BPOE Watertown Lodge # 496 October 2026

728 Bradley Street, Watertown, NY 13601 (315) 788-1270 www.elks496.org

Exalted Ruler's Message:

Greetings! We recently attended the Fall Conferences in Albany. Representatives from our lodge were Scott Hirst, Jill Bruce-Wiley, Dennis Brady, Joan Carlo and my wife Andrea and I. The conferences are always a great place to meet and learn Elkdom from fellow members around the state.

We just finished having two fun events with the clam bake and the Sock Hop Dance. Special thank yous go to Blake Vanvalkenburgh and his crew for doing a wonderful job with the food for the clam bake and The Classic Cruisers who rocked the lodge all night with all your favorite 50's and 60's hits. Thank you to all who supported the lodge and attended the event and as always thank you to the employees, volunteers and officers who helped make these events run so smoothly.

As you can see this month in the bulletin we have a great lineup of dinners and events for you to attend. Whether it be the District Deputy/ State Vice President's Visit or Italian Buffet Dinner, Dueling pianos or The Halloween Bash or Trunk or Treat, we have a little something for everyone.

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to the minute updates on all events. As always, we are looking for new volunteers to step up and get involved at the lodge. I hope you all have a great month.

Fraternally yours,
Anthony "Demo" DeMiceli

Secretary's Message:

October is ENF Month. What is ENF? Elks National Foundation. Read more about it inside this month's bulletin. Each year, our Lodge strives to meet our ENF Per Capita goal and meeting our Per Capita is what helps us get grants. We received $11,000 total in grants this year ($3,500 in Gratitude Grant, $1,000 n Freedom Grant and $6,500 in Beacon Grant). This year's Per Capita is now at $5.25 per member. Please also help us achieve our NYS Major Project Per Capita.

I'd also like to take the time to thank ALL the volunteers for giving their time to make so many things happen at our Lodge. I can think of many names and list them, but I'm also afraid of overlooking a certain few that deserves to be recognized. The volunteers are like many valuable little moving parts of a well run machine. You keep our Lodge running and a great place to be. We have many committees and many events and volunteers are always very much welcomed. We will never turn anyone away.

Please, if you have not yet done so, pay your dues. You, as a member, are still valuable to our Lodge. I'm starting to sound like a broken record, but as of writing of this message, we still have 96 that are delinquent. We still need you. We, as a Lodge, are hoping for at least a plus-1 membership gain rather than continuing on a downward spiral on our membership. We did at one time just a few years ago had over 1,500 members.

There are many upcoming EXCITING events coming to our Lodge. This is YOUR Lodge and committee members are working very hard to making our place an exciting place to be. You wanted Live Entertainment? You wanted Friday Night dinners? The committee members listened and are delivering. This is also a great way to be bringing in worthy candidates to become a member of a great charitable and most recognizable organization in northern New York.

PER Dennis J Brady, Lodge Secretary
Watertown Elks Lodge 496
728 Bradley Street Phone: (315) 788-1270 Phone/Text: (315) 486-0057
Watertown NY 13601 Email: dj0057@me.com



LEGACY AWARDS APPLICATION OPEN!

Legacy Awards Scholarship application is now open.

Exclusive to high school seniors who are the children or grandchildren of dues-paying Elks, these $6,000 scholarships give students the opportunity to continue their Elks family legacy while making their own mark in the Elks Family.

Find eligibility requirements and other important details at enf.elks.org/leg.



LODGE EVENTS FOR OCTOBER

Lodge Activity Events

Thursday, October 8th at 6:30 PM
Bingo at the Bar
Pub Menu Available

All Lodge activities are open to members in good standing and sponsored guests.

Friday, October 23rd at 7:00 PM
Trivia Night with
David Clement & Lorraine
Pub Menu Available

Pub Menu will be available during the above activities.
Next Committee Meeting: Monday, October 5th, 2026 at 6:30 PM with House Committee Meeting

Pub Menu

Chicken Fingers for $8, Pizza Log $8, Mozzarella Sticks $7, Jalapeño Poppers $7, Basket of Fries $4. Extra dipping sauce—$.50.

DON'T MISS THIS BIG EVENT!!!

Saturday, October 17th!!

Doors open at 5, main event 6 to 9 PM





Dueling Pianos

Watertown Elks Lodge # 496's

Biggest MAJOR PROJECT Fundraising event!

