



Portland Elks

The 188 News

April 2025

Dear Members and Officers,

What a warm welcome we have had here in Maine as Spring began on March 20. And with our spring comes a year of new events and happenings around our lodge.

On March 31, we will be installing all of our officers who will continue to serve our members and dedicate themselves to furthering the interests of our lodge and Elkdom. Beginning their first new term this year will be Barbara Hebert who will be our five year trustee and to Brenda Farris who was elected as our lecturing knight.



Also in April we begin the process of applying for the many different grants available to us from the Elks National Foundation's Community Investment Program. There is the Spotlight grant for \$2,000 which centers on issues facing our community, the Beacon grant for \$4,000 which is used to foster and promote an ongoing project centering on a special need utilizing volunteers and ultimately becoming self sustainable through other means, the Gratitude grant for \$3,000-\$5,000 given to lodges who meet the per capital giving goal of \$5.00 and the Freedom grant for \$1,000 to be used in support of our veterans. Applications for these projects will need to be submitted to the House Committee for consideration.

Finally, I want to give a huge thank you to all who contributed this past year at our Portland Elks lodge in some way or another. Without you, we could not be who we are or continue to be in the upcoming year. I sincerely appreciate the many contributions in thoughts and ideas from the members and hope that we will continue to be a strong mother lodge for our state for years to come.

Hoping to see you this month at the lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Joe Winschel
Exalter Ruler



What's Inside

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Page 3 | Secretary Message |
| Page 5 | Manager's Message Reminder |
| Page 6 | Meet Our Volunteer....Karen Emerson |
| Page 7 | 2025/2026 Dues Application |
| Page 8 | Calendar of Events |
| Page 9 | Upcoming Activity Committee Events |
| Page 10 | May Day Basket Drive |



2025—2026 LODGE OFFICERS

Joseph Winschel
Exalted Ruler

Martha Binette
Esteemed Leading Knight

Paul Poore
Esteemed Loyal Knight

Brenda Ferris
Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Victoria Doughty
Secretary

Charleen Durgin
Treasurer

Barbara Spiller
Chaplain

Stephanie Ingraham
Esquire

Sandra Smith
Tiler

Robert Pomerleau
Soloist

Tim Smith
Trustee (1 year)
Kimberly Toppi
Trustee (2 years)

Gary Rairdon
Trustee (3 years)

Joan Harmon
Trustee (4 years)

Barbara Hebert
Trustee (5 years)

TIME TO ORDER A BRICK!

If you want to remember a loved one or honor a family member, or a friend who has done a good deed, an engraved brick at Lodge 188 leaves a lasting legacy.

Bricks are \$50 each and are placed around the Elk at the main entrance to the Lodge.

Applications are on a table in the hallway leading to the Lounge. Completed forms and a check may be turned in to Kim Toppi. Bricks will only be ordered when there are at least 5 new bricks to be engraved.

News from Lodge Secretary

Victoria Doughty



It's that time of the year when Portland Elks Lodge #188 is ending fiscal year 2024-2025 and soon to be starting fiscal year 2025-2026 and the dues for the new year should be paid.

Many of your fellow members have already sent in their payment's, and i want to thank you all for your prompt payments.

I have a request to those who still have to pay your dues, ***“please, when you mail in or bring in your payment, bring in the entire form you received.”*** For recordkeeping purposes, it is much easier for me to have the form as opposed to you just dropping of a check with no information attached.

For future information, starting April 1, 2025, you will need to have a member card with a **yellow** backing to get into Lodge #188.

The secretary's office is very busy these day's so please be patient with me if I don't get right back to you.

Thank you to our wonderful members! I look forward to working for and with you for the new fiscal year 4/1/2025 – 3/31/2026



REMINDER TO OUR MEMBERS.....per the by-laws of Elks Lodge 188, a member may only sign in 2 guests on any given night, and the guests **MUST** leave when the member leaves who signed them in. The number of guests is limited so that the lounge can accommodate our members who pay dues annually. We cannot exceed the capacity allowed by City Fire Code, nor do we want to turn away members if too many guests are signed in.

