

**KEN'S KORNER:**

Members all...

I always look forward to this time of year simply because it illustrates Faribault Elks Lodge #1166 commitment to "Being the Difference".

I want to thank all who volunteered both with their time and money to make the Holidays special for VA Building 16. The dedicated Veterans Committee organized the Veterans Christmas Tree Gift initiative. What struck me was how little these patriots asked for compared to the sacrifice they have made and continue to make for our country.

Thank you to Matt, Laura, and Doug Truman and the volunteers they organized to once again knock it out of the park for Toys for Tots. The number of hours spent by our Elks sisters and brothers who dedicate themselves to making Christmas a time of joy for children is humbling. To all who helped decorate the Lodge for Christmas, thank you. For those who are unaware, the Lodge finished in second place in the Faribault annual window contest.

Whether it's the PER's serving Tom and Jerry's, volunteers helping with snow removal and maintenance, bartenders creating a warm and inviting environment, or the Tuesday night burger crew, the theme always remains the same and that is making life a better place for all.

Shortly after the first of the year, we will begin working on the women's bathroom, hosting the Faribault Elks Hoop Shoot, and continue to march towards hosting the Elks State Convention in June of 2026. Please reach out to Marcus Ableman or Kelly Martenson regarding opportunities to help with the State Convention.

Remain Safe and Well

*Fraternally yours,
Ken Weaverling, Exalted Ruler*

SECRETARY'S CORNER:

 Happy New Year everyone! I hope your holidays were wonderful. On April 1st your membership auto renews, and we (The Lodge) pay your Grand Lodge and State Dues whether you pay us or not. The dues invoices will be sent out in early March. If you are considering cancelling your membership for 2026/2027 please contact me before March 31st and I can request a demit from the order. That way we won't have to pay your new year's dues. The dues will be \$87 again this year. Don't forget you still have time to bring in 3 new members before April 1st to get your dues free!! If you have any questions, please contact me at 507-339-7402.

*Fraternally, Lynn Erickson,
Lodge Secretary*

Dates to Remember:

MEETING NIGHT: Jan. 8, 15; Feb. 5, 19
Trustees @ 6 pm; Lodge Mtg. @ 7:00 pm

BURGER NIGHTS: Every Tues. @ 6 pm. Cost is \$6

HOOP SHOOT: Jan. 11

CHILI COOKOFF: Feb. 1

SUPER BOWL: Feb. 8 - Bring a dish to pass

YOUTH ICE FISHING CONTEST: Feb. 14

LOVERS' OMELET BRUNCH: Feb. 15

Thank You!

- ◆ To the **Tuesday night burger crew** that have helped serve the great burgers and specials! Thanks also to Jeff for the excellent food!
- ◆ To **Doug Truman and his committee** who served a wonderful dinner for Veterans on November 7th.
- ◆ To **everyone** who helped cleaned up Highway 35. We had a record group of individuals that made the task go quickly!
- ◆ To **everyone** who donated baskets or purchased one during our annual basket auction. Your support is appreciated.
- ◆ To **Glenda Waas** for the turkey donations for the turkey raffle.
- ◆ To the **PER's** who served Tom & Jerry's before Thanksgiving and during the member Christmas party and also for making soup for the event.
- ◆ To **Mickey Dogotch** for providing bread for the soup.
- ◆ To the **Entertainment Committee** that put on the first annual craft fair at the Lodge. It was well attended even though the weather didn't cooperate.
- ◆ To **Karen Lundquist** for making such beautiful porch pots and selling them for the Lodge.
- ◆ To **everyone** who helped decorate the Lodge for the holidays. The front windows won 2nd place in the downtown Winterfest contest.
- ◆ To **Bob and Sue Cochran** for allowing us to use their garage to decorate the float and to everyone who helped decorate. We decorated in record time with all the volunteers.
- ◆ To **Deb Tisot** for getting us candy for the parade.
- ◆ To **Pam Blow** for making this newsletter possible. You are very appreciated!

VETERANS' CORNER:

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!
The Veterans Committee was very busy and 2025 was a very successful year. We look forward to doing even more for our Veterans.