Tickets on sale ONLY at the Lodge starting after Labor Day!

Presale—$40 At Door—$50

Corporate Tables Available!









Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 7th– Veterans Dinner
Sunday, November 8th—Major Project Bowling Tournament
Sunday, November 22nd—Harvest Dinner for Area Senior Citizens
Sunday, November 29th—Holiday Craft Fair (Major Project Fundraiser)
Sunday, December 6th—Elks Memorial Service
Sunday, December 13th—Children's Christmas Party
Sunday, December 20th—Tom and Jerry Sunday
Thursday, December 31st—New Year's Eve Party
Lodge will be **CLOSED** on Nationally Observed Holidays—
4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.



SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday, November 7th
Veterans Dinner
Cocktail Hour 5—6 PM
Veterans Ritual Service
Dinner follows the Ritual Service
Turkey Dinner with all the fixings!!!
Free for ALL Veterans
Non-Veterans and Guests—$15



MVS SCHOLARSHIP

It's scholarship season! Applications for the Most Valuable Student scholarship opened on August 1.

If you know any incoming high school seniors, encourage them to apply! No relation to the Elks is necessary to win one of these scholarships, which range from $1,000 to $7,500 per year.

To learn more, visit this site:
Www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/MVS.cfm

FOOD DRIVE

Please help us collect non-perishable foods for our local food pantries dedicated to veterans. We will be collecting from October 12th-November 7th 2026

SAVE THE DATE

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Watertown Elks Lodge
128 Bradley Street, Watertown NY 13601



Tuesday Steak Nights ~ Wednesday Burgers

Tuesday nights are our steak nights. The steak dinners are $18.95 and come with choice of fries or baked potato, salad and dinner roll. Dinner is 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Wednesday nights are our burger nights. The regular delicious half-pound burger comes with fries for $10.95. Make it a deluxe with lettuce, tomato and onions for $12.95. Add bacon for additional $1.00. BLT with fries are available for $7.95. Hoffman hotdogs now added to the menu!!! ONE Hoffman hotdog with a side for $7.95 or TWO Hoffman hotdogs with a side for $10.95.

WING NIGHT IS BACK!!!



Monday, October 12th—5:30 PM until Gone!
$10 for 10 wings—dine in only price
To Go—$15

Emergency Educational Grants

Emergency Educational Grants provide undergraduate college financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks in the form of renewable, one-year grants of up to $5,000. Emergency Educational Grants aren't meant to cover a student's complete education, but they can help cover room and board, books, and tuition and fees.

For the 2026-2027 school year, the Elks National Foundation has allocated over $150,000. If you know any Elks children who may be eligible to receive this grant, please contact Colleen Quackenbush at (518) 956-3998 or nursecq@hotmail.com.

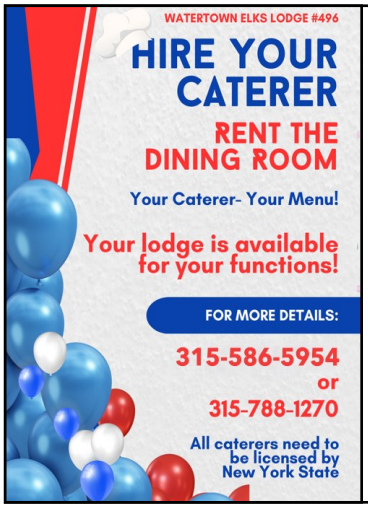
SOCCER SHOOT



On Saturday, August 22, 2026, Watertown Elks Lodge 496 held its Soccer Shoot at Jefferson Community College. It had been several years since the Lodge held the Soccer Shoot and it was nice to see it return. There were 23 participants. Everyone had fun. The winners are listed below. They move on to the District Soccer Shoot being held in Lowville on Sunday, September 20, 2026.

Girls		Boys	
Rory Hoppel	7 & under	Conor Contreras	7 & under
Gianna Bova	8 & 9	Ezra Sterling	8 & 9
"Tiana" Norah Sterling	10 & 11	Ridge TenEyck	10 & 11
		Maxwell Briggs	12 & 13

A big shout out of thanks goes to all the volunteers who helped with the event!



To book an event at the lodge, call:
Events Phone Number:
(315) 586-5954
or
Lodge Phone Number:
(315) 788-1270
Email:
elks496@centralny.twcbc.com

ENF Month: Helping Elks Build Stronger Communities

October is ENF Month, a time to celebrate the ways the Elks National Foundation accomplishes its mission of helping Elks build stronger communities. But how does the ENF do this?

