BPOE Watertown Lodge # 496 January 2026

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

Exalted **R**uler's Message:

Happy New Year to all. Hope everyone was able to enjoy the holiday season. Time seems to be flying by and it is hard to believe another year has come and gone. We continue to help out with supporting our community and Veterans.

All of our committees are working on and planning events for our members to enjoy. Attending events even just to observe will give you an idea what it takes to put these together. If you interested in volunteering don't be shy. Someone will gladly help you to become an active volunteer.

Same with helping out with cooking. All that stuff in the kitchen can be intimidating but it really is just a bigger version of your home kitchen. We really do need new people to help out cooking. We have several members that would be willing to help you learn how we get things done in there. Don't be afraid of learning something new. You might be thinking what if I make a mistake, we all do, and I can attest to making many. We all make mistakes. If we didn't, why would they put erasers on pencils. By volunteering you get to meet new people and maybe make some new friendships. I know I have. This is your lodge. It is what you make it.

Fraternally yours,
ER Philip K Nuffer

Secretary's Message:

Happy New Year! Have you got your New Year resolution set for 2026? I hope one of them is for you to pay your dues EARLY!! I stand ready to assist you! I am at the Lodge on most Saturdays through the month of January from late morning until early afternoon. Your dues notices should be coming in through the month of January. 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.

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 secretary.

Applications to be acted upon in January

Incoming Transfer: John Anzenberger—Watertown—from Closter NJ Lodge # 2304; New Membership: Julie Ann Weston—Watertown—Financial Readiness Program Educator @ Cornell Coop—proposed by Elwyn Bodley; 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.

Delinquent members, please use the link to pay your dues online: **https://secure.directbiller.com/search/elks-lodge/** Coming soon, we will be able to start accepting ACH/eCheck payment! This is another option and should be much cheaper than paying by credit or debit card.
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.

Our Lodge has met the Elks National Foundation per capita this year. The per capita for ENF is at $5.15 and as of this date, we are at $5.35 per member! Major Project for NYS is at $8 per member per capita and we have yet to reach our goal. Major Project chairperson Lisa Green is hard at work to help us achieve our goal. You can make contributions to ENF, Major Project or Scholarship at any time through the year.

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 7579 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 9019 9022 9026 9041 9043 9053 9057 9062 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 JANUARY

Friday, January 9th at 7:00 PM
Trivia Night
(Activity Committee Event)

Thursday, January 29th 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: January 5th, 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

ORDER YOURS AND GET THEM IN TIME FOR SUPER BOWL LX

PICK UP ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th
Noon—4:00 PM
ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY FEBRUARY 1st
ALL PIZZAS ARE UNCOOKED

Plain Cheese	**$12**
Butter garlic	**$12**
Cheese & pepperoni	**$13**
Cheese & sausage	**$13**
Deluxe	**$15**
(cheese, sausage, pepperoni, peppers, onions)	
Buffalo Chicken	**$15**

TOTAL TO BE PAID WHEN ORDERING

Order forms available at the bar and on the website.

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!

Italian Night Dinner

Friday, January 16th 5:30–7:30 PM
Cooking will be done by our own Joseph Fiorentino & crew.
Items on the menu:

Chicken Parm Dinner ~ $16.95
w/ salad and bread

Chicken Broccoli Alfredo Dinner ~ $13.95
w/ salad and bread

We know you members miss the Friday Night dinners. You don't want to miss this!

FEBRUARY

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!

Fun Winter Bash will be coming up in February, a Major Project fundraising event! Keep an eye out for that.

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

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

LEGACY AWARDS

Eligibility: College-bound high school seniors who are the children or grandchildren of dues-paying Elks are welcome to apply. Visit enf.elks.org/leg for full eligibility details. Application was opened on September 2, 2025 and the deadline is February 2, 2026.

ENF scholarships are more than just monetary awards—they help strengthen the next generation's ties to the Elks. To help foster that relationship, the ENF requires scholars to serve with an Elks Lodge throughout college as a condition of receiving their scholarship funds.

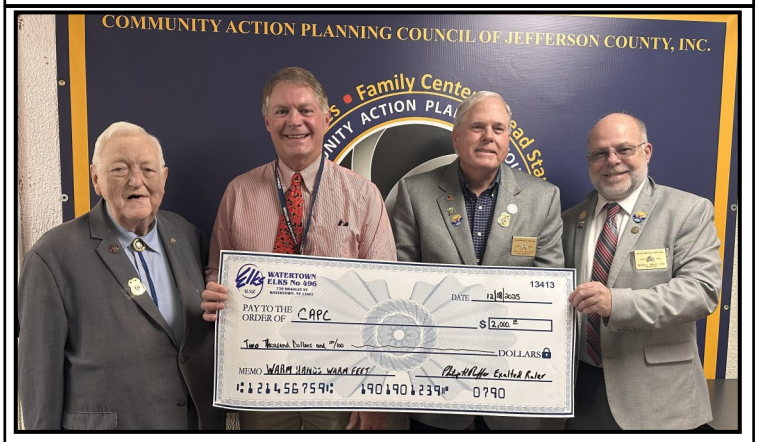
Del Leween Funday Bowling League—Bowling league begins **Sunday, January 4th at 1:00 PM**. Be there around noonish to complete your USBC's!!