Veteran's Committee

Willie Goodman, Chairperson



The Veteran's Committee meets every other month at 5 pm at the Lodge. Below are dates for the 2025 season. If you would like to learn about what our committee is about, please feel free to attend a meeting and see if this is a group you would like to be a part of. New members are always welcome:

Future meetings: April 28, June 23, August 25, October 27 and December 22.



Queen of Hearts

Queen of Hearts is a game of chance at Lodge 188. Raffle tickets are for sale every Wednesday and Friday evening in the lounge. Weekly drawing takes place Friday evenings at the conclusion of the 3-Card Challenge.

Game is for Lodge 188 MEMBERS ONLY. You do not have to be present to win.

Raffle tickets are \$5 for 5 tickets. Pot grows each week until the Queen of Hearts is revealed. Pot as of March 20 s at \$10,440!!!



Manager's Message

Kim McDonough, General Manager



A REMINDER TO OUR MEMBERS: with Spring arriving, the Lodge is getting busy, busy, busy. I would like to remind all of our members, unless you are volunteering to help serve dinner in the lounge on a Wednesday or Friday night, or volunteering in the kitchen during Tuesday Bingo, I need to kindly ask that you NOT ENTER the kitchen while meals are being prepared, served and the kitchen is being cleaned after an event.

This also applies to our Elk employees.....you should only be in the kitchen if you are clocked in and working.

And, please remember, the back kitchen door should not be used as a through way to the lounge. All members should be entering through the Member Entrance using their key card. When the kitchen is in event mode and serving meals, the floor can get slippery, there are hot pans being passed around, staff are going in and out of the cooler, so extra people in the kitchen can cause safety issues.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Trustee Message

Gary Rairdon, Trustee Chair



Exciting news from the trustees as we are finalizing our committee budgets for the upcoming year. Some very exciting events are planned to position the club in a *good financial state. We have had some great robust conversations with the committees and are excited for new events to take place in the coming year.*

Huge, thank you to all of the committee chairs for putting these budgets together, and to present them to the board of trustees for review.

Speaking of Board of Trustees, I would like to thank Roger Jones for his time spent on the Board of Trustees this past year. Roger was very committed to his role and he will be missed as a member of the trustees, but will offer some great insights as a member moving forward. I would also like to congratulate Barbara Hebert for being elected to the Board of Trustees at our last general meeting.

Welcome aboard Barbara. I am looking forward to working with you in this new capacity.

As a reminder, the Trustees will present the final budget to the general membership at the April 14, 2025, 6 pm, General Meeting. At that time, the budget will be put forward for a vote, and if approved, forwarded on to the Grand Lodge for our 2025-2026 year. All members are encouraged to attend and vote.

KATHRYN A. PAQUETTE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

For the second year in a row, the family and friends of Kathryn A. Paquette will be offering two, \$1500 scholarships in her memory to members or close family relation of Elks Lodge #188.

In order to be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be full time students at an institution of higher learning the fall semester of 2025 and be a member (or close family relation to a member) in good standing of Elks Lodge # 188.

Applications may only be obtained by contacting:

Carl R. Paquette
6146 Liberty Hall Drive, Apt 236
Leland, NC 28451-2722

Tel: 207-956-3588

OR

Via email: carlrpaquette@gmail.com

Completed applications must be received by May 9, 2025. Applications will be reviewed by the Paquette family. The selected recipients will be notified by May 16, 2025. The scholarships will be presented to the recipients at the June 9, 2025 general meeting of the lodge.



MEET OUR VOLUNTEER.....KAREN EMERSON

I joined the Elks in 2016. Two reasons: 1. As my membership at the IHC was coming to an end I was looking for an alternative. 2. My grandfather (Da) was an Elk and I remembered sitting at the bar (during off hours) having a bottle of Coke while he had a little work to do. As other friends were leaving the IHC they spoke highly of the Elks so I went to see. The good times with my Da came flooding back and the folks were friendly so I joined.

