

Exalted Ruler's Message:

I am pleased to be able to announce that our final budget report for the fiscal year 2024 to 2025 showed a net increase of \$47,000 to the good. This can only be attributed to the great members that patronize our lodge whether by just stopping by and having a drink to eating dinner, to attending our many great events and of course, simply by paying your dues. Of course none of this could happen without our great staff and volunteering members that make all this happen in which I can not thank enough.

Please in some way come by and enjoy your lodge. Our budget for 2025-2026 is posted for all to review and will be voted on at our next lodge session on May 1st. Looking forward to a great and prosperous year stay safe.

On May 15th—18th, I, along with many of our officers will be attending the New York State Elks Association Spring conference located at Villa Roma in Callicoon, NY. We are looking forward to attending and learning many old and new things about Elkdom from the conference to share with our Lodge.

Fraternally yours,
ER Philip K Nuffer

Secretary's Message:

Online dues payment has a new system now. In the past, we've been using Revopay system. It is now Direct Biller. To pay your dues online, here's the new link: <https://secure.directbiller.com/search/elks-lodge/>

2025-2026 Membership Dues

Membership dues for 2025-2026 remains \$99 regular membership and \$69 Life membership.

Applications to be acted upon in May

New Membership application: **Constance C Colling**—Adams—Retired Teaching Assistant @ Oswego County BOCES—proposed by Karen Miller; **Adam LaClair**—Watertown—Risk Manager @ HF&C—proposed by Stephen Loonan; **Kyle Delaney**—Dexter—Town of Clayton/La Fargeville Central School—proposed by John Phelps.

Next orientation on Tuesday, April 29th at 7:00 PM and Initiation on Thursday, May 1st at 7:30 PM.

As of April 21st, we have 1,219 members with 302 delinquent. 68 members were dropped at the end of March for non-payment of dues. They have been sent a 60-day reinstatement letter and have until May 31st to pay up on both years' dues (2024/2025 AND 2025/2026). Also, with 302 members currently delinquent, their member number is posted up on the board at the Lodge. Please help the secretary's goal of having ZERO remaining delinquent by this summer.

PER Dennis J Brady, Lodge Secretary

Watertown Elks Lodge 496

728 Bradley Street

Watertown NY 13601

Phone: (315) 788-1270

Email: dj0057@me.com

Text only: (315) 486-0057

PO Box 6008 To Be Discontinued

As of June 2025, Watertown Elks Lodge # 496 will discontinue receiving mail at the Post Office Box. From then on, all mails are to be sent to:

**728 Bradley St
Watertown, NY 13601**

Please make note of this change for any future communications with our Lodge.



Download My Elks App!!!

Watertown Elks # 496 is now available on My Elks App! Updated events, calendar, meeting dates & times, etc. Receive notifications, alerts, make dues payment, etc. So convenient! Download it now!

All information for next month's bulletin must be submitted by the **23rd** of this month. Thank you for your cooperation. PER Dennis J Brady, Editor

2025 Elks Golf League

Wednesdays Elks Golf League is starting on May 28th. Any questions, contact Sean Haley (315) 778-2471 or Tim Hodge (315) 408-3297. One member of the team must be an Elk or in the process of becoming an Elk. League runs from May 28th through August 27th.



Captain and mate at Highland Meadows.

Banquet to take place on August 27th.

Interested? Join the league!

This is a FUN league.

William Schaab DDGER—North Central District # 6240

PO Box 153, 5427 Shady Ave, Lowville, NY 13367

(315) 376-7131, (315) 376-6031

bill@nce-schaab.com

To book an event at the lodge, call:

Events Phone Number: (315) 586-5954 or

Lodge Phone Number: (315) 788-1270

Email: elks496@centralny.twcabc.com

BELL JAR REPORT

March 2025

Total Income:	\$14,390.32
Total Expenses:	\$6,280.39
Worthy Causes:	\$393.52
Net Income:	\$7,716.41

NYS North Central District Homecoming

District Deputy William Schaab

State Vice President Jody Henry

Friday, May 9th at the Lowville Elks Lodge

Cocktails at 5:30 PM

Dinner at 6:30 PM

Tickets \$20 per person.

Attire: Business Casual (gray jackets not required)

House Committee

I'd like to start off by welcoming back committee members PSP Tim Kelly, David Clement, PSVP Joan Carlo and PER Cheryl Clark. Welcome aboard new members PER Michael Cummings and Suzanne Renzi-Falge, who is also a new member of this Lodge. We are looking forward to another strong Lodge year.

I'd like to thank our last House Committee for job well done for the 2024/2025 Lodge year. We, as a Lodge, are heading in the right direction. The past year was a profitable year thanks to the big changes that were made. It was made possible with the help of many volunteers that stepped up. THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!

As always, the House Committee meetings are open to members in good standing except for when we go into Executive Sessions. We always welcome inputs or insights from members on the floor.