By investing in the communities where Elks live and work.

In the 2026-27 fiscal year, the ENF is allocating $49.6 million to programs that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities, help the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives, meet the needs of today's veterans, and provide our youth with lifelong skills.

The largest of these programs is the Community Investments Program. Established in 2005, the CIP has grown from a modest budget of $350,000 to $18.8 million, allowing each Lodge the opportunity to receive up to $11,500 in grants, thanks to an increase to the Spotlight Grant in celebration of America's 250th birthday. Spotlight Grants increased from $2,000 to $2,500 this year.

"Volunteerism is so central to who the Elks are," says Ryan Watkins, Grants Coordinator of Asheville, N.C., Lodge No. 608. "CIP grants facilitate that volunteerism and lead to a tighter weave between the Elks Lodge and the community it serves."

CIP grants allow Elks to identify the unique needs of their communities, form a plan, and address the needs through Elks-led, volunteer-based projects. Similarly, state Elks associations tackle needs through charitable programs. The ENF will contribute $11.7 million to State Grants this year, making it the second largest appropriation in the budget.

The Elks National Veterans Service Commission provides aid and comfort to America's veterans in need. To ensure that the sacrifices of these veterans are never forgotten, the ENF allocation to the ENVSC will increase by more than 14% this year to $7.3 million, which will allow Elks to provide even more Welcome Home Kits.

Additionally, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Elks National Memorial, the ENF is providing the Memorial with an additional $10 million grant, over five years, on top of the annual funding to the Elks National Memorial Building and Special Reserve Fund, nearly tripling last year year's disbursement to $3.1 million.

"Inspired by the grandeur of the newly constructed Elks National Memorial, National President John F. Malley wanted to construct a different kind of dome," said then-ENF Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Jim Nichelson in his speech at the Opening Ceremony of the 2026 Elks National Convention. "Not a tangible building like the one that stands a few miles north of here in Lincoln Park, but a metaphorical dome that would span the entire length of the United States and, in his words, 'unite the forces of the Order into a mighty army for the service of mankind.'"

Just two years after construction on the Memorial was finished, delegates at the Elks National Convention voted to establish the Elks National Foundation, making Malley's dream a reality.

"Thanks to you, we can invest in the monument that inspired Malley's dream," Nichelson continued. "This $10 million grant will help preserve the splendor of the Memorial for generations to come. We sincerely hope that the building will endure as a monument to our core values of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity."

While the Elks National Memorial honors the past and the ENVSC provides for those who have served, ENF scholarships build relationships with the leaders of tomorrow. Nearly $5.8 million will be awarded to some of the brightest young minds as they pursue their academic dreams and build connections with the Elks in their communities. This year, Legacy Awards scholarships, available only to the children and grandchildren of Elks, increased in both quantity and amount awarded; 400 Legacy scholars received $6,000 scholarships, up from 350 Legacy scholars who received $4,000 scholarships last year.

"Beyond the financial assistance, this scholarship is a powerful source of encouragement," says Liv Steinmetz, a 2026 Legacy scholar sponsored by Summit, N.J., Lodge No. 1246. "It reminds me that others believe in my potential and motivates me to work hard, give back to my community, and uphold the values represented by the ENF." **(story continues on top right->)**

ENF Month

The Most Valuable Student scholarship offers a different opportunity. Ranging from $4,000 to $30,000 over four years, high school seniors need no relation to the Elks to apply. MVS scholars gain more than just financial aid—they gain an appreciation of service, a network of like-minded peers, and an #ElksFamily for life.

Scholarships aren't the only way the ENF provides for the next generation. Through the Hoop Shoot, the ENF is unleashing gritty kids who understand the importance of hard work, determination and perseverance. This year, nearly $1.6 million will be allocated to this national free throw program. The ENF also allocated more than $1 million for the Drug Awareness Program, so we can continue to promote constructive and collaborative solutions for our youth.

Through these programs, the ENF continues its mission of helping Elks build stronger communities. To see the full breakdown of grants and appropriations, visit enf.elks.org/appropriations.

Veteran's Committee

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."
John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Fall is upon us! As the leaves change and the temperature cools, now is the time to start thinking about the best ways to help people in need through the holiday season. Charity is a core tenet of Elkdom, and the veterans committee is moving forward to address the needs of our local veterans in need.