I have spent most of my volunteer time with the Activities Committee doing various events including: school supply drives, clothing drives, food collection, monthly event nights, Halloween party, craft fair, vendor fair, etc. I also helped with the Summit Project, food prep in the kitchen, organizing, labeling, etc

Helping others brings me joy, knowing our efforts make many someone's lives just a little sweeter, easier, fuller is the best!

I am originally from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. I met a friend (Pat) there in 1978. We became a couple in June 1980 and have been together since. We were officially married in August 2025. No children however we have had many felines over the years, currently we have two adorable cats Archie & Riley.

I spent 31 years at Hannaford Bros Co in various departments: accounts payable, independent accounting, advertising, real estate and information technology. Then I went to TD Bank for 7 years as an assistant to the best boss I ever had working in project management. I have been retired for just about 5 years and love it!!



PORTLAND ELKS LODGE #188

2025 – 2026 DUES STATEMENT

Each year a portion of the dues is sent to the Grand Lodge to assist with operating costs, production of the Elks magazine, and insurance. For 2025, this portion of your dues has increased by \$3.00

Below is the dues renewal form **that must be filled out in full** and returned with your payment. If you would like your 2025 card mailed to you, **YOU MUST** enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If the Lodge mails it to you without the provided envelope, the cost will be an additional \$5.00. Otherwise, your card will be at the Lodge Bar for pickup.

Name _____ Member# _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____
DaytimePhone _____ Phone _____

Dues enclosed: \$97 regular member _____ \$59.50 life member _____

Check applicable Charitable Contributions and/or Fees listed below:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Elks National Foundation _____ \$10 | State Initiative (MCCP) _____ \$10 |
| Scholarship Fund _____ \$10 | Mail Membership Card _____ \$5 |

_____ Please mail my card _____ I will pick it up at Elks Lodge

Charge Credit Card: # _____ Exp Date _____
CVV _____ Postal Mail Zip Code _____

TO PAY DUES ONLINE: <https://Search.revopay.com/elkslodge>

How do you want to receive Lodge news? Mail _____ Email _____

Please provide an Emergency Contact name, address, phone number, and relationship:

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
Relationship to Elk Member _____

April 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|-----------|--|---|
| | | 1  Bingo Opens 9 am Games 12 N | 2  Card Games 5:30 pm | 3 | 4  Card Games 6 pm; DJ | 5 |
| 6 | 7 House Com 5 pm | 8  Bingo Opens 9 am Games 12 N | 9  Card Games 5:30 pm | 10 | 11  Card Games 6 pm; DJ | 12 |
| 13 | 14 Trustee Mtg 4:30 pm Gen Mtg 6 pm | 15  Bingo Opens 9 am Games 12 N | 16  Card Games 5:30 pm | 17 | 18  Card Games 6 pm TRIFECTA 7:30-10pm | 19  |
| 20  | 21 | 22  Bingo Opens 9 am Games 12 N | 23 Activity Com 2 pm Card Games 5:30 pm | 24 | 25  Card Games 6 pm; DJ | 26 |
| 27 | 28 Trustee Mtg 4:30 pm Vet Comm 5 pm Gen Mtg 6 pm | 29  Bingo Opens 9 am Games 12 N | 30  Card Games 5:30 pm | | | Kentucky Derby Party 3-7 pm  |

Activity Committee

Kim Toppi, Chair



Wednesday, April 23, 2 pm

Our Activity Committee meets in the Lounge and new members are always welcome! Come and see what we are doing this upcoming year and if you want to be part of our amazing team!

Friday, April 18

Special Easter Dinner Menu

Trifecta plays 7:30-10:30 pm

A band you won't want to miss!!



May Day Baskets

Collecting items for: Gorham House, Ledgewood Manor (Windham), So Portland Nursing Home, Brentwood Rehab (Yarmouth), Fallbrook Commons (Portland). See flyer on page 10 for full details.



Saturday, May 3
Kentucky Derby
Party

Annelise &
Michael perform
3-6 pm prior to post
time.

