitable and community programs and helps truly make a difference in the lives of the people we serve.

In New York State alone, we have given $124,000 to Scholarships. Our state contributed nearly $450,000 to Cerebral Palsy (Major Project - more than $30 million in the past 60 years), $50,000 to Special Olympics and our Lodge had received $10,500 in grants that help continue our Lodge community programs and services. Part of your Lodge dues also help us to maintain our facility, the Home of Lodge # 496.

If you or your loved one is facing financial or other hardship, please remember the Elks care deeply about our members and are here for you. You are not alone, and we encourage you to share this information with me, your Lodge secretary. As our Eleven O'clock Toast declares "An Elk is never forgotten…never forsaken."

I ask that you please renew your membership in the Lodge, and that you remain a true and faithful member of the premier Charitable and Fraternal Organization in the United States. Even if you cannot be as active as you would like this year, you are still an important part of our B.P.O.E. team – the "Best People On Earth," and I look forward to seeing your name returned to the rolls of this Lodge as a member in Good Standing.

Sincerely yours,
PER Dennis J Brady, Lodge Secretary

About Major Project:

Each state has their own Major Project. Our NYS Elks Major Project is Cerebral Palsy. As gleaned from NYS Elks website, here's the History of Cerebral Palsy and Elks:

In the late 1940's, parents of children with cerebral palsy and other disabilities were constantly frustrated by the lack of services to meet their children's special needs. A number of these parents banded together to advocate for solutions and founded United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State, Inc., (UCPA/NYS). Upon sharing their mutual concerns, it became apparent that hundreds of people with disabilities were homebound due to a lack of knowledge and experience in providing for their needs and that ultimately, the heaviest burden of day-to-day care was borne by families in their homes. Hence, UCPA/NYS resolved to seek out and develop the necessary array of community-based services to support persons with disabilities and their families.

On March 15, 1964, representatives of the New York State Elks Association and the UCPA/NYS met to discuss a joint venture that would benefit children and adults with disabilities and their families. ->

Elks National Foundation Donation Deadline Approaching

March is almost here, and that means the end of the fiscal year is near! Over the past year, the Elks National Foundation has been blown away by your commitment to helping Elks build stronger communities.

Thanks to passionate donors and dedicated volunteers, the Community Investments Program gave Elks the resources needed to address the unique needs of their communities; the Elks Hoop Shoot unleashed gritty, hard-working kids; the scholarships programs helped the next generation of changemakers attend college; and so much more.

While the end of the fiscal year provides an opportunity to look back on what your generosity has helped accomplish, it also serves as a reminder of all that can still be done in the final weeks before the March 31 donation deadline.

If your Lodge reaches the National President's per-member-giving goal before March 31, it will be eligible for a $3,000 Gratitude Grant next year—and there are four bonuses your Lodge can earn that bring the grant's total to $5,000! If your Lodge has not yet qualified for the full $5,000 Gratitude Grant, there may still be time. Ask your Fundraising Chair or visit elks.org/cip to learn how your last-minute donation may be enough to earn more CIP grant money for your Lodge and community.

Additionally, if you are a donor who has given for the past four consecutive fiscal years or more but has not yet given in 2025-26, you may be at risk of losing your place in the ENF Loyalty Club! On top of the exclusive pins and Membership Card stickers that ENF Loyalty Club members earn, members are also making meaningful differences in the communities where Elks live and work, year after year.

All donations must be received by March 31 to count toward the 2025-26 fiscal year. To ensure that your donation makes it to the ENF office on time, consider giving online. It is safe, secure, and the easiest way to donate.

No matter how you chose to support the ENF this year, thank you for helping build stronger communities.

A 501(c)(3) public charity, the Elks National Foundation helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. For more information on the ENF, visit elks.org/enf.

-> About Major Project (continued)

As a result, the NYS Elks Service Program was adopted as an Elks Major Project. Since that time the New York State Elks Association has contributed over $10 million to the UCPA/NYS for the Home Service Program including $460,000 in the last year. On April 1, 1966, the first two Home Service Directors began mobile services to persons with disabilities and their families. Since 1966, the program has grown and expanded to every county of New York State with 27 Home Service Directors serving over 12,000 individuals with disabilities. In 2001 UCPA officially changed their name to Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State.

BELL JAR REPORT

December 2025

Total Income:	$15,387.00
Total Expenses:	$2,376.00
Worthy Causes:	$150.00
Net Income:	$12,861.00

House Committee

House Committee Message:

Happy February to all! How has everyone's winter been going? We are now past the halfway mark so not much further to go. It's always warm inside the Lodge and do we have a fun February planned for you!

