



The Roanoke Elks

1147 PERSINGER ROAD SW, ROANOKE VA 24015

LODGE 345-8126 SECRETARY 344-6140 POOL 982-9074
http://www.elks197.org
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ELK OF THE YEAR.....Tim Cronin
OFFICER OF THE YEAR.....Vicky Halferty
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR.....Eric Danielsen
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.....Caroline Poe & Jim Hoover
GER OUTSTANDING SERVICE COMMENDATIONS.....Josh Walters & Joe Handerhan
EDITOR.....Amy Wilhelm

OFFICERS FOR 2025 - 2026

Bryan Klatt.....GRAND EXALTED RULER
Mark Wigginton..... EXALTED RULER
Abbe Toler.....ESTEEMED LEADING KNIGHT
Shannon McCann.....ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT
Patrick Savage.....ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT
David Stultz, PER.....SECRETARY
Tim Cronin.....TREASURER
Stephen Brandtner.....ESQUIRE
Carol Adkins.....TILER
Stephanie Walters.....INNER GUARD
Jen Saunders.....CHAPLAIN

TRUSTEES

MATT WYNN, PDDGER, PER - Chairman
MATT A. WEBB DONNA A. MOORE
TERESA STAMUS-STULL JIM BATEY, PER

NON PROFIT
ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 299
ROANOKE, VA

March 2026

Volume 136, Issue 3

Since 1891

ROANOKE ELKS



LODGE 197

Exalted Ruler's Final Message



As my year serving as Exalted Ruler of Roanoke Elks Lodge #197 comes to a close, I want to sincerely thank our members for their support and dedication.

It has been an honor to serve alongside so many who give their time and energy to keep our Lodge strong.

This year showed once again that the true strength of the Elks lies in fellowship, service, and friendship.

Together we supported our community, honored our veterans, and helped those in need while continuing the proud traditions of our Lodge.

I am grateful to our officers, volunteers, and members who made this year successful. Your commitment ensures a bright future for Roanoke Elks Lodge #197.

While my term as Exalted Ruler ends, I look forward to continuing to support our Lodge and its mission.

Fraternally,

Mark Wigginton
Exalted Ruler
Roanoke Elks Lodge #197

GRAND EXALTED RULER



The message of our Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Klatt, is available in the monthly Elks magazine and on the Grand Lodge website: www.elks.org

LODGE #197 MARCH 2026 EVENTS

- 3/3: 6:00 MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETS
6:30 PER MEETING
- 3/4: 7:00 TRIVIA NIGHT (see March Specials insert)
- 3/5: 10:00 BOWLING W VETS @ LEE HI LANES
- 3/7: 12:00 - 4:00 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
- 3/10: 7:30 LODGE MEETING (see March Specials insert)
- 3/11: 6:00 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETS
- 3/14: 6:00 - 9:00 Saint Patrick's Day Celebration . Food and drink specials corned beef and cabbage and rubens. Music by T J Ellis from 6pm- 9pm. Get out those kilts and let's have some fun!
- 3/16: 6:00 HOUSE COMMITTEE
- 3/18: 7:00 TRIVIA NIGHT (see March Specials insert)
- 3/19: 1:00 EMALEE PETERSON HALL MEMORIAL BLOOD
- 3/22: 2:00 INSTALLMENT OF OFFICERS
- 3/23: 6:30 ORIENTATION - NEW MEMBERS
- 3/24: 7:30 LODGE MEETING - INITIATION (see March Specials insert)
- 3/25: 6:00 BOOK CLUB - THE LAST TWILIGHT IN PARIS BY: PAM JENOFF
- 3/28: 12:00 AUDIBLE EASTER EGG HUNT

DATE NIGHT IS EVERY FRIDAY - SEE MARCH SPECIALS INSERT
WE WILL BE PLANTING PIN WHEELS ON APRIL 1ST FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH - MARY KAY BROWN



The Book Club will meet on March 25 at 6 pm to Discuss The Last Twilight in Paris by Pam Jenoff.

~Carol Adkins 540.353.5959~



EmaLee Peterson Hall Memorial Red Cross Blood Drive:

Open to the public! Walk-ins welcome!
To schedule an appointment, go to red-crossblood.org and use keyword "elks197".
Interested in donating (?) or volunteering(?)
Contact: **Tony Koliba (540) 330-6208**
Our Scorecard: Since 07/2022, our Lodge has collected 965 units helping 2895 people who needed blood.
Thanks to all participants and volunteers!

