

**Johnson  
City**

**ELKS**

**Lodge  
#2821**

***The Little Lodge That Does Big Things!***

**2025 – 2026 Officers:**

**Exalted Ruler** – Josh Bell  
**Leading Knight** – vacant  
**Loyal Knight** – Ben Cabot II  
**Lecturing Knight** – Jeff Dibble  
**Secretary** – Russ Ryan, PSVP  
**Treasurer** – vacant  
**Esquire** – Tim Turner  
**Chaplain** – Barb Robarge  
**Inner Guard** – Charlotte Bell  
**Tiler** – Herb Flint  
**Trustees** – Al Jasinski  
Dennis See  
Dino Christopher

**February 2026**

Brothers and Sisters,

February is here. Hopefully the groundhog doesn't see his shadow, and we can start thinking about spring, but I'm not going to hold my breath. The good part about this time of year is that the holiday busyness is over and the spring busyness hasn't yet begun, which makes it a great time to reconnect with our Elks family. Come down for a Friday Dinner, stop in to play Pitch on a Wednesday and all members are always welcome on meeting nights the first and third Tuesday of each month. Remember, the meetings this month are of higher than usual importance with nominations and voting for the 2026-2027 lodge year.

Something to think about with the warmer months coming is where to have all those upcoming graduations and summer weddings and family gatherings. Barb and Les and others have been working to get the pieces together to make our Lodge "Your Small Venue Solution" with venue rentals for parties and optional catering available. Available to members and non-members alike so spread the word to those you know having an event.

Do your best to stay warm!  
Josh Bell ER  
bpoebell@echoes.net

*The lodge is in need of a Treasurer. If you are interested, please contact Russ Ryan. Thank you.*

**Mortgage Update:**

Our mortgage balance stands at \$71,264. Contributions to the building fund are appreciated in getting this job done. Thanks!

Please keep an eye on the Facebook page for fundraisers to Support Endorsed candidate for State President 26-27 Mike Sage

Stay up to date on the lodge's  
calendar of events! Follow us on  
FaceBook!

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Jerry & Pat Smith



**donateline.net**

## Membership Corner

Please welcome our newest members:

None

Applications in Process

Richard Miller III proposed by Dino Christopher  
Tiffany Kotsubka proposed by Barb Robarge

**Proposing candidates helps us to share our values with the community. Our numbers are growing! Next month is up to YOU!**



**LODGE #2821  
HONORS OUR VETERANS**

**“So Long As There Are  
Veterans, The  
Benevolent And  
Protective Order of Elks  
Will Never Forget Them!”**

## THE VETERANS CORNER

### **Oxford Veterans Home Visit February 21<sup>st</sup>**

### Membership Status

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Membership as of 04/01/2025</b>              | <b>160</b> |
| <b>Members Initiated</b>                        | <b>+1</b>  |
| <b>Members Affiliated</b>                       | <b>+2</b>  |
| <b>Members Reinstated</b>                       | <b>+0</b>  |
| <b>Member Transfer and Absolute Demits</b>      | <b>-3</b>  |
| <b>Members Deceased</b>                         | <b>-0</b>  |
| <b>Dropped From Our Rolls (for non-payment)</b> | <b>-2</b>  |
| <b>Current Membership</b>                       | <b>158</b> |

### 2025 – 2026 Dues

**Dues are due before April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 for the year 2025-2026.** All of us must pay our dues before April 1<sup>st</sup> every year. Dues notices for the 2024 – 2025 year will be mailed. **The dues for new year are:**

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Lodge #2821 Dues        | \$55.00        |
| Grand Lodge Assessments | \$31.00        |
| NYSEA Assessments       | \$ 5.00        |
| <b>Total Due</b>        | <b>\$91.00</b> |

Optional Donations:

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| <b>ENF</b>            | <b>\$10.00</b> |
| <b>Major Projects</b> | <b>\$10.00</b> |
| Scholarship           | \$25.00        |
| Building Fund         | \$25.00        |
| General Fund          | \$25.00        |

Please send in your 2025-2026 dues along with any optional donations that you wish. Your new membership card will be mailed to you as soon as your dues payment is processed.

**Please notify your Lodge Secretary when any of your contact information has changed. This includes your mailing address, home phone, cell phone, and e-mail address.** If we don't have current contact information you will be missing out on communications from your lodge and your order. Also, once again, please let me know whether you prefer to **receive the newsletter via e-mail or hardcopy.**

Thanks!!

- Russell Ryan, P.E.R., Lodge Secretary rryan@stny.rr.com  
607-775-4640 (H) 607-222-3610 (C)

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 David Shaw  
7 Hope Woodcock-Ross, PSVP  
10 Jeff Dibble  
10 John Sacco  
12 Scott Dow PER  
22 Rosemarie Stevens  
22 Donna Wright



### Sickness & Distress:

None

### In Vain We Call:

None

*If you know of someone who is sick or in distress of any kind, please contact the Lodge. We care about the well-being of all of those connected with our lodge.*

**Elk of the Month**

January's Elk of the month is  
**Gayle Klein, PER**

Due to job circumstances, we don't see Gayle around the lodge as much as we would like to, but she is still supporting the lodge behind the scenes. She diligently works on the business side of the things and helps with the newsletter every month. Most recently she did all the set-up for the annual Elks Memorial Service, doing the actual set up and putting together the programs. She may not have physically been there that day, but her presence was certainly felt.