There will be two Friday Night dinners this month. A fish fry on the 6th and Joe Fiorentino and his crew are back on the 27th. We have our Valentine's Day dinner and dance on the 14th (prime rib!). Steak Night and Burger Night will continue each week as well.

We continue to try with the help of our activities committee to keep bringing fun game nights and delicious dinners your way. Please always remember all our meals and activities are volunteer run. If you'd like to help in any way, please reach out to me or Sandi LaVere or come to the house committee meeting and let us know you want to help volunteer.

The next house committee meeting is February 9th at 6:30 PM. This is open to all members in good standing. I look forward to seeing you all next month at the Lodge.

Anthony DeMiceli
House Committee Chairman

February Meetings…

Thursday, February 5th—Lodge Session/PER Night/Nomination of Officers 7 PM
Monday, February 9th—Activity Committee 6:30 PM
Monday, February 9th—House Committee 6:30 PM
Tuesday, February 10th—Trustees 6:30 PM
Thursday, February 19th—Lodge Session/Election of Officers 7 PM

All information for next month's bulletin must be submitted by the **16th** of this month. Thank you for your cooperation. PER Dennis J Brady, Editor

MEMBERS ON THE SICK BOARD

We have a few members on the sick board. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers: Terry Scee Jr; Ron Netto Sr; Randy Yott; Francis Devine; Larry L Beerman; PER Patrick G O'Connor.

Lodge of Sorrow

LM Randy Yott # 6745; Jerry C O'Brien # 7318

"May light perpetual shine upon them, until the morning breaks and the shadows flee away".

Tuesday Steak Nights

Wednesday Burgers

Tuesday nights are our steak nights. Steak dinner is $18.95 and comes with choice of fries or baked potato, salad and dinner roll. Dinner is 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

Wednesday nights are our burger nights. Regular half-pound delicious burger and fries $10.95. Make it a deluxe with lettuce, tomato and onions for $12.95. Add bacon for additional $1.00. BLT's and fries also available at $7.95. Fish sandwich also available for $12.95.

Placemat Ads

Interested in advertising your business on the Lodge's placemat? Want to put your name on the list or put a name "in memory of" on our placemat? It is $25 to place a name on the placemat but $125 to advertise your business—business card size. It is $125 for one space, $250 for two spaces and $500 for a bigger ad (four spaces). Monies raised go to support the Elks National Foundation, which supports the many Elks programs that makes individual lives in the community better.

Blood Drive
American Red Cross

Tuesday, February 17th
American Red Cross
Blood Drive
Banquet Room 1—6 PM

February 2026 Birthday

1	David Danks	7	Matthew Leland Hartle	11	Daniel T Boulton	16	Jeffrey Shannon	21	James G Knight	26	Joseph A Biondolillo III
1	Richard P Donoghue	7	Catherine S Marks	11	Terry F Carpenter	16	Michael J Simser	21	Andrew M Makuch	26	Edward C Massa
2	Marilyn L Hanson	7	Angela Roberts	11	Brandon D Wilson	17	Charmaine VanBrocklin	21	James M Thomas	26	Jeffrey Narrow
3	Carol Lamon	7	Daniel Tontarski	12	Abraham D Doney	18	Robert A Coppola	22	Joshua Henry	26	Wayne Robbe
3	John Natali	7	John G Woodward	12	Timothy M Glover	18	James M Crescenzi	22	Kathrynn L Wilson	26	Gary A Williams
3	Lance Peterson Jr.	8	Brad A Charlton	12	Thomas E O'Riley	18	Kevin LaClair	23	John P Bruce	27	Timothy Hodge
3	Brenda Piche	8	Aaron Clemons	12	Michael E Side	18	Ted S Smith	23	Christopher S D'Ercole	27	John T Nevin
3	Rick Piche	8	Kevin H Frasher	13	Edward E Brown	18	Richard Weston	23	James Lafountain	27	Jack A Reff Jr.
3	Franklin Roberts	8	David R Gaffney	13	Bernice Clark	19	Bill Bowman	23	Ronald M Toper	27	James W Stowell
3	Tammy Walsemann	8	Chris Misercola	13	Connie J Timmerman	19	Cathy Craig	24	James M Bonner Jr	28	Angela Alguire
4	Lisa Eager	8	Joanne M VanCamp	15	Robert B Delles	19	Robert M Kuba	24	James S Ganter	28	Gerald Bickel
5	Tim Reitzel	9	Tammy Decilles	15	Eric Hardy	19	James P O'Brien	24	Peter G Grieco	28	Thomas J Cheney
5	Stephen J Rust	9	Lewis E Hatch	15	Peter A Segouin	19	Patti-Jo Shaffer	24	Susan Hodge	28	Gary Felice
5	Daniel Schleher	9	Scott M Pooler	16	Gail C Butterfield	20	Dale E Call	24	Kimberly A LaForty	28	Jane Hanley
6	Sandra J Bolton	9	Peter T Radley	16	David W Clement	20	Geana Converse	24	Anthony M Ratigliano	28	Brian F McAuliffe
6	Dale C Herman	9	David M Wolff	16	Peter J Fitzgerald	21	Michael T Bice	25	Donald P Sholett	28	James R Pecori
7	Joseph F Foster	10	Tracie R Side	16	Travis Riley	21	Thomas S Gates	25	Michael C Simmons	29	Robin Kellar
7	Thomas Graban II	11	Jeanina R Boone								