As a committee, we are looking into bringing in more entertaining events to our Lodge for all the members to enjoy. More bands and entertainers to make this Lodge a pleasant place for members to come enjoy.

House Committee Chair,
Anthony DeMiceli

May Events

Thursday, May 8th at 6:30 PM

Bingo at the Bar

(Activity Committee Event)

Friday, May 9th at 7:00 PM

Trivia Night

(Activity Committee Event)

Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30 PM

Bingo at the Bar

(Activity Committee Event)

**More Activities To Be Announced Soon!
Volunteers are welcomed!**

All Lodge activities are open to members and sponsored guests

Sandi LaVere—Activity Committee Chairperson

MEMBERS ON THE SICK BOARD

We have a few members on the sick board. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers: Terry Sceer Jr; Ron Netto Sr; Randy Yott; Francis Devine; Peter L Clough.

Lodge of Sorrow

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

May Meetings...

May 1st—Lodge Session

May 5th—House Committee 6:30 PM

May 6th—Trustees 6:30 PM

May 7th—Activity Committee 6:30 PM

May 14th—Veterans Committee 6:30 PM

May 21st—Board of Directors 6:30 PM

Upcoming Events To Keep an Eye Out For...

June 5th—6th: Boys and Girls Lacrosse Fun Day

June 14th—Flag Day



140 CLUB

140 Club for 2026-2027 Lodge year has begun. Interested members should sign up and pay a \$20 registration fee and then pay \$10 per month. This will pay for your 2026-2027 Lodge dues. Once you've signed up, this will be NON-REFUNDABLE! It's not too late to sign up!!

There will be monthly drawings with winner getting \$25 and at the end of the Lodge year, there will be a dinner.

Placemat Ads

THESE BUSINESSES SUPPORT ELKS CHARITIES ... PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!

WILSON'S Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	SP-HANDS Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	PAUSE RECYCLING, LLC Recycling & Waste Management 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	SUPPORTERS: This Space Available
Small Business Company Bread, Pastry, Confectionery, Cakes, Doughnuts, Sandwiches & Catering Services 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	THOMAS FRANK SERVICE Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	Jefferson Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	IN MEMORY OF: This Space Available
Hart & Bruce Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	EX. CAPRARA HONDA Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	SWB Auto Detailing & Wash 1000 N. Main St. Lowville, NY 13324 716-833-1111	IN MEMORY OF: This Space Available

Elks Lodge # 495—Supporting our Community's Youth, Seniors, Veterans, USO & Worthy Causes Since 1899

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 goes to support the Elks National Foundation, which supports the many Elks programs that makes individual lives in the community better.

Letters have gone out to the businesses that supported our Lodge over the years. Thank you!

What's Happening around North Central District?

Carthage Elks Lodge #1762 Ritual Team won the Lodge team state contest in the NYSEA Ritual Day held in Poughkeepsie Lodge # 275 on April 12, 2025. They will now compete for the National Honors in the Grand Lodge contest in Kansas City, MO coming up June 29—July 2, 2025.

The North Central District # 6240 ritual team did all they could to give the other four district teams in the state a run for their money, but ended up third. East District became the eventual winner.

Three members of Watertown Lodge # 496 were on the team and did their best. Jay Miller was the Inner Guard and ended up placing 2nd in the District Team contest. PER / District Ritual Chairman Dennis Brady was the Esquire and also ended up 2nd in his position. Karen Miller was the Chaplain on the team. She also gave a really impressive performance in the 11 O'clock Toast contest where New York Lodge #1's Mark Stuparich became the eventual winner.

Carthage Lodge's PER Robert Sligar won the Flag Charge presentation contest and will advance to compete for the National Honors at the Grand Lodge convention.

In the April 2025 Grand Lodge Newsletter, Massena Lodge # 1702 was the Three Star Winner in the Local Lodge Website contest. To check out Massena's website, here's the link: <https://www.massenaelks.com>.

JOIN THE ENF FIDELITY CLUB!!

What is the ENF Fidelity Club? Fidelity Club is part of the Elks National Foundation (ENF). Since its inception, the ENF has contributed more than \$500 million toward Elks charitable projects nationwide. Visit elks.org and read more about the Elks National Foundation.

By joining the Fidelity Club, you can sign up for automatic monthly withdrawals of a minimum \$5 per month and forget about it. Your contributions will support the many programs that the ENF provides and help build stronger communities.

Once you join, and the longer you remain a club member, you will receive stickers for your membership card, pins, recognitions for your faithful membership, and more!

Our goal? 5% of our Lodge membership. SIGN UP NOW!

Helpful tip: You'd need to have Elks.org login to be able to sign up.

Lodge Bulletin Volunteers

June 2025 Lodge Bulletin help is needed on Saturday morning, May 24th starting at about 9:00 AM.



