



Derby Lodge of Elks #571

THE LODGE OF THE VALLEY

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

Home Lodge of David Robinson, PDDGER STCEAC

Volume 127 | Issue 2 | February 2026

73 Elizabeth Street. PO Box 266, Derby, CT 06418

Lodge: (203) 735-1142 Office (203) 734-0571 <https://derbyelks.org>



LODGE OFFICERS 2025-2026

Board of Directors

Exalted Ruler	Maria Blackwell
Esteemed Leading Knight	Adam Pacheco
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Paul Blackwell
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Pat Mastrianni
Secretary	Sheila Parizo
Treasurer	Jeanen Buchanan
Five Year Trustee	Blake Stine
Four Year Trustee	Mike Wuchek
Three Year Trustee	Mike Rinaldi
Two Year Trustee	Cheryl Pereiras
One Year Trustee	Dave Savage
Inner Guard	Joe Hoefflinger
Tiler	Linda Bayusik
Esquire	Sonia Barbieri
Chaplain	Kevin Barbieri

*****HOUSE COMMITTEE*****

Chair: David Cox

Kevin Barbieri | Paul Blackwell | Mark Inderdohnen

Adam Pacheco | Mike Wuchek | Dave Savage

*****ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE*****

Chair: David French Stephanie Sorak

*****LODGE MEETING NIGHTS*****

1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 7:30 p.m.

B.O.D. Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday @ 6:45 p.m.

Officers Meetings: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

PER Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, directly after Lodge Mtg

House Committee: 1st Thursday @7:00 p.m.

Elk of the Year Paul Blackwell

Officer of the Year Dave Savage

Citizen of the Year Carlo Sarmiento

GER Commendation Kevin and Sonia Barbieri

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Rachael Kenyon, Editor | 203-751-2001 |

Rachael.kenyon89@gmail.com

MESSAGE TV Our message TV in the Antler Lounge is updated regularly. Contact [Jeanen Buchanan](mailto:Jeanen.Buchanan@derbyelks.org) with information, events, picture, etc. at lodge571derby@gmail.com

Exalted Ruler's Message



Greetings Members,

I hope everyone is staying warm and enjoying the start of February. Even though winter is still with us, the activity at our lodge continues to keep things lively, all thanks to you.

Great news! Our lodge has been approved for a \$4,000 Beacon Grant from the Elks National Foundation. These funds will be used to help supply both the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and the Kathleen Samela Memorial Food Pantry, allowing us to continue making a meaningful difference in our community. We will also be funding Booster Seats as part of our Safe Kids Program and joining with Griffin Health on February 10th at Griffin Hospital for a Booster Seat Giveaway. Contact ckellett@griffinhealth.org to register.

You should have received your 2026-2027 dues notices. Please remember to support ENF and Special Projects, and consider becoming a Fidelity Club member for only \$5 a month. Your generosity helps our lodge qualify for grants which allow us to expand the support we provide to local organizations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to answer your questions.

At our February 3rd lodge meeting, we will celebrate our annual Past Exalted Ruler Night, hold nomination of officers, and initiate new members into our lodge. We would be honored to have you join us for this special evening. Officer elections will take place on February 17th.

We also have some great activities planned to carry us through the winter months! Join us for our annual Super Bowl Party on February 8th at 5 PM, with plenty of great food and fun. Even if football isn't your thing, come out anyway...the food alone is worth it! Sign up at the lodge! On February 14th, treat your sweetheart (and the whole family) to our popular Heart-Shaped Fried Dough Night, always a fun, family-friendly tradition. We'll also be hosting a Fish Fry on Friday, February 20th, so mark your calendars.

Thank you for all you do to support our lodge and our community. I look forward to seeing you around the lodge this month and sharing another great February together.

Sincerely,

Maria Blackwell
Exalted Ruler

mjblackwell@snet.net | (203) 751-1709

Derby Lodge Hours

Monday through Saturday: 4:00 – 10:00p.m.

Sunday: Noon – 6:00p.m.



NOTE FROM THE LODGE SECRETARY'S DESK

P.O. Box 266, 73 Elizabeth St,
Derby, CT 06418
571sec@gmail.com

Members,

POSTED HOURS FOR SECRETARY:

Beginning January 1, 2026

Mon – Sat: 8:30am – 10am via email, text or phone.

Mon – Sat: 6pm – 8pm at the Lodge (unless away or ill)

Sunday – day of rest!!!

Delinquent members: We currently have 19 members who have not paid their 2025-2026 dues and are in danger of being dropped from the roster in March. The list is posted at the Lodge – if you know them, please urge them to renew their membership at our great Lodge!