Lodge News from December 2025

At the last Lodge session on 12/4/2025, our Esteemed Leading Knight Anthony DeMiceli was presented with ENF certificate recognizing his $1,000+ contribution to the Elks National Foundation. He has accomplished this feat by having joined the ENF Fidelity Club. ENF chairman PSP Tim Kelly presented Anthony "Demo" DeMiceli this certification of recognition with Exalted Ruler Phil Nuffer presiding. Congrats, Demo!

Watertown Lodge # 496 currently have 11 members on the Fidelity Club. To learn more about the Fidelity Club, please visit https://www.elks.org/ENF/FidelityClub.cfm

To learn more about the Elks National Foundation, please visit http://www.elks.org/enf/default.cfm



On Thursday, December 18th, ER Phil Nuffer, PER/Lodge Secretary Dennis Brady and PSP Tim Kelly went to CAPC on Davidson Street in Watertown to present a check of $2,000 for the Warm Hands Warm Feet project to Craig Cashman, Chief Executive Officer for CAPC. After collaborative effort between Lodge Secretary and Caroline Feasler (Family Center Director for CAPC), the CAPC purchased mittens and boots for children of financially strapped families. The $2,000 donation was made possible by many caring and giving members of Lodge #496, fulfilling our motto, "Elks Care, Elks Share". Thank you to all the members that contributed to the Holiday Appeal (Harvest Dinner for Area Senior Citizens and Warm Hands, Warm Feet).

Backpack Program Grant Distribution 2025

Supporting Local Students & Families

Across Jefferson County School Districts

As we kicked off a new academic year, the Watertown Elks Lodge #496 is proud to reaffirm our longstanding commitment to ensuring all children in our community have reliable access to nutritious food outside of school hours. Thanks to a 2025 grant awarded to our Lodge, we are pleased to announce the distribution of nearly **$6,000** to support backpack food programs across eight school districts. This money is helping to feed over 455 students total.

As families across the region continue to navigate rising grocery costs, shifting work schedules, and economic uncertainty, one quiet but powerful resource has become a lifeline for many children: school backpack programs. These programs, run by schools and supported by community organizations, provide bags of food for students to take home over weekends and school breaks; times when access to regular meals is often uncertain.

While many students rely on school breakfasts and lunches during the week, the gap that exists outside of school hours can have serious consequences. Backpack programs work to fill that void, ensuring that children return to school on Monday nourished, focused, and ready to learn.

Educators consistently observe the connection between proper nutrition and academic success. Students who are hungry often have trouble concentrating, participating, and retaining information. Chronic hunger can affect behavior, attendance, and overall well-being.

By ensuring students have reliable access to food all week long, backpack programs promote better classroom engagement and academic growth. According to teachers, students who receive weekly meal bags tend to show more energy, improved focus, and greater confidence.

What makes backpack programs especially meaningful is that they are rooted in local action and compassion. Schools rely heavily on the generosity of volunteers, nonprofits, churches, and civic groups and our own Watertown Elks Lodge to help provide funding, donations, and hands-on help with packing and distributing supplies.

These partnerships strengthen community bonds and allow residents to directly support the wellbeing of their neighbors. Every can of soup, box of mac and cheese, or piece of fresh fruit placed into a backpack is a tangible reminder that a community takes care of its children.

~ Suzanne Renzi-Falge—Grant Coordinator

On Thursday morning, December 18, 2025, Watertown Lodge's Veterans Committee chairman PER Ed Massa made a delivery of 150 bags of sugar and 150 bags of flour to the Watertown's Feed Our Vets center on 1291 Faichney Dr, Watertown, NY. This donation was made possible by our deceased member Vietnam War veteran Bill Lewis' wife and daughter. The Lewis Family raised $4,100 from the first annual Bill Lewis Memorial Father's Day golf tournament held back in June. Their fundraising purpose was to help feed our local veterans in the Watertown area. Watertown Elks continue to fulfill the Elks Veteran's Motto, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them". Pictures available on our Watertown Elks 496 Facebook page.

BELL JAR REPORT November 2025	
Total Income:	$10,808.34
Total Expenses:	$4,388.75
Worthy Causes:	$3,250.00
Net Income:	$3,169.59

House Committee

House Committee Message:

Cheers to the New Year!!! I hope you all had a safe and fun holiday season. The holiday season sure was busy at the lodge between the Children's Christmas Party, Tom and Jerry Day and the New Years Eve party! A huge Thank you to all who attended and volunteered. The Christmas Spirit was truly felt around the lodge last month.

To kick off the New Year, we are bringing back something I know many of you have missed. Friday January 16th we will have a Friday night Italian Night dinner cooked by the very own Joseph Fiorentino and his crew. We will try to do at least one a month for this year. We hope to see many of you for this as you know, with Joe in the kitchen, this will be delicious.