Special "Kentucky" buffet

Tickets on sale starting April 14. \$18pp



Thursday, May 8, 3-7 pm
Sample & Shop

Sample....beer tasting from Allagash Brewery, bourbon tasting from Wiggly Bridge Distillery, vodka tasting from Cold River Vodka

Shop.....Lots of Dots, Tupperware, Color Street, D & K Flavors of Maine, Beth Mitchell L'BRI Skin-care, Tastefully Simple, and much more!



New Dinnerware Has Arrived!

With proceeds from our Basket Raffle Extravaganza, and trustee approval for purchase of new dish caddy, we were able to purchase 250 NEW DINNER PLATES for the banquet hall. The dishes arrived late February and have already been put to good use.

Thank you to all of our members who supported the Basket Extravaganza that made this purchase possible.





May Day Basket Drive

Help us fill our baskets! The Activity Committee will be delivering May Day Baskets to residents in local nursing homes May 1.

You can help make the day a happy one for those living in a nursing home, whether there short term or long term.

Suggested items:

Gripper Slippers, any size, any color
Puzzles, Deck of Cards
Hand Wipes, Hand Cream
Body Wash, Shampoo
Back Scratcher
Baby Dolls
Stationery, Note Cards
Individual Candy Bars—NO NUTS
Coloring Books, Colored Pencils

Combs, Hair Brushes
Puzzle Books, Word Searches
Magnifying Glass
Adult Bib
Small Plastic Flower Arrangement
Sports team merchandise
Window Decorations
Small Bags Chips



Your donation is truly appreciated and will be well received by residents. If you would prefer to make a cash donation and have us do the shopping for you, please see Margaret Poulin, Patty Amico or Kim Toppi.

Please drop off to the Elks Lounge NO LATER THAN April 25.



Lifetime Boosters

In Honor/Memory Of

Ronald W. Allen
Lester Armstrong
Jim Augur
Don Bodin, Jr.
Ken Carle
Ralph Castelucci
Dominic Distasio
Henry "Skip" Doughty
John Paul Dumas
Percy Farr
Arlene Fenderson
Archie L'Heureux
Catherine McDonough
John Milton
Will Mulkern
Don
Seymour Nathanson
Sterling Parker
Kathryn Paquette
Elizabeth Smith
William Smith
Allen "Bud" St. Pierre
Bob Stokinger
Harry Winger

Elk "Booster"

Natalie Armstrong
Mary Augur
George Anderson
Pauline Murphy
Sharon Castelucci
Mary Distasio
Doughty Family
Victoria and Skip Doughty
Carlene Farr
Linda Lincoln
L'Heureux Family
Millie McDonough
Beth Milton
Irene Mulkern
Pauline Murphy
Elliott Nathanson
Janice Parker
Carl Paquette
The Smith Family
Timothy Smith
Tim & Liz Smith
Gladys Stokinger

Becoming a Booster is a way to recognize family members and friends that are important to you. The cost is \$10 for one year, or become a Lifetime Booster for \$100. If you would like to become a Booster, fill out form below and return with check to: Portland Elks Lodge, 1945B Congress Street, Portland, ME 04102, attn: Lodge Secretary.

NAME _____ In Honor/Memory of: _____

Booster type: Yearly (\$10) _____ Lifetime (\$100) _____



Portland Elks Lodge 188
1945 B Congress Street
Portland, ME 04102

In God We Trust

Non-Profit
Organization
U S POSTAGE PAID
PORTLAND,
MAINE
Permit No. 102

Newsletter submission: if you have info to share or if you attend a Member Event and take photos that could be included in an upcoming newsletter, please email to Kim Toppi, Newsletter Editor, ktoppi@maine.rr.com for consideration. Thank you!

Lodge/Lounge Hours

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Monday | Closed |
| Tuesday | Bingo ONLY |
| Wednesday | 3pm—9 pm |
| Thursday | Closed |
| Friday | 3pm—11pm |
| Saturday | Closed |
| Sunday | Closed |

Lodge Phone
207.773.7396

Lodge Fax
207.773.3582

Secretary
Vickey Doughty, 207.773.6939

General Manager
Kim McDonough, 207.838.4386