Robert Cammisa, member #2079, has been a member of our Lodge for 40 years. Bob has requested Life Membership which he qualifies for. We will be voting on his application at our regular Lodge meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Sheila Parizo, Lodge Secretary
571Sec@gmail.com or 203-231-4971.

Where's Moe??



Can you find Moe on the Message TV slide show in the Antler Lodge?

Find him somewhere *in the slides* and **win a free drink!**

Keep looking, Moe will pop up somewhere new each month!

Report your Moe sighting to Dave Cox or Jeaneen Buchanan and win!

Jeaneen Buchanan can be reached at:
lodge571derby@gmail.com

Living or Dead, an Elk is Never Forgotten, Never Forsaken



Come into the Lodge to celebrate your

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

and receive a complimentary beverage!

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Raymond Clark | 16 Michael Rinaldi |
| 3 Dennis Barnum | Spencer Russo |
| Kathleen Carey | 18 Lucy Birdsell |
| Tara Pisaturo-Pelatoski | 19 Mark Guiliano |
| 4 Thomas DeGennaro | 21 Robert Charney |
| Linda Eisenman | John Gorleski |
| 5 Brian Southworth | Melissa Zaccagnini |
| 6 Richard Brickett | 22 Joseph Bongiorno |
| 7 Michael Gambardella | George Mitchell |
| 9 Dawnmarie Hunter | 23 Scott Berg |
| 10 William Hennessy | 24 Al Minopoli |
| 11 Dennis Downing | 25 Charles Ringel |
| 12 Norman Etters | 26 Christopher Carloni |
| Charles Stankye | 27 Susan Churchill |
| 13 Adrien Dubreuil | Louis Martines |
| 14 Anthony Ambrose | 28 William Nystrom |
| Jospeh Marcucio | |
| Josephine Olah | |
| Jamie Rivera | |

In our hearts & prayers

Keep our members always in your thoughts. If you are aware of someone who is ill, experiencing hardship, or who has suffered a loss, please let us know so that we can reach out to them.

May Guarnieri

Richard Montefusco

Please contact anyone here at Derby Lodge if you are aware of someone who is experiencing sickness or distress.

Pat Mastrianni, (203) 213.6325

Adam Pacheco, (860) 593.6019

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Mtg 730p PER night Nomination of Officers	4	5 House Comm. Meeting 7p	6	7
8 Super Bowl Party! 5-?? Breakfast	9	10 Elks Safe Kids Event @ Griffin 3-5p	11	12	13	14 Heart Fried Dough 5-7 p
15	16	17 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Meeting 730p Elec of Officers	18 Fraud Workshop 7p	19 Activities Comt Mtg 6p Trivia Night! 7p	20 Fish Fry 530-730p	21
22 Breakfast	23	24 Elks Riders Dinner 5-7p Line Dancing 7p	25	26 Dinner Club	27 Fish Fry 530-730p	28

Superbowl Party!

Derby Elks Lodge 571



Sunday, February 8th | Starts at 5:00 p.m.

\$20 per person (Includes one free beverage)

Join us for Food, raffle prizes, and football fun!

Heart Shaped Fried Dough

Derby Elks Lodge 571

Saturday, February 14th

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Topped with tomato sauce or sugar & cinnamon



Elks Riders Dinner

Tuesday, Feb 24th | 5-7 PM | \$12

Philly Cheesesteaks, tater tots & dessert

Sign-up with bartender

Event supports Elk Riders Charities

Thanks for your support!



Fish Fry Friday

Fisherman's Platter

Friday, February 20th and 27th

5:30-7:30 pm | \$15

Served with fries and coleslaw!

Announcements

Derby Elks & Griffin Health Booster Seat Giveaway

February 10, 2026 3-5pm
Griffin Hospital (exact location to be
announced at registration)

Contact
ckellett@griffinhealth.org
for Registration & Info
Register by January 28, 2026

When Registering Include:

- Your Name
- Your Town
- Age of Child
- Child's Height
- Child's Weight



Lodge Meeting Nights!

2/3

Nomination of Officers

2/17

Election of Officers



High School Senior Scholarships

Jan 5th - March 13th

Applications can be picked up at the Lodge.

Application Deadline

Due back **no later than March 13th!**

Fraud Prevention Workshop

Wednesday, Feb 18th | 7pm

Fraud Awareness Training
Detection and Prevention



Detective / Sergeant
Jannie Rivera



Lieutenant
Rick Montefusco



Free for all!

Sunday Breakfast

Feb 8th and 22nd

March 8th and 22nd

Come on down to your Derby
Elks Lodge for good company
and tasty food!



Derby Elks Lodge is Hosting



February 19th! at 7pm! hosted by Dave and Steph!