When visiting the Lodge on Fridays, we ask that you wear red. We wear R.E.D. on Fridays to show our appreciation for the brave men and women currently serving overseas and to signify that we, as Elks, **R**emember **E**veryone **D**eployed. This small gesture is a powerful reminder of our support for those whose sacrifices keep our nation safe. Keep an eye out for R.E.D. shirts, which will be available for purchase during the month of October at the Lodge.

We participate in the Feed Our Vets program every month at the Bruce Wright Memorial Conference Center, and we are always looking for extra hands to help out. Our volunteer date for September is **Saturday, October 17th at 9:00 a.m.**

Finally, I would like to report that we have been contacted about providing another Welcome Home Kit for a veteran in need. Welcome Home Kits provide homeless veterans with the necessities of starting a new life in an apartment. This is a Grand Lodge-funded initiative, and we were proud to help our recipient get started on his new life. We also have received an emergency housing grant to be given to a local veterans program at our annual veterans dinner.

Our next committee meeting will be held on **Monday, October 12th at 6:00 p.m.** The Veterans Committee is open to anyone interested in giving back to those who have courageously served our country. If you have any questions about the committee or our vision for supporting our veterans, please reach out. I would love to chat with you! You can send a message via the Elks 496 Facebook page or find me at the Lodge.

Fraternally,
Karen Miller
Esteemed Leading Knight
Veteran's Committee Chair

BELL JAR REPORT
August 2026

Total Income:	$17,940.00
Total Expenses:	$4,8710.88
Worthy Causes:	$95.88
Net Income:	$13,033.24

DDGER/SVP Clinics 2026-2027

Watertown Lodge # 496 on Saturday, January 16, 2027 10:00 AM with District Bowling Tournament at Pla Mor Lanes.
Ogdensburg Lodge # 772 on Sunday, April 18, 2027 10:00 AM

DDGER/SVP Visitation Schedule 2026-2027

Watertown Lodge # 496 on Thursday, October 1, 2026
Carthage Lodge # 1762 on Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Saranac Lake Lodge # 1508 on Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Ogdensburg Lodge # 772 on Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Massena Lodge # 1702 on Wednesday, October 28, 2026
Lowville Lodge # 1605 on Wednesday, November 4, 2026
Gouverneur Lodge # 2035 on Tuesday, November 10, 2026

DDGER/SVP Homecoming

Gouverneur Lodge # 2035 on Saturday, May 8, 2027

October Meetings…

See the calendar for upcoming October meetings.

William LaMere—DDGER—North Central District # 6240
PO Box 141, Richville, NY 13681 (315) 767-9483
Ted McDonald—State Vice President
1600 White Hill Rd, Box 572, Parishville, NY 13672 (315) 600-7376
Email: mcdonald.ted060@gmail.com

Follow us on Watertown Elks 496 Facebook page for up to the minute updates/events/dinners. See videos and pictures from Lodge events and more!

MEMBERS ON THE SICK BOARD

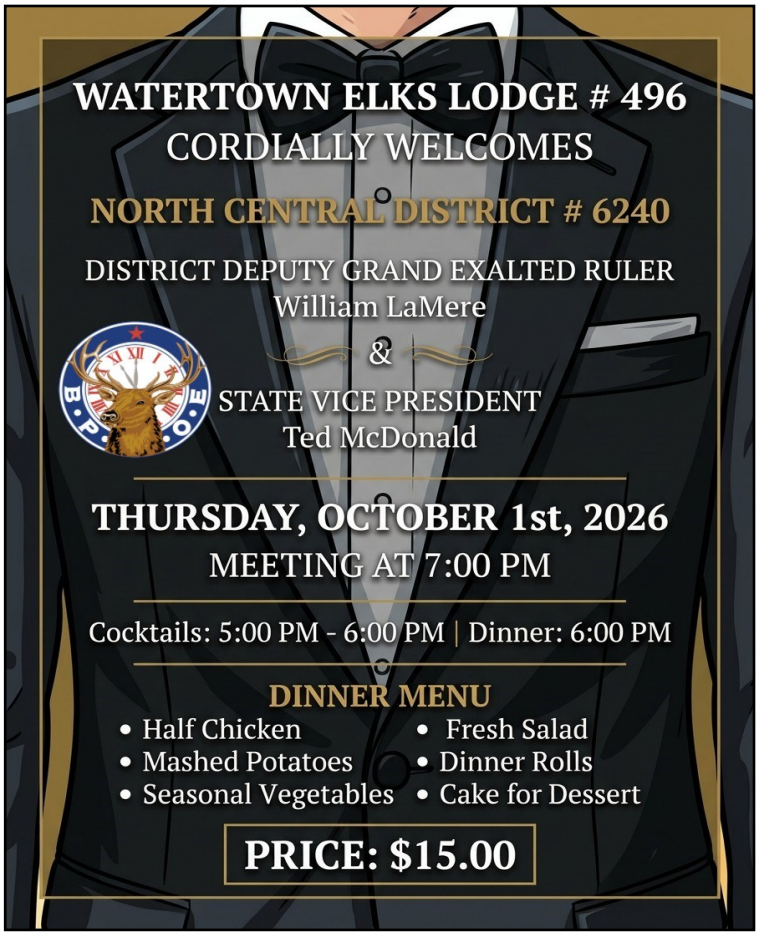
We have a few members on the sick board. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers: Terry Scee Jr; Ron Netto Sr; Francis Devine; PER Eugene Mancini; Frank Roberts.