Veterans Committee

Last month (April), the Veteran's Committee went grocery shopping and delivered \$300 worth of food and gift cards to Feed Our Vets center in Watertown (located between Arsenal and Coffeen Streets). It was enough that the \$300 spent weighed 346 pounds in total!

Members of the Veteran's Committee volunteered monthly at the Feed Our Vets assisting Veterans in their collecting groceries.

The Veterans Committee at Elks Lodge # 496 continues to stand ready to aid local Veteran's programs and local Veterans that are displaced, fulfilling Elks Veteran's Motto, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them".

The Veterans Committee is looking for more members to join and one does NOT have to be a Veteran to be on a committee. Those interested, please reach out to Sheri Doroha. The next meeting for the committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14th at 6:30 PM.

CIP celebrates 20 years of success

By Patrick Roelofs

ENF Communications Coordinator

Twenty years ago, Carrie Underwood gained national fame by winning American Idol, Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith ended the Star Wars franchise (or so we thought), the Chicago White Sox weren't historically bad (and won a World Series to prove it), and the Community Investments Program was born.

When the CIP debuted in 2005, each grant was worth \$200, and we approved applications from 695 Lodges. A lot has changed since then, but one thing remains the same: the CIP's commitment to helping you build stronger communities.

This year, to commemorate the CIP's anniversary, the base level of the Gratitude Grant will increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Every Lodge that meets the per-Member-giving goal of \$5 will have \$1,000 more to support community needs; Lodges will be eligible to receive a total of up to \$5,000 through additional bonuses.

With the Beacon, Spotlight, and Gratitude Grants, Lodges can receive up to \$11,000 to use in their community to help fight hunger, prevent veteran homelessness, or address other needs.

Now that's a reason to celebrate! Follow the ENF on social media and be on the lookout for more as we celebrate 20 years of the CIP.

For 2025-26, the Elks National Foundation allocated nearly \$18 million to fund the Community Investments Program. To learn more about the CIP, please visit elks.org/CIP.

2025 Legacy Scholarship

From April 1st through May 19th, scholarship applications will be available for children, step children, grandchildren and step grandchildren of a Watertown Elks Lodge # 496 member in good standing. Scholarships are open to high school seniors as well as students already attending college. Applicants will need to submit an official transcript from their high school or college with their application. The items reviewed for this award are academic achievement, financial need and the applicant's essay. The application deadline is Monday, May 19, 2025. A total of two scholarships will be awarded with a value of \$500 each. The recipients will be announced in June 2025. Applications will be available at the Lodge, on the Lodge website, by email and by regular mail. If you have questions, would like an email application or to receive an application by email, please contact Peg Bootie at abigail1893@verizon.net or (315) 788-0298.



News For The Bulletin

Got any news or special events to share in the monthly bulletin? Birthdays, anniversaries, milestones? Send it to us and we'll put it in the bulletin if spaces are available!

I am also looking for people to be on a bulletin committee. It takes more than one person to create a good bulletin. This is becoming time consuming for me and I need all the help I can get.

Thanks,

PER Dennis J Brady, Bulletin Editor

Mother's Day Breakfast

Sunday, May 11th 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Adults - \$15 Children (6-12 years old) \$10

Under 5—Free

All you can eat breakfast buffet including: scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, English muffins, fruit, cereal, milk, juice, coffee and tea.



Volunteers Needed

We have openings for teams of volunteers for our Tuesday Steak Nights and Wednesday night burgers. Interested in cooking and cleaning? Come and join us! Anyone interested, please contact our House Committee chair Anthony DeMiceli.

There are also several committees that need volunteers. Interested in helping with our monthly bulletin? Being on Activity committee? Veterans Committee? Americanism? Cook breakfast once a month? Lapsation? Soccer shoot? Youth Activity? Be our photographer? Let us know! Starting this month of April under the direction of our new Exalted Ruler Phil Nuffer, he may need YOU!

Tuesday Steak Nights / Wednesday Burgers

Tuesday nights are our steak nights. Steak dinner is \$15.95 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 delicious half pound 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 to continue until further notice.