Free to play | Up to teams of 4 | Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd!



MARCH 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Meeting 730p	4	5 House Comm. Meeting 7p	6	7 Elks Awards Cocktails 4p Dinner 5p Awards 6p
8 Breakfast	9	10	11	12	13	14 Comedy & Dinner 5:30p
15	16	17 BOD meeting 630p Lodge Meeting 730p	18	19 Activities Comt Mtg 6p Trivia Night! 7p	20	21
22 Breakfast	23	24	25	26 Dinner Club	27	28 Installation of Officers
29	30	31				

DERBY ELKS AWARDS DINNER

MARCH 7, 2026



DERBY ELKS LODGE #571
73 ELIZABETH ST.
DERBY, CT 06418



COCKTAIL HOUR- 4PM DINNER - 5PM AWARDS CEREMONY- 6PM

ELK OF THE YEAR- DAVID BAYUSIK

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR- MARC GARAFOLA

OFFICER OF THE YEAR- ADAM PACHECO

GRAND EXALTED RULER COMMENDATION
DAVID COX & ANITA DUGATO

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT AWARD
LINDA BAYUSIK

\$30 PER PERSON

MAKE RESERVATIONS BY FEBRUARY 28, 2026
BY EMAILING
MJBBLACKWELL@SNET.NET
OR TEXTING 203-751-1709



Derby Elks Lodge #571

Dinner/ Comedy Show

March 14, 2026

Dinner- 5:30pm

Show - 6:30PM

Dave Kane Presents

Jokes My Irish Father Told Me

Dinner Includes:

Irish Soda Bread, Corned Beef, Potatoes,
Carrots, Cabbage, and Dessert

\$30 per person

Payment Must Accompany Reservations

For Info For Reservations Text 203-751-1709
or Reserve at the
Derby Elks Lodge #571
73 Elizabeth St.
Derby, CT



Photo Gallery



Prime Rib Dinner



Jukebox Matchup



Wall of Honor

Attention Members!

We are in the process of putting together a "Wall of Honor" for our veterans in the Lodge. Currently, we have 30 known veterans who are members of our Lodge.

We need the following information:

- If you are a veteran and have not informed the Lodge - please let me know (branch, rank @ discharge, date of discharge)
- If you have children or grandchildren who are active in the military, please let us know as we would like to honor them as well on our wall (branch and rank)

Elk of the Month!



~* Our Elk of the month *~



Dave Savage | Blake Stine | Paul Blackwell

This month, we are proud to recognize Dave Savage, Blake Stine, and Paul Blackwell as our Elks of the Month for their outstanding dedication to the care and upkeep of our lodge. Whether it's handling maintenance projects, tackling repairs, or quietly taking on the everyday cleanup that keeps our lodge welcoming and functional, their hard work never goes unnoticed. They give their time and energy selflessly, often behind the scenes, and their reliability and willingness to step up whenever something needs to be done truly embodies the spirit of Elkdom, and we are grateful for all they do.

Welcome New Members!

Give Back to Your
Community

Become an

ELK



Please continue to support our members and local businesses



Sheila M. Parizo
Justice of the Peace
Wedding ceremonies.....Vow Renewals
203-231-4971
sparizo@sbcglobal.net
Notary Public



Denise DeFrancisco
Executive Director
Denise.A1HC@yahoo.com
Office 203-712-7163
Fax 203-513-8611

96 Kings Hwy • Shelton, CT 06484

JAMES T. TOOHEY
1923-1998
EDWARD J. TOOHEY
1953-2010



ELLEN S. TOOHEY
EDWARD J. TOOHEY, JR.

James J. Toohy & Son
- FUNERAL HOME -
92 Howe Avenue, Shelton, CT 06484
203-924-9056

Email: ToohyFuneralHm@aol.com • www.ToohyFuneralHome.com



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36 COMMERCE STREET
DERBY, CT 06418



We Provide the Tools to Build Strong Futures

Together WE are Stronger!

Helping individuals, families, and communities to overcome the disease of addiction by creating real long-term solutions.

TriCircle
169 Colony Street Rm 28
Meriden, CT 06451
(860) 349-7074
info@tricircle.org
www.tricircle.org



Rentals

Do you have a Special Event coming up?
Birthday Parties, Baby Showers, Retirement Parties, etc.

For details and current pricing information,

Please call:

Al Minopoli: 203-906-6768
or Derby Lodge: 203-735-1142



Full Service Salon
2 Division Street
Derby, CT 06418
203-734-HAIR (4247)

Contact Lodge Secretary

Sheila Parizo

for information on placing your business ad in our Monthly Bulletins.

571sec@gmail.com | 203-734-0571