



Portland Elks

The 188 News

March 2025

Dear Members and Officers,

We are ending our current year in the month of March with the completion of another great year here at the Portland Elks Lodge. We were able to recruit and maintain our member base and held several charitable and community events which touched many individuals.

The lodge was also able to do some in house renovations and upgrades this past year. Some of the upgrades included a new wireless speaker system installed in both the lounge and banquet room, we purchased a new commercial grade mixer for the kitchen, had the banquet room floors stripped and rewaxed, the interior walls were repainted in both the lounge and banquet rooms and a portion of the outside walls of the building were painted and repaired. This was all accomplished with the combination of fundraising and operational funds. Many thanks to all who contributed in some way or another.

March is also the month when we will be finalizing our budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We are currently working with the trustees in finalizing a responsible budget which takes into account all of our operating expenses and funding for elks sponsored programs. By statute, we will need to have our budget prepared and approved by the membership no later than April 28 which is our last meeting in April.

Also, we are still looking for volunteers to step up and take a position in our lodge. Many of these commitments only require an hour or two per month. Please consider volunteering! You will feel better about helping others while at the same time becoming a part of our team.

Hoping to see you this month at the lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Joe Winschel
Exalter 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)

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.

Victoria Doughty



Our new fiscal year starts April 1, 2025. As of that date you need to have paid your dues for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to come into Lodge #188 or any other Lodge you may visit.

Regular members' dues will be \$97.00 and Lifetime members' dues will be \$59.50. This is an increase of \$3.00 passed down from the Grand Lodge because of the increase in insurance costs.

You should begin to receive invoices from the Grand Lodge just like what you received in the mail last year. When you send and/or bring in your dues payment, please attach the entire invoice. **One more reminder, if you want your card mailed, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your payment or add an extra \$5.00 to your payment.**

Thank You for your ongoing support and help!

We will also be adding the member dues form that we created to our monthly newsletter for your use if you should misplace the voucher sent by the Grand Lodge. You will notice that at the bottom of the page, 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.

We still have 38 members who are delinquent. They will try be contacted one more time and if no luck, they will be dropped from the rolls of Portland Elks #188.

THE NEW FISCAL YEAR STARTS APRIL 1, 2025

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



WELCOME HOME KITS

As long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.



One of the ways we live up to this commitment is through our **Welcome Home Kits**, designed to assist veterans who are experiencing homelessness. These kits contain essential home supplies to help them get started in their new living space. Items typically include cleaning supplies, dishes, pots, pans, and laundry detergent. Some kits may include a bed if we stay within the guidelines of the kits.

When we are contacted about a veteran in need, our team reaches out to assess their specific needs. With the support of the **Elks National Foundation (ENF)**, we are able to provide these kits at no cost to the veterans. Importantly, there is no limit to the number of veterans we can assist, and we do not need to budget for this initiative. The lodge is reimbursed by **ENF** for monies used to make the purchase for these kits. Our team typically has one individual do the shopping, then submits the information to **ENF**.

Over the past month, our lodge has helped two veterans, each with unique needs. As we continue this effort, we will look to our members for support, particularly for items not covered by **ENF**.

If you have any questions about the program or would like to get involved, please feel free to reach out to our team.

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 February 18 is at \$8.356!!!

New Kitchen Mix Has Arrived!

The trustees approved purchase of a new industrial mixer for the kitchen, and it was voted and approved at the January General Meeting. The new mixer has finally arrived and was used most recently when Kim McDonough made chocolate cake with raspberry frosting for members.

No more doing one cake at a time with a hand mixer!!



Manager's Message

Kim McDonough, General Manager

The principles that Elk Lodges around the country follow are Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. As I think about Charity and Lodge 188, there are numerous ways our Lodge follows this principle.



- ◆ Did you know that Lodge 188 provides space free of charge to the American Red Cross so they may hold monthly blood drives in our community?
- ◆ Did you know that the Portland Rotary meets every Friday in the Lounge and we charge no room rental to the Rotary?
- ◆ Did you know that the non-profit group 100 Women Who Care meets at the Lodge quarterly with no room charge?
- ◆ Did you know that employees of Clark Insurance will volunteer to help break down and set up the ballroom, when asked?

You might ask, why do we give space away for free to these group? In addition to doing something positive for our community, these groups bring in hundreds of members from the community throughout the year who may have never been inside our Lodge. These meetings/events are a good way to promote our Lodge with the hope that one day some of them may book their own event at our facility.



CELEBRATE ST PATRICK'S DAY AT LODGE 188

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

- BUFFET DINNER: CORNED BEEF, CABBAGE, POTATOES, IRISH BREAD, DESSERT—\$18 PP INCLUDES TAX & TIP
- 3 CARD CHALLENGE
- SPECIAL BASKET RAFFLES
- **MUSIC WITH MIKE & CHRIS FROM BARFLY'S**

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.....BARBARA SPILLER

Barbara joined the Elks two years ago. She was a regular Bingo player and decided she wanted to get involved with the Elks and volunteer. In addition to that, she is the current Chaplain on the Board of Directors. Barbara also volunteers at the Moose Lodge where she is the Sargent of Ladies Chapter, she volunteered at Yankee Bingo, was a volunteer at the Boxing Club Bingo, and the Jewish Home.

Barbara retired from Macy's a few years ago to take care of family members.

Barbara grew up on Munjoy Hill and attended Portland schools. She was married at 18, and today her cats are her kids. Barbara is one of five children (two are now deceased).

Barbara loves traveling with friends and has most recently visited several Caribbean islands and the Dominic Republic.

She was brought up to be a caring person, and loves being around all of the folks at Bingo each week.



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 _____

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 House Comm 5 pm	4 Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 noon	5 Ash Wednesday 3 Card Games 5:30	6	7 3 Card Games 6 pm DJ Queen	8 Hoop Shoot Breakfast 7 am
9 	10 Trustees 430 pm General Mtg 6 pm	11 Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 noon	12 3 Card Games 5:30 pm	13	14 3 Card Games 6 pm Live Music	15 
16	17 	18 Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 noon	19 3 Card Games 5:30 pm	20 	21 3 Card Games 6 pm DJ Queen	22
23	24 Trustees 430 pm Vet Com 5 pm General Mtg 6 pm	25 Bingo Open 9 am Games 12 noon	26 3 Card Games 5:30 pm	27	28 3 Card Games 6 pm DJ Queen	29
30	31					



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Lifetime Boosters

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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: _____



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 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