Exalted **R**uler's Message:

Season greetings to all.
We are in the middle of a very busy holiday season. A time to reflect on everything we are blessed with. A time to look forward to what the New Year will bring. We here at the lodge have been very busy helping out our community. We Hosted a free dinner to honor our veterans. We gave out over 600 free turkey dinners to our seniors. We also handed out 1162 dictionaries along with drug awareness coloring books at 22 schools throughout the area. We also hosted youth's Hoop Shoot contest at JCC.
We are taking donations for our many other charities that we support like Harvest Dinner and Warm Hands, Warm Feet. Sunday, December 7th, we are having our Elks Memorial service for members that have passed away in the previous year and all the years past.

All of our functions could not be possible without our great volunteers. It would be hard to list all of their names here. They know who they are and we appreciate them. I cannot express how important it is for you to become involved in your lodge. We truly need your help and support. Don't ask what your lodge can do for you, ask what can you do for the lodge.
Please stay safe this holiday season and cherish your family and friends.
Remember our slogan: Elks Care, Elks Share.

Fraternally yours,
ER Philip K Nuffer

Secretary's Message:

All of the sudden, we're in our last month of the calendar year. I'm sure everyone's been busy with their Holiday shopping, family/friends gatherings and feeling the spirit of this Holiday season. I am thankful for those who have made donations to the Harvest Dinner for area senior citizens and to Warm Hands Warm Feet project so that less fortunate area kids are kept warm throughout the winter season and the area senior citizen's bellies were full for Thanksgiving. You kindness really make me believe holiday magic is performed every year as we get closer to Christmas. Elks truly care, Elks truly share! As Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt's motto goes, "Be the difference", you are really fulfilling it.

Our revised by-laws to reflect the change in our Lodge meeting time from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM has been approved by the Grand Lodge. Please note this change.

Also to note, our 2026-2027 Lodge dues has dropped a dollar from $99 regular and $69 Life Member dues to $98 and $68 respectively. This was due to a reduction in our Grand Lodge Insurance per capita. I know it's not a lot, but it's something to be thankful for.

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 December

Will be posted on bulletin board at the Lodge

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.

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	6474	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	8907	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

BELL JAR REPORT

October 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:

I'd like to start by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and hope that all your holidays are filled with love, laughter and joy. Here at the lodge, I hope to see many of you all through the month to take advantage of our holiday events. The Children's Christmas party, Tom and Jerry Day and the New Years Eve Extravaganza all always great events to attend.

Burger and Steak nights will continue through December. However, the 30th and 31st we will not be serving dinners to allow our valuable volunteers a one week break. Please, remember every cooking night at the lodge is done by volunteers that do their very best to put on the best meal possible for our members.

The next house committee meeting is Monday December 8th at 6:30 pm. This is open to all members in good standing. If there is something you would like to see at the lodge or something changed this is the open forum for you to attend.

Anthony DeMiceli
House Committee Chairman

TOM & JERRY SUNDAY
DECEMBER 21st

OPEN TO MEMBERS ONLY
NOON TO 2:00 PM
Noon to 2PM—Tom & Jerrys, Beer, Wine

After 2PM Members & Sponsored Guests MUST present your membership card!!!
Also… 1—5 PM: Live Entertainment with Adam Netto

CHRISTMAS EVE

OPEN NOON—5:00 PM

December Meetings…

Tuesday, December 2nd—Trustees 6:30 PM
Thursday, December 4th—Lodge Session 7:00 PM
Monday, December 8th—Activity Committee 6:30 PM
Monday, December 8th—House Committee 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; Franklin Roberts, PER Patrick G O'Connor.

Lodge of Sorrow

Gary G Delaney # 7182

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

December Events

Friday, December 5th at 7:00 PM
Trivia Night
(Activity Committee Event)

Thursday, December 11th
Bingo at the Bar at 6:30 PM
(Activity Committee Event)

Sunday, December 14th 11am—1pm
Annual Children's Christmas Party
Sign up at the bar
Please bring a wrapped gift with your child's name (value up to no more than $20) to the Lodge the day before the event.

