



Portland Elks

The 188 News

July 2025

Dear Members and Officers,



I am hoping that this weekend will bring one day without rain. It would be a welcome respite and give me the opportunity to get in some camping and time with my family.

The first week of July I will be representing our lodge at the National Elks Convention in Kansas City. This is truly an amazing gathering of all lodges representing every state and territory of the United

States. They will be voting on amendments to the bylaws of the our Elks organization which will ultimately affect each lodge in the states. For those who are interested, I will be providing a report to our lodge which will be available to view at the secretary's office.

Also, our State President and first lady, Corey and Joleen DeWitt, will be visiting our lodge on August 2. We have planned on a couple of events for this day in which members are invited to participate. The Portland Schooner company has booked our Elks lodge for a 1:00 pm sail leaving the Maine State Pier for a two hour sailing adventure. Following this, we will be entertaining the President and first lady with a lobster bake at our lodge. I am anticipating a large turnout for the lobster bake. Check out the flyer in this newsletter for details.

On June 26, we are holding our member appreciation barbecue at the lodge. Please come in to enjoy the food and meet your officers and trustees of our lodge while at the same time enjoying some great food and drinks.

Finally, I am excited to see an increase in our membership. We will initiate a total of 16 new members this month and we continue to see a steady increase in applications. Thank you members for your propositions for membership. We would not be who we are now without the member base.

Hoping to see you soon at the lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Joe Winschel
Exalted Ruler



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2025—2026 LODGE OFFICERS

Joseph Winschel
Exalted Ruler

Martha Binette
Esteemed Leading Knight

Paul Poore
Esteemed Loyal Knight

Brenda Farris
Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Victoria Dougherty
Secretary

Charleen Durgin
Treasurer

Lorraine Taylor
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 Joe Winschel. 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.

LODGE 188 MONTHLY MEETINGS

House Committee: July 7, 5:30 pm

Activity Committee: July 9, 2 pm

Member Initiation: July 9, 5 pm

Trustee Committee: July 14, 4:30 pm

General Meeting: July 14, 6 pm

Any member, in good standing, is welcome to attend any meeting held at Lodge 188. To attend the General Meeting, please bring your member ID card.

News from Lodge Secretary

Victoria Doughty



Seems like I just wrote an article for the June Newsletter and now July is coming fast. I have been asked for some statistical information, so here goes.

As of April 1, 2025:

- ♦ total membership was 456; since then:
- ♦ initiated 18 new members
- ♦ 3 affiliated members
- ♦ reinstated 4 members
- ♦ transferred out 3 members
- ♦ 3 members passed away
- ♦ 70 delinquent members
- ♦ 16 applicants being initiated July 9
- ♦ 2 new applications being processed
- ♦ 74 Lifetime members

For a total of 482 members as of June 19, 2025.

One request, for those of you who are current members and are planning on proposing someone for membership, when you are filling out the application **“PLEASE PRINT”**.



To our Lodge Volunteers: please take a look at the Volunteer Log In Book, located on the small countertop heading into the kitchen. It has been updated and information added that will help you know which table to log your volunteer hours and mileage information.

Hopefully, this will make it easier for the Secretary's Office to update the required Charity Workbook that the Grand Lodge requires.

A REMINDER: whenever you are volunteering at the Lodge, whether it be at an event, serving food, calling cards, selling tickets, or attending a meeting, you should be logging your hours. Last year, our volunteers logged close to 6,000 hours! Let's increase that amount this year and work to log more hours.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP.

Veteran's Committee

Willie Goodman, Chairperson

The Veterans Committee recently held its annual Veterans Breakfast in conjunction with the Elks' Flag Day Ceremony. We had another great turnout, and it was wonderful to see so many veterans in attendance.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the dedicated team and volunteers who helped make this event a success.

Looking ahead, our next event for our veterans will be a special day at the Portland Sea Dogs baseball game, July 31.

We are proud that our lodge continues to honor the Elks' solemn pledge: **"So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."**



Make Your Own Sundae
for
Maine Children's Cancer Program
Wednesday, July 9, 5-6 pm
\$5

Summit Project

Martha Binette, Chairperson

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped this year on the Summit Project, from the kitchen help, set up and clean up, the people who donated gift cards and supplies, and for getting the two fire departments to bring the two trucks over. It was very successful and very appreciated.

Our lodge has been hosting this event for many years, giving the organization a great send off for the motorcyclists to carry the stones of our Maine fallen heroes from here to Millinocket where they are passed off to hikers who make the climb up Mt. Katahdin. It was another memorable day at Lodge 188.