MARCH 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 CLOSED	3 6:00 MAINTENANCE 6:30 PER MEETING	4 7:00 TRIVIA TRIVIA NIGHT	5	6 DATE NIGHT SEE MENU INSERT	7 12:00 - 4:00 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME	9 CLOSED	10 7:30 LODGE MEETING	11 6:00 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETS	12	13 DATE NIGHT SEE MENU INSERT	14 6:00 - 9:00 ST PATRICK DAY CELEBRATION MUSIC BY TJ ELLIS SEE MENU INSERT
15	16 CLOSED	17 ST PATRICK'S DAY	18 7:00 TRIVIA TRIVIA NIGHT	19 1:00 EMALEE PETERSON HALL MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE	20 DATE NIGHT SEE MENU INSERT	21
22 2:00 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS	23 6:30 ORIENTATION	24 7:30 LODGE MEETING INITIATION	25 6:00 THE LAST TWILIGHT IN PARIS BY PAM JENOFF	26	27 DATE NIGHT SEE MENU INSERT	28 12:00 AUDIBLE EASTER EGG HUNT
29	30 CLOSED	31				

Roanoke Elks Lodge 197
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

About Us
Roanoke Elks Lodge #197 is proud to support local students by awarding \$2,000 scholarships to individuals who demonstrate:

- Academic effort
- Community service involvement
- A commitment to continuing their education

Deadline
April 10, 2026

Apply Now
Inquire with Lodge Secretary For Applications or text 540 630 2300

Or For More Information Text: 540.630.2300

**MARCH 2026
ELK OF THE MONTH**



Roanoke Elks Lodge #197 is proud to recognize BT Butler as our Elk of the Month.

BT is one of those members who quietly shows up and gets the job done. Whether it's helping with Lodge events, supporting community projects, or stepping in wherever needed, BT consistently demonstrates what it means to be an Elk. His willingness to volunteer, positive attitude, and steady presence make a real difference in our Lodge.

Members like BT are the reason our events run smoothly and our Lodge continues to thrive.

Thank you, BT, for your dedication and commitment to Lodge #197. We are grateful for all you do.



Fraternally,
Mark Wigginton
Exalted Ruler

Save the Date: 10th Annual Roanoke Valley Audible Egg Hunt for children with blindness and visual impairment, Saturday, March 28th at the Lodge, 11:00-1:00.

Volunteers will be needed to assist with all aspects of the event: registration, games, egg hunt, activity tables, etc. Hopefully both Elroy and the Easter Bunny will make an appearance. This is a closed event for only registered visually impaired children. Donations of Easter items (plastic eggs, candy for the eggs, Spring and Easter goodies for baskets, etc.) will be collected. A tub will be located in the lobby for this collection.

Join the fun and support this Elks project. Set up and take down will be an hour before and after the event. For students who need volunteer service, certificates will be provided showing their hours.

To volunteer, contact Mary Kay at mkaybrown@aol.com. Info will also be posted to our Facebook page and you can sign up to volunteer through that.

Another way Elks Care, Elks Share!

Submitted by: Mary Kay Brown (Elks member) for the Audible Egg Hunt Committee

**MARCH 2026
VETERAN SALUTE**



**MARCH 2026
VETERAN SALUTE**

This month, Elk Lodge #197 proudly salutes Ray Jamison, whose Navy service is marked by unforgettable experiences and unwavering dedication.

Ray joined the United States Navy on his 18th birthday in 1975 and served honorably for six years, receiving his discharge in 1981. During his time in service, he was stationed aboard two aircraft carriers: the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CV-42) and the USS Saratoga (CV-60), where he spent the majority of his enlistment.

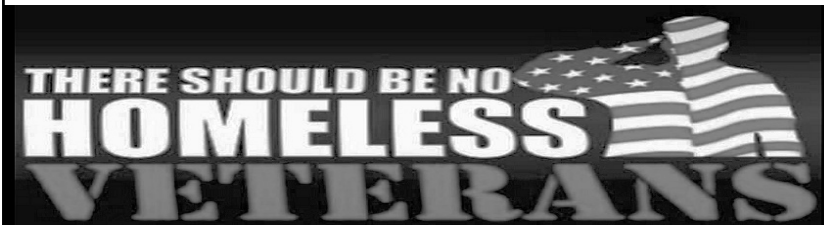
He completed two Mediterranean cruises and experienced more than most sailors see in a lifetime. Ray survived four major ship-board incidents, endured twin hurricanes in the Mediterranean, and was launched off the bow on a catapult 18 times during testing. He also flew off the ship in helicopters and once took an unforgettable ride in an F-4 fighter jet, flying over 700 knots just 20 feet above the water. As Ray recalls, "I could see the water rising up behind us as we flew over it."

