



# Portland Elks

## The 188 News

February 2025

Dear Members and Officers,

Hoping that all of you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Now as we embark on a new year at our Portland Elks Lodge it is time once again to reflect on what we did well and what we can improve upon. One of my goals as your exalted ruler this year was to increase our membership in our lodge and to spread the word in our community as to all of the great works that the Elks lodge does for those individuals in need.

This past year we have increased our membership base and we were the top recruiter in our district for new members. Our outreach to the community through all of our Elk sponsored programs is noticed and may have contributed to our increase in members. May we continue to embrace what being an Elk means and strive to foster brotherly love and charitable work in 2025.

With this said, I would ask you to consider volunteering at the Portland Elks lodge to either fill an open position or serve on one of our many programs. Nominations for officers will take place on our first meeting of February(10th) with the election of officers taking place on the second meeting in February(24th). Without our volunteers we would not be able to continue our great work. Please consider reaching out to one of our officers or contact the lodge secretary for assistance.

Lastly, come on into the lodge for a special Valentine's Day dinner and music this coming February 14. Enjoy the camaraderie, delicious food prepared by our General Manager and some lively music.

Hoping to see you this month at the lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Joseph Winschel  
Exalted Ruler



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## 2024—2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Joseph Winschel  
*Exalted Ruler*

Martha Binette  
*Esteemed Leading Knight*

Paul Poore  
*Esteemed Loyal Knight*

Vacant  
*Esteemed Lecturing Knight*

Victoria Doughty  
*Secretary*

Charleen Durgin  
*Treasurer*

Barbara Spiller  
*Chaplain*

Stephanie Ingraham  
*Esquire*

Sandra Smith  
*Tiler*

Robert Pomerleau  
*Soloist*

Roger Jones  
*Trustee (1 year)*

Tim Smith  
*Trustee (2 years)*

Kimberly Toppi  
*Trustee (3 years)*

Gary Rairdon  
*Trustee (4 years)*

Joan Harmon  
*Trustee (5 years)*

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

At the January 13, General Meeting the following members were initiated:

- Walter Bukoveckas
- Stanford Davis
- Peter Griffin
- John Bellino



*Victoria Doughty*



As of February 1, 2025, we have forty-one members who are delinquent. I have posted a list of their names on the member bulletin board. Please check it out. If you know anyone on the list, please see me because you may know of circumstances that are prohibiting them from renewing their membership.

We recently received information from the Grand Lodge concerning the dues for Fiscal Year 4/1/2025-3/31/2026. Insurance has increased, which means an increase of \$3.00 for Members. **Regular Members will now pay \$97.00, and Life Members will pay \$59.50.**

I spoke with a representative from the Grand Lodge today, and he explained that the new online system for members who choose to pay their dues has been improved. Our Lodge will be automatically migrated from Revo-Pay to a new, improved credit card processor for a seamless transition. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW:

You will receive an invoice from the Grand Lodge to renew dues. When you send and/or bring in your due's payment to the Lodge, please bring in the entire invoice. Thank You for your help!

We will also be adding the member dues form in the March newsletter for your use if you should misplace the voucher sent by the Grand Lodge. You will notice that at the bottom of the form, there is space for you to add the name, address, and telephone number of a contact person. This is important because sometimes we need to get in touch with a family member on your behalf. Again, Thank You.

**REMEMBER THE NEW FISCAL YEAR STARTS  
APRIL 1, 2025**



## Veteran's Committee

*Willie Goodman, Chairperson*



### QUILT OF VALOR HONOREE



On Friday, January 10, a deserving Veteran, Donald "Woody" Woodbury received a Quilt of Valor to thank him for his service in the United States Army and his deployment to Vietnam during the United States' involvement, as well as his other active duty assignments.

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is "to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war in comforting and healing Quilts of Valor and to say, thank you for your service and sacrifice."

As a service member who was nominated by one of his peers to recognize him for his service and sacrifices, it was the Foundation's privilege to wrap this distinguished veteran in a quilt which was specifically made for him by local members of a QOV group.