July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SUPER BINGO	2	3	4 	5
			<div>  LODGE CLOSED </div>			
6	7 House Com 5:30 pm	8  Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 N	9  Activity Co 2 pm 3 Cards 5:30 pm	10	11  3 Cards 6 pm DJ Queen	12
13	14 Trustees 4:30 pm Gen Mtg 6 pm	15  Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 N	16  3 Cards 5:30 pm	17	18  3 Cards 6 pm DJ Queen	19
20	21	22  Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 N	23  3 Cards 5:30 pm	24	25  3 Cards 6 pm DJ Queen	26
27	28	29  Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 N	30  3 Cards 5:30 pm	31		

Activity Committee

Kim Toppi, Chair



ENF Gratitude Grant open to Lodge 188

The Elks National Foundation has four grants that our Lodge is able to apply for each year. One of the grants available is the Gratitude Grant. This year, the amount available is between \$3,000-\$5,000.

Gratitude grants can support a wide range of non-profits in our community: literacy programs, art programs, physical fitness/sports programs, animal welfare, food insecurity, underserved population, and youth activities.

If you have a non-profit that you are passionate about and would like Lodge 188 to consider supporting it, please reach out to a member of the Activity Committee or the Exalted Ruler and share your ideas. The grant application process is now open.

Our goal is to apply for the Gratitude Grant no later than September 1.

HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS, 90 VOLUNTEERS
DONATED 5,218 HOURS IN 2024





VOLUNTEERS



THANK YOU.....On June 6, the Lodge's 90 volunteers were honored for their service during 2024. ER Joe Winschel thanked everyone for their dedication and service to the lodge and our community. Activity Chair Kim Toppi gave an overview of this past year's financial performance and what the 5,218 volunteer hours donated means to the lodge and to those we help in the community.

Kim reminded the group that , it doesn't matter if you volunteer once a year, once a month, or three times a week, YOUR TIME is valuable and meaningful to all that we do here at Portland Lodge 188.

Patty Amico
Brenda Berry
Martha Binette
Sue Briggs
Pam Charles
Jeanette Conley
Judy Coon
Peggy Cooper
Steve Corey
Jean Cote
Cindy Dame
John Dascanio
Denise Davis
Cathy DeLuca
Beverly Deschaumbeault
Pamela Dill
Jerry DiMillo
Jeff Dobson
Celia Dobson
Lisa Dolan
Vickey Doughty
Charleen Durgin
Karen Emerson
Brenda Farris
Willie Goodman
Chris Grassi
Lori Grassi
Greg Grassi
Pris Grassi
Margaret Gronlund

Felicia Ham
Joan Harmon
Barb Hebert
Dan Hebert
Colleen Hilton
Stephanie Ingraham
Roger Jones
Bruce Jordan
Susie Kane
Leeanne Ladd
Bob Lax
Gloria Lax
Andy Leary
Peggy Ledoux
Arty Ledoux
April Libby
Gary Littlefield
Jack Loveland
Mark Madison
Norma Meehan
Julie Morin
Gail Murphy
Sheila Nichols
Carl Paquette
Marie Pardi
Dot Petty
Jeff Pierce
Bob Pomerleau
Jerry Pomerleau
Paul Poore

Sue Potocki
Margaret Poulin
Marc Poulin
Pat Putnam
Bobby Queen
Laurie Rairdon
Gary Rairdon
Dennis Rickett
Paul Robinson
Richard Rumney
Barbara Sawyer
Jay Scala
Elaine Smith
Lisa Smith
Sandy Smith
Tim Smith
Susan Smythe
Joann Sparks
Barbara Spiller
Lorraine Taylor
Michelle Tompson
Kim Toppi
Mary Toppi
Lillian Wakefield
Tamara Walker
Kathy West
Darlene White
Ron White
Joe Winschel
Marybeth Winschel
Donald Woodbury

MEET OUR VOLUNTEER.....FELICIA QUATRANO HAM

I joined the Elks#188 a year ago. I love volunteering and making a difference to help others. I had been coming to the Elks as a Bingo player and Paul Poore asked me to work in the office. It is a fun environment, so I said Yes.

I'm not on any committees or boards. But I volunteer at Bingo and work in the Bingo office twice a month, and enjoy it.

I've been with the same man, Ronald (Steve) Ham for 54 years. I have a son Stephen and two wonderful grandchildren, Sydney, 18 and Brennan, 16. I'm MiMi to them. Even though Italian women were Nonnies, they wanted me to be MiMi.