Lodge of Sorrow

Douglas S Clement # 8196, Gary Martin # 8275,

Nancy Fey # 8584

"May light perpetual shine upon them, until the morning breaks and the shadows flee away".



DELINQUENT MEMBER NUMBER

4495 4713 4738 5270 6001 6075 6123 6754 6793 6802 6874 6911 7050 7062 7102 7105 7196 7283 7359 7385 7456 7516 7570
7576 7579 7732 7736 7747 7838 7839 7880 7881 7916 7930 8035 8036 8083 8109 8165 8305 8319 8373 8385 8400 8410 8420
8445 8459 8467 8469 8470 8474 8511 8527 8566 8575 8576 8578 8646 8664 8720 8772 8776 8781 8786 8812 8835 8841 8842
8843 8859 8860 8921 8922 8926 8940 8947 8951 8966 8982 9000 9008 9028 9029 9039 9045 9047 9062 9075 9076 9099 9115
9117 9122 9123 9126

All information for next month's bulletin must be submitted by the **16th** of this month. Thank you for your cooperation. PER Dennis J Brady, Editor

October 2026 Birthday

1 James F Larkins
1 Kimberly Parker
1 James F Petersen
1 Shawn Wilcox
2 Michael A Doe
2 Scott St Joseph
3 David M Chamberlain
3 John Czerwinski
3 Allen Edward Lovelace
4 Patti Booras-Miller
4 Alicia C Meier
4 Thomas J Roman
4 William F Zimmerman
5 Ronald L Netto Jr.
5 Charlie Phillips
6 Scott W Clark
6 Dennis Gardner
6 Thomas Leconey
6 Henry G Legault
7 Cheryl A Clark
7 Todd D Schofield
8 Don Boshart
8 Stanley C Dine
9 John Helm
9 Patrick W Mothersell
10 Vance Carpenter
10 Anthony J Doldo
10 Scott P Hirst
10 Julie Smith
11 Thomas W Myers
11 Michael W Schell
12 Edward Flynn
12 Jeffrey M Putney
13 Matthew T Fitzpatrick
13 Mark S Loftus
13 Amanda Shughart
14 Laura Kinne
15 Frank Danielsen
15 Keith Gardner
15 Arthur N Mahon
15 Russell J Marceau
15 Karrie Modlin
15 Tara Strader
15 Bethany Todd
16 Sandra M Belden
16 Robert L Champion
16 Richard B Corbett
16 Robert H Harter
17 Kelli M Bell
17 Wayne Eamer
17 Michael Frank Geng
18 Dan Campbell
18 Victor A James
18 Chris Matthews
19 Beth A Bennett
19 Stephanie A Davis
19 Kevin J Eassa
19 Linda Ann Lepper
19 Gurney McCabe
19 Randy S Pound
20 Richard Fiaschetti Jr.
20 Klaire Sullivan
21 Shane Leween
22 Leslie Green
23 Peter M Messina
23 William Pettey
23 Lori J Thomas
24 Dean Gleisner
24 Kevin Misercola
24 Terry Murrock
24 Daniel O'Connor
24 Lyle H Wilkie Jr.
26 Wayne Foure
26 Michel Gravelle
26 Norris Ralph Rambone
27 Joseph G Amedeo
27 Vincent G Romeo
29 Arthur J Cady
29 William R Ferguson
30 Andrea Carr
30 Harry E Martin Jr.
31 Michael Garnsey
31 Thomas A Hewitt
31 Darryl J King
31 Lisa Lynch
31 Peter E Monaco
31 Lori E Mustizer
31 Stephen T Raines
31 Randy Raso