Life on the flight deck demanded strength, skill, and grit. Ray handled 118-pound tie-down chains, secured aircraft during violent storms, and carried heavy wing locks as part of his daily duties. Each aircraft he worked on bore his name — a mark of pride and responsibility.

During one deployment, a collision tore a 12-foot hole into the compartment where Ray was sleeping. Awakened at 0400 by the sound of metal tearing apart, he ran out in his underwear to respond as alarms sounded. He assisted in securing the aircraft and recovery efforts. After returning from his second cruise, Ray participated in Red Flag exercises — the Air Force's version of Top Gun — further expanding his service experience.

Ray's six years in the Navy were defined by hard work, courage, and commitment. We thank him for his service to our country and for the dedication he continues to show in our community.

~ Submitted by Amy Wilhelm, Editor ~



Elks Care - Elks Share

***** WELCOME HOME KITS *****

Through the support of the Grand Lodge, funding is available to help homeless veterans as they transition into permanent housing. Our Lodge has proudly provided Welcome Kits to seven veteran families so far.

Each kit is customized: we speak directly with the veteran to determine their needs, then shop for and deliver the items right to their new home. While food and furniture cannot be purchased through this program, our generous Lodge members have stepped up—donating furniture, a washer and dryer, and even clothing to help these families get settled.

If you're interested in supporting this rewarding program, visit Elks.org, click on Elks National Foundation, and scroll to Veterans Services to learn more. There are many other ways to get involved in serving our veterans.

To participate locally or donate, contact Barbara Brandtner at 540-797-1886.

It's incredibly rewarding to see how grateful these families are to receive the basic household items many of us take for granted.

Support for Veterans at the Salem VA

The Salem VA Medical Center has reached out with a request for new toiletries and personal care items to help meet the daily needs of the veterans in their care.

Items such as shaving cream, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and body wash are always in demand. These simple essentials go a long way in supporting both the comfort and dignity of those who have served our nation.

In addition, the VA has expressed an ongoing need for new clothing items, including:

- ◆ Socks
- ◆ Underwear
- ◆ T-shirts
- ◆ Sweatpants (without drawstrings)
- ◆ Slippers

These donations are especially important for veterans who arrive with very little or who stay at the VA for extended care. Having clean, comfortable clothing helps make their recovery and daily life a little easier.

If you are able to contribute, please consider picking up a few of these items during your next shopping trip. Even the smallest donation makes a big difference when combined with the generosity of our Elks family. Together, we can ensure our veterans know they are cared for and remembered.

For more information on how or where to drop off donations, please reach out to the Lodge office. Let's continue living up to our pledge: "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

~Joe Handerhan

awards ★ trophies ★ plaques ★ signs ★ gifts ★ engraving

ALL STAR
impressions
roanoke, virginia ★ since 1993

Eric Danielsen
Cell: 540 527 3742

540 344 0300
Store@AllStarImpressions.net
621 Townside Road 24014

HAIR BY LINDA
Linda Lambert - Formerly of Salon Associates

1147 Persinger Road
Roanoke, VA 24015
(Lower Level Elks Lodge #197)

540-986-5638



Angela Batey
REALTOR
Cell: 540-353-7138
Wainwright & Co. - Realtors
1202 Electric Rd Salem, VA 24153
Licensed REALTOR® in the Commonwealth of VA



Website: www.wainwrightco.com
<https://www.facebook.com/angelabateyrealtor>

Thank you for the opportunity to help you in all your Real Estate needs!

Bill Morse
Loan Originator
NMLS 117604



Mobile (540) 525-2050
Office (540) 613-6515
Fax (877) 719-1721
bill.morse@primelending.com
lo.primelending.com/billmorse
3130 Chaparral Dr, Bldg B, Suite 206
Roanoke, VA 24018

Home Loans Made Simple.

PrimeLending NMLS 13649



HODGES PRESSURE CLEANING
We clean vinyl, decks, docks, gutters and concrete. And seal and protect all wood.
(540) 366-8811



PREMIERE real

ROBERT KERN
REALTOR®
CELL: 540.505.3345
OFFICE: 855.450.0442
Robkern.realtor@gmail.com
Lic. 0225247256

FIBRENEW
Experts in Leather, Plastic & Vinyl Restoration



Jim & Angela Batey
Fibrenew Roanoke

540.556.6035
roanoke@fibrenew.com
fibrenew.com/roanoke

This Fibrenew® service is an independently owned and operated franchised business.