All Lodge activities are open to members in good standing and sponsored guests.

Pub Menu will be available during the above activities.

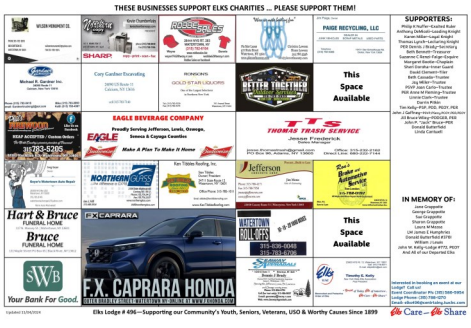
Pub Menu

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, Personal Pizzas $5, Mozzarella Sticks $7, Jalapeño Poppers $7, Basket of Fries $4. Extra dipping sauce—$.50.

———————————————————————————

Activity committee chairperson is inviting the members to bring in sponsored guests to come and volunteer in Lodge events/activities! Get them to meet your fellow Elks and get interested in becoming members of our Lodge. They can help in the kitchen, set up/clean up at events, help with raffles. Creativity encouraged, laughter and smiles guaranteed, hardworking appreciated. Any persons interested may contact the Activity Committee Chairperson **Sandi LaVere**.

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

Elks Memorial Sunday Service
Sunday, December 7, 2025

Our order has decreed that the first Sunday in December be set as a day for Elks to gather and freshen with the dew of recollection the tender blossoms of hope and love entwined about the memory of their departed. The ceremony will take place in our Lodge starting at 2:00 PM. Luncheon will follow the ceremony. As of writing of this bulletin, the following are the names of the deceased in the past year:

Wilson F Clark # 5642; LM Nelson F Eddy # 6233; LM John R Rae # 6613; LM William J Grill # 7066; LM Lawrence E Lavere Jr # 4455; LM Robert B Maur # 4582; Daniel L Blackketter # 8561; Bruce W Daugherty # 8999; LM Robert M Kowalick # 5794; LM Eugene J Dolce # 5745; Peter J Ligamarri Jr # 7547; Theodore E Leeson Sr # 7172; John E Ramus # 7187; Michael D Saunders # 7121; LM Bruce D Thomas # 5452; LM Russell I Wilcox # 4735; LM John F O'Connor # 4543; Peter L Clough # 5810; John F Cook # 6970; Ernest E Waite # 5855; Howard E Sprague # 6824; LM William P Doyle # 6127; Mary Ann Larney # 8292; Julie Verne # 8635; James L Van Dusen # 6243; Gary G Delaney # 7182.

LODGE NEWS

Veterans

On November 8, 2025, the Watertown Elks Lodge # 496 held their annual Veterans Dinner at their Lodge on 728 Bradley Street, Watertown, NY. Their cocktail hour was from 5 to 6 PM and dinner followed. The order of the Elks has designated November as Veterans Remembrance Month. The Veterans Dinner is part of the Elks pledge, "***So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them***".

The night opened with introduction from Veterans Committee chair, PER Ed Massa. Exalted Ruler Phil Nuffer did the opening and Lodge Chaplain Margaret Bootie led us in prayer. PSVP Joan Carlo led us in singing the Star Spangled Banner and Leading Knight Anthony Demiceli led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The dinner was well attended by many area Veterans, guests, honored guests and two guest speakers.

Dinner followed and included Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, green beans, cranberry sauce and a delicious cake was served as dessert.

Honored guests were Carol Lewis and Kristen Clukey, wife and daughter of our deceased member William J Lewis, who was a Vietnam war veteran. The duo held a fundraising golf tournament on Father's Day this past June in honor of William J Lewis and raised $4,100 to feed our local veterans through Watertown Elks Lodge.

Guest speakers were Irene Riley from Feed Our Vets and David Nunez from Peer-to-Peer Outreach Center. Certificate of Appreciations were given to Joseph Navarra Jr. for his work maintaining our Outer Guard that is cross the street from the Lodge and to deceased member Major General Robert J Kasulke in memory and honor for his service to all Veterans, which was received by Matt and Sarah Marino. A $1,000 check, received from Freedom Grant, was also presented to Joseph P Dwyer Veterans Peer-to-Peer Support for temporary emergency housing for our local Veterans.