DECEMBER: The Veterans Angel Tree was a rousing success and I would like to thank everyone who picked an envelope from the Angel Tree and so generously purchased gifts and gift cards for our Veterans. On December 8th six members of the Veterans Committee traveled to Minnesota Veterans Home Bldg. 16 and distributed the gifts. We were also able to give each Veteran a goody bag with personal items and candy. Thanks to Deb Tisot for securing many items for these goody bags. In addition, a lasagna lunch with garlic toast, apple crisp dessert was served. A total of 48 Veterans received gifts, goody bags and lunch! All the Veterans had a wonderful day and we are so grateful to have been able to give them a wonderful Christmas party!

JANUARY: We will be having a Veterans Committee meeting early January and will be planning upcoming events. Our first event will be Bingo with treats and hot cocoa at Bldg. 16.

I'm sure by now everyone has heard that 2026 is the nation's 250th anniversary. There will be many events happening throughout this historic year.

Thank you to all our Veterans!
God bless America!

*Fraternally,
Ruth Mickelson,
Veterans' Committee Chair*

LODGE HOURS: (28 NW 3rd St.)

Monday thru Friday: 4 pm
Saturday: 3 pm
Sundays: 11 am

**Special Events!**

January 24

Memorial Dart Tournament for Mike Rotta:

Complete details available at the Lodge.



February 8th
Super Bowl LX: 5:30 p.m.
Bring a dish to pass.



February 14

Youth Ice Fishing Contest:

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. On French Lake
Follow the signs! Open to the public.



February 15
Lovers' Omelet Brunch:
9:30 to Noon

**CHILI COOK-OFF:**

February 1st

Bring your best chili to be judged.

Have your entry here by 2:30 pm

Judging starts at 3 pm until 4pm.



Elks Care - Elks Share

Gambling Proceeds:

Thank you to everyone who supports charitable gambling at our lodge and at Winjum's. The most recent donations from gambling were made to:

- ◆ South Central College Foundation
- ◆ Faribault Fire Department
- ◆ Faribault Middle School Adopt a Family
- ◆ Rice County United Way
- ◆ Faribault Emeralds Dance Team
- ◆ Minnesota Elks Youth Camp
- ◆ Earnest Effort Christmas Wish

2025- 2026 LODGE OFFICERS

<i>Exalted Ruler</i>	<i>Ken Weaverling</i>
<i>Leading Knight</i>	<i>Eric Quittem</i>
<i>Loyal Knight</i>	<i>Derrick Dahl</i>
<i>Lecturing Knight</i>	<i>Teresa Moen</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Lynn Erickson</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Sue Cochran</i>
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>Kelly Martenson</i>
<i>Esquire</i>	<i>Pat Tisot</i>
<i>Inner Guard</i>	<i>Dani Herrlich</i>
<i>Tiler</i>	<i>Marcus Ableman</i>

TRUSTEES: Chelle Marquardt, Kathy Trahan, Mary Loftus, Doug Truman, and Andrew Kinter

January, 2026 - Elks #1166

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year	2	3
4 Vikings vs. Packers @ noon	5	6 Burger Nite	7	8 <u>Meeting Night:</u> 6 pm - Trustees 7 pm - Lodge	9	10 Event in bar.
11 Hoop Shoot Celebration of life for Vicky Joy.	12	13 Burger Nite	14	15 <u>Meeting Night:</u> 6 pm - Trustees 7 pm - Lodge	16	17 Event in bar.
18	19	20 Burger Nite	21	22	23	24 Memoria Dart Tourney for Mike Rotta.
25 Celebration of life for Jessica Horn.	26	27 Burger Nite	28	29	30 Event in bar.	31

February, 2026 - Elks #1166

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 Chili Cookoff	2	3 Burger Nite	4	5 <u>Meeting Night:</u> 6 pm - Trustees 7 pm - Lodge	6	7
8 Super Bowl	9	10 Burger Nite	11	12	13	14 Youth Ice Fishing Contest. 11 to 1 @ French Lake.
15 Lovers' Omelet Brunch	16	17 Burger Nite	18	19 <u>Meeting Night:</u> 6 pm - Trustees 7 pm - Lodge	20	21
22	23	24 Burger Nite	25	26	27	28 Event in bar.