Thank you for all you do! You make us all proud to be Johnson City Elks!

**ELKS AND FRIENDS**

Turn In Your Bottles and Cans at Our Lodge!  
Just drop off your returns in the box bin out front, helping to support our Lodge. Turn those returns into cash for our Lodge. It means a lot.

Thank you!

**SECRETARY'S CORNER**

Membership dues invoices have been mailed. Dues are \$91.00 which need to be paid by April 1st. Donations made along with your dues payment are most welcomed, two funds in particular: E.N.F. and Major Projects.

Thank you, Russell Ryan, Lodge Secretary

**Bourbon Tasting**

This year's Bourbon Tasting will be held at the Owego Lodge on February 14. Kitchen opens at noon, tasting between 2 and 3, and the auction starts at 3pm.

Tickets are \$50 and are available at both the JC and Owego Lodges, or by contacting Herb Flint at 607-759-8985.

**A message from Grand Exalted Ruler Brian R. Klatt:****Lodges elect new Officers, honor PERs in February**

Happy birthday to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America! On February 16, we celebrate 158 years of our great organization. On a personal note, I wish everyone a happy Valentine's Day, especially to my wife, Susan.

This month is important for Elkdom as new Officer elections should be held at your last monthly meeting. Every Officer should be dedicated to making the Lodge active and effective, both internally and in the community. Also, the current Exalted Ruler and Secretary should recognize any Member who sponsored or reinstated three Members by awarding them the Grand Exalted Ruler Award Pin. The request form is available on elks.org. Go to the Grand Exalted Ruler page within the Members Only section, then click on Grand Exalted Ruler Award Forms.

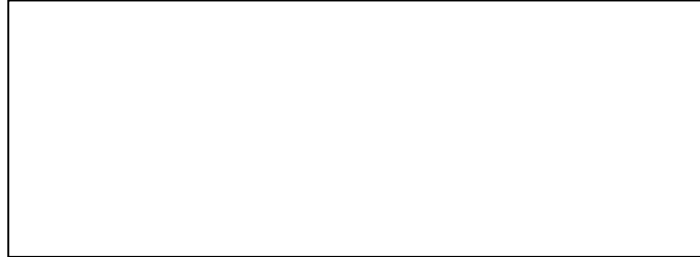
It's time to recognize and encourage a group of Members who have shown a great deal of effort and dedication to what we do as Elks, the Past Exalted Rulers. Ask them to perform the ritual during the Past Exalted Rulers Night. PERs deserve to be thanked for all they have done and for what they continue to do for your Lodge.

The Contest "A" - All American Lodge Contest certification forms are due soon. It takes teamwork to achieve this very prestigious award. Honestly, most Lodges would qualify but don't fill out the form properly. It is important to score your efforts on the form provided. It's a great way for your Lodge to keep track of what you need to do.

If you need assistance, contact your Grand Lodge Area Fraternal Committee member. There are first, second and third place winners for each of the six membership divisions. Why not take the time to submit your form before the deadline?

Continue to demonstrate that you can Be The Difference by promoting "Elks Care—Elks Share."

**Johnson City Elks Newsletter**  
**Johnson City Elks Lodge #2821**  
**4212 Watson Blvd.**  
**Johnson City, NY 13790**  
***A Fraternal Organization***



**February 2026**  
**Vol. 30 Issue 2**

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday   | Wednesday         | Thursday          | Friday  | Saturday                                   |
|--------|--------|---|-------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| 1      | 2      | 3<br><b>7pm Lodge Mtg<br/>Officer Nominations</b>                     | 4<br>Pitch night  | 5<br>7pm T-Party  | 6<br><b>Ham and Scalloped Potatoes</b>        | 7  |
| 8      | 9      | 10  | 11<br>Pitch night | 12<br>7pm T-Party | 13<br><b>Lemon Chicken</b>                    | 14<br><b>Bourbon Tasting @ Owego Lodge</b> |
| 15     | 16     | 17<br><b>7pm Lodge Mtg<br/>Elections for 2026-2027<br/>Lodge Year</b> | 18<br>Pitch night | 19<br>7pm T-Party | 20<br><b>Vet's Pasta Dinner</b>               | 21<br><b>Oxford Vet's Home Visit</b>       |
| 22     | 23     | 24  | 25<br>Pitch night | 26<br>7pm T-Party | 27<br><b>Fish Sandwich Perogies and Salad</b> | 28   |
| 1(Mar) | 2(Mar) | 3(Mar)  | 4(Mar)            | 5(Mar)            | 6(Mar)  | 7(Mar)                                     |

***The Lodge is open Wednesday & Thursday 5.30-8pm, Friday 4-7pm***