I grew up on Middle Street in Portland, and I went to North School. I've worked from fish factories, shoe factories, clothing factories, onto owning my own Restaurant named Felicia's of Portland. I moved on to work at Fairchilds.

I'm an artist and enjoy sign making, interior painting and painting just about anything. Watercolors are my favorite. I love working with all the volunteers at #188.



Kathryn A. Paquette Scholarship Winners

On June 9, at the start of the General Meeting, Carl Paquette presented the 2025 winners of this year's Kathryn A. Paquette Scholarship. Each student received a \$1,500 check towards their continued education. Congratulations to Camden Binette, grandson of Martha Binette, and Alexis Morin, granddaughter of Beverly Bailey.



Camden will attend the University of Hartford, CT Hartt School of Performance. He has been active in theater throughout middle and high school. He has won numerous theatrical awards and was recently nominated as best actor by the Massachusetts Theater Guild.

Lexi Morin is an all-around student who maintains a B+ average in her honors courses, lettered in basketball, track and soccer. She is class vice president and is involved in numerous school clubs and activities and has more than doubled the number of required community service hours. She will attend USM.



Portland Elks Lodge 188

1945 Congress Street, Portland

Afternoon Schooner OR Lobster Dinner

Saturday, August 2



*Afternoon sail with
Portland Schooner
Company, \$67 pp.*

Join ER Joe Winschel and
State President Corey DeWitt

for a 2-hour cruise on Casco Bay. When buying online,
put Portland Elks in the box "joining another party" and
everyone will be on the same Schooner.



***Lobster Lover's Dinner,
6 pm, at the Lodge, \$40 pp.***

Dinner includes: TWIN 1 lb Lobsters
OR 12 oz New York Sirloin Grilled

Steak from a local butcher, Baked Potato, Clam
Chowder, Cole Slaw, Maine Blueberry Cake. Music with
DJ Sid Thorne. ***Call Kim Toppi for tickets: 207.329.0845.***

Well-Deserved Recognition
article from Windham Eagle



Windham American Legion Post 148 Member Willie Goodman of Windham received the 'Humanitarian of the Year' award for his support of homeless veterans from American Legion Department of Maine Commander Tricia Thurston on Saturday, June 7 in Brewer. Goodman has served for the past 11 years as VFW Post 10643's Commander. Willie Goodman served in the U.S. Navy from 1963 to 1993 and retired as an E-9, Command Master Chief. He served on eight different ships during his Navy career including on three aircraft carriers and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Stockton and Oakland, California; Brunswick, Maine and spent two tours of duty overseas including three years in Spain and three years in the Philippines. He also volunteers at the Portland VA Clinic, and chairs the Veteran's

Committee at the Portland Elks Lodge 188. ***Congratulations, Willie!***



A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring a row of ten colored pencils at the top and bottom. The pencils are in various colors: red, yellow, green, grey, purple, brown, pink, orange, blue, and tan. On the left and right sides, there are vertical bars of solid color (blue on the left, pink on the right) with pencil-shaped cutouts at the top and bottom.

Back to School Drive for Teachers

Portland Elks #188 will be supporting teachers this year at **Presumpscot School in Portland, Village Elementary in Gorham, and Windham Elementary in Windham.**

We will also have ENF Funds to support this effort.

Donations may be left at the Lodge until September 5.

Needed supplies:

- Elmer's Glue Sticks, Composition Books
- Crayola Markers (thick and thin), Pencils
- Scotch tape, small scissors, masking tape
- Crayola Crayons, Crayola Colored Pencils
- Jumbo pencils, play-doh, sidewalk chalk
- Small Erasers, Hand held pencil sharpeners
- Individual Snacks (no peanut butter) - Goldfish Pretzels, Sandwich Crackers

*If you don't want to shop, but want to contribute,
Kim Toppi will accept cash donations and do the
shopping. **THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!***

BIG BANG SUPER BINGO

Portland Elks Lodge 188

Tuesday, July 1, Doors Open 8 AM

1945 Congress St, Portland

**TOTAL PRIZE
MONEY:
\$4,000+**

**\$40 Super
BIG BANG
Bingo Package**

**Paper Sales
start at 8:30 am
Games at 12 noon**

**PULL
TABS**

50/50

**Super Bingo
with larger payouts!**

**Kitchen open 8:30—2PM for breakfast,
and lunch with special BBQ items.**



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

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