Drawing for Afghan Raffle took place near the end of the night and the winner of the beautiful Afghan blanket and matching pillows went to Linda Cantwell.

Special thanks to all the volunteers for cooking up delicious meals and serving them. Our cooks Geoff Mattraw and PER Tony Verne, helpers Janet Gardner, Lisa M Greene, Fran Alberry, John Czerwinski, Peggy Narrigan, Marcy Grenier, Renee Cook, Korey Phelps, Joe Navarra Jr., Sheri Doroha, Sandi LaVere, Robin Riley, Barb Yerdon, plus many more involved.

Dictionary Project

The Dictionary Project is complete for this year. Dictionaries were handed out by the Watertown Elks Lodge 496 to all third graders in our area. We gave out close to 1400 dictionaries in 22 schools. (The back 1/3 of the dictionary is filled with fun and interesting facts.). The students were all very excited to get their own book. We also handed out Drug Awareness coloring books that have sayings teaching the kids to keep their mind and body healthy and to stay away from dangerous drugs.

The class pictured is from LaFargeville Central. These students were anxious to get back to their classroom so they could explore their new book. This is a rewarding program when we see the students' excitement about their new book. A big thank you to Fran Alberry and Peg Bootie for their help with this project.

HOOP SHOOT Contest Results

The annual Hoop Shoot contest was held at JCC's McVean Gymnasium on November 22nd of this year with 24 students participated. This year's director was Mike Branski and kudos for a job well done by him and his committee. Winners are advancing to District contest on Jan. 25th. Here are the results:

Landon Rudd—8/9 boys winner
Dylan Warner—8/9 boys 2nd place
Siena Baker—8/9 girls winner
Luke Robertshaw—10/11 boys winner
Gage Veith—10/11 boys 2nd place
Bella Robbins—10/11 girls winner
Aly Baker—10/11 girls 2nd place
Case Peckham—12/13 boys winner
Samuel Pierce—12/13 boys 2nd place
Harper Robbins—12/13 girls winner

November News Summary

To sum up our busy month of November…

The Halloween Bash on the 1st was a success. Fun was had by all. See Lodge News regarding November 8th Veterans Dinner and the Hoop Shoot contest.

On November 15th, NYSEA President John Lawless visited our Lodge as part of his North Central District district-wide visits over that weekend, as well as his visit to the USO at Fort Drum.

The Harvest Dinner for area senior citizens was another success with so many volunteers that came out to help serve over **640** meals. Thank you, volunteers, for taking the time to help move things along! Thank you, members and supporters, for your generous **MONETARY DONATIONS** to make Harvest Dinner and the Warm Hands, Warm Feet project possible. A donation of $2,000 to CAPC will be made soon for the Warm Hands, Warm Feet project.

Thank you to all the volunteers that took the time to cook our regular Tuesday Night Steak dinners and Wednesday Night Burgers, as well as serving Pub Menus during our regular Lodge activities.

More news to come in the next month's bulletin (Warm Hands Warm Feet, Major Project, Back Pack program, etc.).

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 scholarship 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.

Wednesday, December 31st
New Year's Eve Party

Featuring ***Dave Scanlin Band***!

8:30 PM—12:30 AM

Tickets $35 pre Sale, $40 at the Door.

Appetizers through the night, party favors,

Champagne Toast at Midnight

Bar to close at 5:30 and reopening at

7:00 pm for Ticket Holders Only

Come party with us and dance through the night!

New Year's Day
Open Noon to 6:00 PM
Bloody Mary—$1.00, Happy Hour Prices All Day
Kitchen Closed

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.

NO BURGERS ON DECEMBER 24TH & 31ST, AND NO STEAKS ON DECEMBER 30TH!!

WING NIGHT

Monday, December 15th—5:30 PM until Gone!