The house committee is working on bringing musical entertainment, Karaoke, and other functions to provide excitement at the lodge this New Year. Make sure to make no Valentines Day plans as we will do a dinner/dance again this year. So, save that date.

Our next house committee meeting is Monday January 5th at 6:30. This is open to all members in good standing. If there is something you would like to see at the lodge, this is the meeting to attend. If you are looking to help volunteer in the future, please let us know.

Anthony DeMiceli
House Committee Chairman

January Meetings…

Monday, January 5th—Activity Committee 6:30 PM
Monday, January 5th—House Committee 6:30 PM
Tuesday, January 6th—Trustees 6:30 PM
Thursday, January 8th—Lodge Session 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 22nd—Board of Directors 6:30 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

Gary G Delaney # 7182; LM Peter M Crabb # 4544

"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.

WING NIGHT

Monday, January 19th—5:30 PM until Gone!

$10 for 10 wings—dine in only price

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.

January 2026 Birthday

1	Mark Decilles	8	Paul E Heckmann	13	Timothy D Tallmadge	17	Walter M Gallo	22	Amanda Jo Mayne	28	Cynthia Woolf Mason
2	Thomas G Compo	8	Scott W Kolb	14	Elwyn J Bodley	17	Bonnie M Peck	24	Lloyd Damon	28	James Scordo
2	Damita J Smith	9	Bruce MacKenzie	14	Nicholas A D'Argenio	18	John J Morgia Sr.	24	Linda Harter	29	Griffin DeForest
3	Charles G Caprara	9	Dean Patterson	14	Bonnie M Herman	18	Victor Natali	25	Donald E Godfrey	29	Edward C Lanning II
3	Patrick E Hayes	9	Robin Scordo	14	Nichole Hineline	18	John Parks	25	Jody Hewitt	29	Scott Scee
3	Patrick F Merritt	10	David A Gebo	14	Lawrence M Lafave	18	Danny Roberts Jr.	25	Judy Motter	30	John J Clement
3	Darren W Smith	10	James Miller	15	Leo R Coleman Jr.	18	Gary Stinson	25	Raymond Shelmidine	30	Gregory Day
4	Michael Barker	10	Alexander F Ritz Jr	15	Donna Oakes	19	Gordon E Greene	26	Kathleen M Long	30	Michael J Fortunato
4	Joelle Decillis	11	Mark A Capone	16	Christopher S Boulio	19	Todd Knight	26	George Morley Jr.	30	George H Lafex II
4	Thomas E Gee	11	Ronald E Chisamore	16	Suzanne Davis	20	Douglas S Clement	26	Patrick J Side Jr.	30	Deborah J Patchen
5	Sandra L Bruno	11	Timothy M Esposito	16	Nicolas Kammeyer	20	Eric Hoistion	26	C William Stoodley Jr.	30	Michael A Pierce
5	Scott E Clark	11	Frank J Schepis	16	Jack P McIlroy	20	Arthur H Parker	26	Loren W Walts	30	Joan C Roach
5	Nicholas O'Brien	11	Stephanie Shorkey	16	Connie Riordan	20	Peter J Phillips	27	Cindy L Eiss	31	Joseph H Gravelle
6	Joseph A Fiorentino	12	Frank Marzano V	16	Leo K Thompson	21	Patrick E O'Donnell	27	Joseph A LaJoie Jr.	31	Charles L Schweinsberg
6	Ronald D Horning	13	Paul M Bouchard	17	Steven N Adams	21	Steven C Wood	27	Jeffrey L Wiley	31	Steve Smith
8	Chuck Capone	13	Dina L Kelly	17	Craig Frederick	22	Cindy Fitzpatrick				

JANUARY 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
	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	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	1 Happy New Year!! Open Noon to 6:00 PM Bloody Mary—$1.00 Happy Hour Prices All Day—Kitchen Closed	2	3
4 Sunday Funday Bowling League	5 Activity Committee & House Committee 6:30p	6 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM Trustees Mtg 6:30 PM	7 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	8 Lodge Session 7pm	9 Trivia Night 7:00 PM Pub Menu Available MSPE 5-9 PM Bnqt Rm	10
11 Sunday Funday Bowling League	12	13 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	14 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	15	16 Italian Friday Night Dinner 5:30—7:30 PM	17
18 Sunday Funday Bowling League DD Clinic 10 am @ Ogdensburg Lodge	19 5:30 PM until GONE	20 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	21 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	22 Board of Directors 6:30 PM	23 MSPE—Game Room 5—9 PM	24
25 Sunday Funday Bowling League	26	27 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	28 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	29 Bingo Night 6:30 PM Pub Menu Available	30	31 North Central District Ritual Contest 9 am—2 pm Banquet Room

Watertown B.P.O.E. #496

January 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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Watertown, NY 13601

WATERTOWN ELKS LODGE #496
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