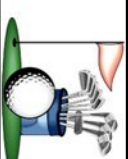
May 2025 Birthday

1 Scott Everett	6 Peter L Decker	10 Michael M Cochran	16 Cynthia Cronk	22 Peter R Barnett	26 Amy L'Huillier
1 Renee Pettey	6 Dessiray J Goutremout	10 Herbert K DeJourdan	16 Raymond F Diehl	22 Kay Clement	26 Gloria J Peluso
3 Breanna Burgenstock	7 Ryan Lee Alfaro	10 Kasey Gardner	16 William R Pugliese	22 Howard G Frederick	27 Gabrielle Gullledge
3 William F Caprara	7 Ward D Anders	11 Jamie Cornell	17 Patrick J Flynn	23 John C Cook	28 Vicki L Cote
4 Ray L Barden	7 Terry Ault	11 Geoff Mattraw	17 Mary Hughes-Hoiston	23 Cindy Hoiston	28 Justin Kampnich
4 Carol C Brown	7 Carl E Lawler	11 Lonny L Reinhardt	17 Marianna Larose	23 Paul G Moran	28 Edward Mustizer
4 James R Pinkerton	7 Mark A Reff	12 Peter D Outwater	17 Richard D Tanner	24 Al Countryman	28 Philip Waite
4 Shelby J Shepherd	7 Joseph C Stanton	14 Walter P Cummings	17 Charles Van Dyke	24 Kristian M Loftus	29 Thomas J Lawlee
4 Sarah A Sinclair	7 Sidney Wheeler Jr.	14 Matthew M Grant	17 Michael Yonkovig	24 Bruce Morgia	30 Terrance L Cavanaugh
4 Dan Van Ness	8 Tom Barber	14 Thomas J Pearson	19 Julie A Derrigo-Intschert	24 Andrew James Thomas	30 John C Cook Jr.
5 Phillip P Compeau	8 Ingrid Bartlett	14 Thomas C Roberts	19 Peter R Lagrow	25 Peter M Crabb	30 James DuPre
5 Matthew C Hildebranski	8 Kelly M Bice	14 Gary Rowe	21 Dan Bossuot	25 Judy K Geng	31 Linda M Cantwell
5 Charles K Holman	8 Jennifer Kampnich	15 Lester Berghorn	21 Kenneth Kasek	25 J David Moculski	31 Michael Coniglio
5 Dennis C Trombley	9 James N Navarra	15 Timothy J Clement	21 Robert Peterson	26 Michael E Branski	31 James S Powell
6 Michael Aubertine	9 Terry W Scee Jr.	16 Mark A Bartlett	21 Barbara J Yerdon	26 Richard J Irvine	
6 Leo F Cosgrove					



May 2025

MSPE = Member Sponsored Private Event



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11:00am—7:00pm Steak Night Tuesday Steak & side, salad \$15.95	2:00pm—9:00pm Wed. Burger Night: Burger with lettuce, tomato, cheese and onions w/ fries \$12.95 w/ bacon—\$1 extra BLT—\$7.95	2:00pm—9:00pm	2:00pm—9:00pm 	2:00pm—9:00pm	2:00pm—10:00pm	11:00am—10:00pm
				1 Lodge Session 7:30 PM Lodge Meeting & Initiation of New Members	2 May 2—4, 2025 HOME COMING of NYSEA President 2024-2025 Tania DeFrank Best Western Plus Kingston Hotel & Conference Center Kingston, NY	3 MSPE—Game Room 4—10 PM
4	5 House Committee 6:30 PM Watertown Lacrosse Officials Meeting Room LCR Party 6:30 PM	6 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM \$15.95 Queen of Hearts 7PM Trustees Meeting 6:30PM	7 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM Activity Comm. 6:30 PM	8 Bingo at the Bar 6:30 PM	9 Trivia Night 7 PM NYS North Central District Homecoming of DDGER William Schaab & SVP Jody Henry	10 Urban Mission Duelling Pianos Banquet Room MSPE—Lodge Room
11 Happy Mother's Day!! Mother's Day Brunch @ The Lodge—come join us!!	12	13 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM \$15.95 Queen of Hearts 7PM	14 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM Veteran's Committee 6:30 PM	15 Lodge Session 7:30 PM Bingo at the Bar 6:30 PM	16 Zebra Mussels— Adam Netto & Dan Gotham 7—10 PM NYSEA Spring Conference -----	17 MSPE—Banquet Room 4—8 PM MSPE Lodge Rm 1-4pm Armed Forces Day -----
18	19 Watertown Lacrosse Officials Meeting LCR Party 6:30 PM	20 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM \$15.95 Queen of Hearts 7PM	21 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM Board of Directors 6:30 PM	22 Bingo at the Bar 6:30 PM	23 Deadline for bulletin	24 Bulletin Folding 9 AM
25	26 Memorial Day Lodge Closed	27 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM \$15.95 Queen of Hearts 7PM	28 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM Elks Golf League Begins!	29	30	31



Watertown

B.P.O.E. #496

www.elks496.org

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	12:00PM— 7:00PM

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



<- 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!

May 2025

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:

Beth Cassada	Presiding Justice: Matt Doheny
Jay Miller—Chairman	Mediator: Vic James
PSVP Joan Carlo	Activity Committee: Sandi LaVere
PER Anne M Fleming	House Committee: Anthony DeMiceli
Linnie Clark	Bar Manager: Geoff Matraw
	Lodge Steward: Barb Yerdon

Elks Care — Share

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WATERTOWN ELKS LODGE #496
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