October 2026

MSPE = Member Sponsored Private Event

Sunday 12:00pm—7:00pm	Monday 1:00pm—9:00pm	Tuesday 1:00pm—9:00pm	Wednesday 1:00pm—9:00pm	Thursday 1:00pm—9:00pm	Friday 12:00pm—11:00pm	Saturday 11:00am—11:00pm
Steak Night Tuesday Steak & side, salad $18.95	Wed. Burger Night: Burger with lettuce, tomato, cheese and onions w/ fries $12.95 W/ bacon—$1 extra BLT—$7.95 / HOTDOGS	Pub Menu See inside for what's on the pub menu To book parties and/or Events, contact our Booking Line at (315) 586-5954	October is ENF Month Elks National Foundation	1 DD/SVP Visit Here Cocktail 5—6 PM Dinner at 6 PM Lodge Session 7 PM	2	3 North Central District Golf Tournament St Lawrence University Golf Course
4	5 House/Committee 6:30 PM Trustees 7 PM	6 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM DD/SVP visit @ Carthage	7 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM MSPE—Lodge Room	8 BINGO 6:30 PM Pub Menu Available	9 Friday Night Dinner Italian Buffet 5:30—7:30 PM See Inside	10 MSPE—Banquet Room
11 MSPE—Lodge Room	12 Veteran's Committee 6:00 PM	13 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	14 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM DD/SVP visit @ Saranac Lake	15 MSPE—Lodge Room Lodge Session 7 PM	16 MSPE—Banquet Room	17 Dueling Pianos Major Project Fundraiser See Flyer Inside!
18	19	20 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM DD visit @ Ogdensburg	21 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM	22	23 TRIVIA Night Trivia Starts at 7 PM Pub Menu Available	24 MSPE—Banquet Room
25 Trunk Or Treat 12 noon—2 PM Lodge Parking Lot	26	27 Steak Night Tuesday 5:30-7:30 PM $18.95 Queen of Hearts 7 PM	28 Burger Night 5:30 PM—7:30 PM DD/SVP visit @ Massena	29	30	31 Halloween Bash! See Flyer Inside!!

Watertown B.P.O.E. #496

October 2026 ENF Month

LODGE HOURS

Monday	**1:00PM—9:00PM**
Tuesday-Wednesday	**1:00PM—9:00PM**
Thursday	**1:00PM—9:00PM ***
***Except on Meeting Nights**	
Friday	**12:00PM—11:00PM**
Saturday	**11:00AM—11:00PM**
Sunday	**12:00PM— 7:00PM**

Home of PSP Francis Hart, PSP Nelson Navarra & PSP Timothy E. Kelly

Officers 2026—2027

Exalted Ruler	Anthony DeMiceli
Est. Leading Knight	Karen Miller
Est. Loyal Knight	Thomas M Lynch
Est. Lecturing Knight	Derrick Kehoe
Secretary	PER Dennis J Brady
Treasurer	Beth A Bennett
Esquire	Suzanne Renzi-Falge
Tiler	PER Anthony J Verne
Chaplain	Margaret “Peg” Bootie
Inner Guard	David Clement

Trustees:
Jay Miller—Chairman
PSVP Joan Carlo
PER Anne M Fleming
Beth Cassada
PER Philip K Nuffer

Presiding Justice: Matt Doheny
Mediator: Vic James
Activity Committee: Sandi LaVere
House Committee: Derrick Kehoe
Bar Manager: Geoff Mattraw
Lodge Steward: Barb Yerdon

<<- QR Code for Website

<<- QR Code for Facebook for up to the minute changes and added events. (Watertown Elks 496)

QR codes you can scan with your phone or tablet. Check out our website and/or Facebook page to keep current with upcoming events and activities. When on our Facebook page, please click “Like” and share away!

Elks Care – Elks Share

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WATERTOWN ELKS LODGE #496
728 Bradley Street
Watertown, New York 13601