February 2026

MSPE = Member Sponsored Private Event

Sunday 11:00am—7:00pm	Monday 2:00pm—9:00pm	Tuesday 2:00pm—9:00pm	Wednesday 2:00pm—9:00pm	Thursday 2:00pm—9:00pm	Friday 2:00pm—10:00pm	Saturday 11:00am—10:00pm
1 Sunday Funday Bowling League 1—4 PM MSPE Lodge Room	2 Groundhog Day	3 New Members Orientation 7 PM Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	4	5 Lodge Session 7 PM PER Night/Initiation/ Nomination of Officers	6 Friday Night Dinner Fish Fry 5:30 PM until GONE	7 1—3 PM MSPE Banquet Room
8 Sunday Funday Bowling League	9 House Committee/ Activity Committee 6:30 PM	10 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM Trustees—6:30 PM	11 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	12	13 7:00 PM Pub Menu Available	14 Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance See Inside!
15 Sunday Funday Bowling League	16 Happy 158th Birthday, BPOE!!!	17 Blood Drive 1—6 PM Banquet Room Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	18 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	19 Lodge Session 7 PM Election of Officers	20	21 12—3 PM MSPE Lodge Room & Game Room 3rd Annual Winter Bash (see inside)
22 Sunday Funday Bowling League	23	24 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	25 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	26 Bingo at the Bar 6:30 PM Pub Menu Available	27 *Friday Night Dinner w/ Joseph Fiorentino & Crew (see inside)*	28
March 1 Sunday Funday Bowling League	March 2	March 3 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	March 4 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	Steak Night Tuesday Steak & side, salad $18.95	Wed. Burger Night: Burger with lettuce, tomato, cheese and onions w/ fries $12.95 Fish Sandwich $12.95 W/ bacon—$1 extra BLT—$7.95	Pub Menu See inside for what's on the pub menu To book parties and/or Events, contact our Booking Line at (315) 586-5954

Watertown B.P.O.E. #496

February 2026

LODGE HOURS

Monday	**2:00PM—9:00PM**
Tuesday-Wednesday	**2:00PM—9:00PM**
Thursday	**2:00PM—9:00PM ***
***Except on Meeting Nights**	
Friday	**2:00PM—10:00PM**
Saturday	**11:00AM—10:00PM**
Sunday	**11:00AM— 7:00PM**

Home of PSP Francis Hart, PSP Nelson Navarra & PSP Timothy E. Kelly

Officers 2025—2026

Exalted Ruler	Philip K Nuffer
Est. Leading Knight	Anthony DeMiceli
Est. Loyal Knight	Karen Miller
Est. Lecturing Knight	Thomas M Lynch
Secretary	PER Dennis J Brady
Treasurer	Beth A Bennett
Esquire	Suzanne Renzi-Falge
Tiler	David Clement
Chaplain	Margaret "Peg" Bootie
Inner Guard	Sheri Doroha

Trustees:
PER Edward C Massa
Jay Miller—Chairman
PSVP Joan Carlo
PER Anne M Fleming
Beth Cassada

Presiding Justice: Matt Doheny
Mediator: Vic James
Activity Committee: Sandi LaVere
House Committee: Anthony DeMiceli
Bar Manager: Geoff Mattraw
Lodge Steward: Barb Yerdon

<<- QR Code for Website

<<- QR Code for Facebook

QR codes you can scan with your phone or tablet. Check out our website and/or Facebook page to keep current with upcoming events and activities. When on our Facebook page, please click "Like" and share away!

Elks Care – Elks Share

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«First» «Middle» «Last» «Suffix»
«Address 1» «Address 2»
«City» «State» «Zip»

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