On hand during the presentation to Woody was ER Joe Winschel, Debbie Woodbury, Willie Goodman, and QOV Foundation members Pauline Pinkham and Cindy Lee.

### VETERAN COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Veteran's Committee recently had the honor of assisting a veteran who was experiencing homelessness. We are happy to report that he has since moved into a new apartment in Biddeford, marking an important new chapter in his life.

Committee members visited the veteran at his new residence to assess his immediate needs and ensure he had everything required to start fresh. During the visit, we identified several essential items needed to furnish and equip his home, including furniture and household essentials. Together, we created a list of these items, and thanks to the generosity of a few lodge members, we were able to help make his transition as smooth as possible.

On January 12, 2025, members from the Veterans committee delivered full home furnishings to the veteran. They also assisted with setting up items such as a bed and his TV. Thank you to April, Cindy, Paul, JoAnn and Dennis for delivering and setting up the apartment.

We would also like to thank the members who donated needed items:

Rodney Champagne, Vickey Doughty, Ron White, Bruce Brunelle (from Sanford), April Libby Paul Robinson, and Woody Woodbury.

With the availability of the Welcome Home Kits from the Elks National Foundation, and help from our Lodge and Lodge members, there are no limits on the number of veterans we help in these types of situations.

~continued on page 5

## VETERAN COMMITTEE UPDATE....continued from page 4

This is a perfect example of how the Elks National Veterans Service Commission brings its pledge into action. It's not enough to offer words of thanks; we strive to provide tangible support through on-going programs and initiatives that assist veterans and military members, particularly those in need.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our veterans.



### LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER COOKS

Each Tuesday at Lodge 188, we host Bingo to the general public. In addition to folks playing Bingo, the kitchen is open for food sales from 9 am—1:30 pm.

If you would be interested in helping out in the kitchen every Tuesday, twice a month, or even once a month, we could use your help!

Duties would include anything from prepping food, doing dishes, cooking burgers and fries, or helping to clean up at the end of the day.

Volunteering in the Bingo kitchen is a great way to get involved in the Lodge, meet new friends, and contribute in a significant way.

Call Kim Toppi at 207.329.0845 for more information and how you can be of help.



### 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.



## 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](mailto: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.....KATHLEEN WEST

Kathy West joined the Elks in 2023 so she could become a Bingo volunteer. She was a regular player on Tuesdays and saw how much fun the other volunteers had each week, so decided she wanted to be part of the Bingo team.

Kathy has been going to weekly Bingo games with her mom since she was 9 years old. She can remember going to the Highland Lake Bingo with her sister and helping out in the kitchen at a young age delivering food to players. She remembers back when there were no machines, and the callers rolled small balls. She could write a book on all the different versions she has played over the years. These days, when she's not volunteering, she plays at our lodge as well as LYAF Bingo in Lewiston.

Kathy worked as a CAN/Med Tech for 41 years, with 31 of those years being at Springbrook. Because of the patients she has cared for, she has been part of the Alzheimer's Walk for 20 years.

Kathy grew up in Westbrook, the youngest of six children. They still get together regularly to play cards. Kathy has three children, and six grandchildren. She recently spent two weeks on a Caribbean cruise with her sister, and enjoys traveling.



# Elks Lounge 188 Special Menu

Friday, February 14

Dinner served 4:30—6 pm

**Dancing to Northern Groove 7:30-10:30 pm**

Prime Rib Smothered Beef Tips—\$23

Seafood Stuffed Haddock—\$23

Chicken Cordon Bleu—\$22

*All entrees include , Horseradish Smash Potato,  
Green Beans, and Homemade Rolls*

Wedge Salad w/Grilled Chicken—\$14

Wedge Salad—\$7

Chocolate Raspberry Cake—\$6

Ricotta Limoncello Cheesecake—\$6

*3 Card Challenge with Cash & Basket Raffles  
including Scratch Ticket Basket, Italian Basket,  
Seafood Basket, Lasagna Dinner for 8 Basket.*

PRE-ORDERS ACCEPTED BEGINNING  
FEBRUARY 5. CALL 838-4386 AND LEAVE  
MESSAGE OR STOP BY THE LOUNGE BAR  
TO PLACE ORDER.

# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
	<b>3</b> <b>House Committee</b> <b>5 pm</b>	<b>4</b> <b>BINGO</b>  Doors 9 am Games 12 N	<b>5</b>  Card Games 5:30 pm	<b>6</b> National Chopsticks Day 	<b>7</b>  Card Games 6pm DJ Queen	<b>8</b> National Boy Scouts Day 
<b>9</b> National Pizza Day 	<b>10</b> <b>Trustees</b> <b>4:30 pm</b> <b>Gen Mtg</b> <b>6 pm</b>	<b>11</b>  <b>BINGO</b> Doors 9 am Games 12 N	<b>12</b>  Card Games 5:30 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Card Games 6pm 	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b>  <b>BINGO</b> Doors 9 am Games 12 N	<b>19</b>  Card Games 5:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Card Games 6pm DJ Queen	<b>22</b> National Margarita Day 
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Trustees</b> <b>4:30 pm</b> <b>Veteran Comm</b> <b>5pm</b> <b>Gen Mtg</b> <b>6 pm</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>BINGO</b> Doors 9 am Games 12 N	<b>26</b>  Card Games 5:30 pm	<b>27</b> National Strawberry Day 	<b>28</b>  Card Games 6pm DJ Queen	

## ARTICLE VII: NOMINATION, ELECTION, AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

**Section 1.** Nominations for offices to be filled at the annual election in Lodges shall be made in the order in which they appear in Section 2 of Article VII of the Constitution of the Order at any regular meeting of the Lodge on or after the 1st day of January if meetings are held monthly, or otherwise after the 1st day of February and prior to the date of the annual election. If no nomination for a particular office shall have been made prior to the date of such election, or if all candidates previously nominated for a particular office shall have declined or withdrawn, nominations for that office may be made on the date of election. If a Member has been nominated for more than one office, he/she must declare that he/she accepts one nomination and withdraw from other nominations before the close of the last regular meeting of the Lodge prior to the regular meeting at which the election is to be held, and if he/she does not do so, he/she must accept only the first nomination. No Member, unless nominated in accordance with this Section, shall be eligible to election at any such annual election. Only a Member in good standing shall be eligible for nomination to office in the Lodge of which he/she is a Member.

**Section 2.** The annual election shall be held at the second regular Lodge meeting held in February of each year.

***Nominations and election of Lodge 188 Officers for the 2025/2026 year will take place February 10 and 24. Please reach out to ER Joe Winschel if you might be interested in an open position.***

### NEW YEAR'S BINGO CAME IN WITH A BANG!!




WOW, what a success the New Year's Eve Day Bingo was this year. We filled the Bingo Hall with 187 players, turning away 25 due to full capacity. Each Player received a free dauber, and our Bingo Volunteers contributed wonderful giveaway away baskets/items to be drawn after each game for the lucky players. New Years decorations filled the hall for the players to enjoy at the tables. Pull tab tickets were selling like hotcakes thanks to our team selling Wheezels and Fish game tickets. Our Bingo concession Team did an awesome job providing breakfast sandwiches and donuts along with a wide variety of scrumptious meals for lunch. Record sales were reported from Bingo and the Lunch Counter.

My sincere thanks to all the valued volunteers who came in to make the day so successful. From setting up tables, decorating, cooking, buying door prizes, and those who set in the cold vestibule selling paper and tickets. Our success could not have happened without you! Thank You!

Our Bingo Team had so much fun, we decided to host a "Big Bang" Super Bingo on Tuesday, July 1st. Stay tuned for more details!

Paul Poore  
Bingo Chair

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## Lifetime Boosters

### ***In Honor/Memory Of***

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

### ***Elk "Booster"***

Natalie Armstrong  
Mary Augur  
George Anderson  
Pauline Murphy  
Sharon Castelucci  
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  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.**

***Our sincere thanks to all those who have placed an order.***



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

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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](mailto: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**