$10 for 10 wings—dine in only price

Coming Up In January 2026

More Bingos and Trivia Nights

Thursday, January 1st– New Year's Day Bloody Mary Special

Saturday, January 31st—North Central District Ritual Contest

December 2025 Birthday

1 Thomas J Converse	6 Jack B Petroske	12 Eric David Barney	17 Caroline Brountz	22 Christopher D Williams	27 Glenn Richter
1 Richard A Lalonde	7 Michael R Clark	12 Bruce D Hoke	17 Stephen J Converse	23 Frances M Alberry	28 Todd Murrock
1 Jonathan M Pitts	7 Clinton H Corp	13 Steven M Hoff	18 Jennifer Damon	23 Taylor C Caprara	28 Joseph A Navarra Jr.
1 Paul A Simmons	7 Stephen J Gamage	13 Dean LaLone	18 Ryan Alan Weston	23 Paul Pierce	29 Thomas Greene
2 Kathleen Aschmann	7 Joseph M McCarthy	13 Mark W Thompson	19 Stephen J Eisenhauer	23 Joseph A Prince	29 Charles Harwood
3 David S Bates	8 Pat V Doldo Jr.	13 Francis Townsend	19 Jennifer Schnabel	24 Richard P Fioretto	29 Lloyd J Hurlbut Jr.
3 Dylan M Bice	8 Micki Graban	14 Janet M Gardner	19 James D Strader	24 Peter J Kelley	29 Amber Leween
3 Michael J March	8 Stuart Jones	14 Derek Putney	19 Melissa M VanBrocklin	24 Jennifer Young	29 Stephen Mastascusa
4 Nic Darling	8 Theodore G Kolb II	15 Doreen M Ambrose	20 Ryan Alexander	25 James Briggs	30 Thomas M Lynch
5 Kathy M Converse	8 James P McClusky	15 Anthony DeMiceli	20 Harry R Wilson Jr.	25 James L Powell	31 Margaret Lillie Bootie
5 David J Loftus	9 Jeffrey C Hammond	15 Matthew W Marino	21 Edward M Brown	26 Matt Conger	31 Stanley Cosper
5 Stephen A Sayyeau	10 Jonathan Barnes	15 Anthony M Neddo	21 Susan Stokes	26 Timothy E Kelly	31 Katherine L Johnson
5 Ronald J Toper	10 Luke T Netto	15 Sherry M Wilson	22 Deborah Haley	27 John J Lennox	31 Leo Mitchell
6 Kyle Overton	11 John A Lehr	16 Patrick M Lyng	22 Jim Jennings	27 Catherine M Rich	31 P Elaine Wilder
6 William C Perkins	12 Francis G Andre Jr	16 Michael L Reardon	22 Wendell W Pierce		

December 2025

MSPE = Member Sponsored Private Event

Sunday 12:00pm—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
Steak Night Tuesday Steak & side, salad $18.95	1 	2 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM Trustees—6:30pm	3 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	4 Lodge Session 7:00 PM (Only meeting this month)	5 7:00 PM Pub Menu Available	6 MSPE 5-10PM Banquet Room
7 Elks Memorial Sunday Service 2 PM 	8 House Committee & Activity Committee Mtg 6:30pm	9 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	10 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	11 6:30 PM Pub Menu Available	12 MSPE—Lodge Room	13 MSPE—Banquet Room
14 Elks Children's Christmas Party! 11 am—1 pm See inside!	15 5:30 PM until GONE	16 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	17 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	18 Lodge Room booked 7 to 9 PM	19	20
21 Tom & Jerry Sunday See inside!	22 Blood Drive in Banquet Room 1—6 PM Blood Drive American Red Cross	23 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	24 Lodge closing at 5 PM No Burgers Tonight!	25 Merry Christmas! 	26	27
28	29	30 No Steaks Tonight! Queen of Hearts 7 PM	31 No Burgers Tonight! Closing at 5 PM New Year's Eve Party!! See inside!	Jan 1 New Year's Day Open Noon to 6:00 PM Bloody Mary—$1.00 Happy Hour Prices All Day Kitchen Closed	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

December 2025

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

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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