



**Johnson City Lodge #2821** went to the dogs as it held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Show Off Your Doggie Show" on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. It was a "dog day of summer", but over 80 dogs strutted their stuff to win prizes and help raise over \$1,000.00 for the BC Humane Society. Pictured is Phil Holowacz, PSP showing his black lab Reuben.



**Norwich Lodge #1222** recently held a Chicken BBQ to benefit the Norwich-Oxford Little League program. The BBQ raised \$700 for the program. Pictured from left to right: (Back Row) A. Jones, Little League representative; John Newton, Elks Lodge Trustee & BBQ Chairman; Sean Sastri, Little League representative; Jeff Cola, Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler; Katie Hanson, Little League representative; (Front Row) Little League players Gehrig Sastri, Tyler Jones, Andrew & Daniel Thompson.



**Binghamton Lodge #70** in Kirkwood held a spaghetti and meatball dinner on May 22<sup>nd</sup> honoring the Town of Kirkwood D.P.W. employees for their dedication and service to the community and the Elks. E.R. Gene Briggs is shown presenting a "Thank You" plaque to Ray Coolbaugh, D.P.W. Commissioner. Eighty people were served.



**Guilderland Lodge #2480** recently gave out a Gratitude Grant to the Guilderland Senior Heat Program. This program enables the Town of Guilderland to help low income seniors with their home heating bills. Shown in photo from left to right: PDDGER Stephen Frankoski; Kenneth Runion, Guilderland Town Supervisor; Cindy Wadach, Senior Services Coordinator; Michael Jones, Exalted Ruler Guilderland Lodge #2480.

**Oswego Lodge #271** recently hosted an awards dinner to honor the service men and woman in the area along with honoring the Youth Volunteer of the year. NY State Elks Association Past President Daniel Capella introduced the guest speaker, NYS Elks Association President Lawrence Contratti. President Contratti also assisted Public Safety Awards Chairman Michael Codes and Exalted Ruler John Palmear with the awards. The recipients were as follows:

- Oswego City Firefighter Michael Cook
- Presenter Jeffrey McCrobie
- Oswego County Deputy Sheriff Robert Ramsey Jr.
- Presenter Sheriff Reuel Todd
- Hannible Fire Company George Perry Jr
- Presenter Chief John Gombas Jr
- Oswego City Police Sgt. Chance Fieldson
- Presenter Chief Tory DeCaire
- NYS University Police @ Oswego LT David VanAntwerp
- Presenter Acting Chief John Rossi
- Novelis Fire Department LT Kyle Hartford
- Presenter Chief Jason Dexter
- Youth Volunteer Award Ketelyn Clary
- Girl Scout



**Cobleskill Lodge #2040** presented a check to the Cobleskill Police Department and the Cobleskill PBA for the purpose of purchasing air powered training devices in lieu of actual weapons. This donation was made possible by the use of the Grand Lodge Gratitude Grants. Cobleskill Elks are pleased to be able to partner with our local law enforcement agencies for the better of the community. Pictured above left to right: District Deputy Jay Heassler, Cobleskill #2040; Exalted Ruler James Suschinski, Cobleskill #2040; Officer Matt Egnor, Cobleskill Police Department; & Inner Guard Bill Cary, Cobleskill #2040.



**Peekskill Lodge #744** held a dinner for families in need. Using a Gratitude Grant from ENF, the Elks provided a home cooked meal and over 200 bags of groceries to people who could use a little help in these hard economic times. Any remaining food and groceries were personally delivered to Jan Peek House homeless shelter and St. Christopher's Inn a home for boys. Along with this event the Elks shipped packages to four deployed military units. Members donated their time to shop, pack, collect donations, and prepare food. We are proud to be Elks and Elks are proud to help our community.

The north country nonprofit community is \$25,000.00 richer thanks to **Watertown Lodge #496** and supporters of its fundraising efforts. During a luncheon Friday at the lodge, 728 Bradley St., 23 nonprofits were awarded \$1,000 each. Timothy E. Kelly, Elks Lodge member who was in charge of the raffle, said that since the community supported the raffle by buying tickets, the lodge wanted to give back to it.

"We're here to help," he said. "The Elks is dedicated mainly to youth, veterans and senior citizens." Michael R. Forcier, Watertown Elks Exalted Ruler, thanked nonprofit representatives in attendance for also giving back to the community. "Our Grand Exalted Ruler has a saying that's you, and it's called 'Beacon of Hope,'" he said. "Each of you are a beacon of hope." Agencies that benefited included: AIDS Community Resources, Alzheimer's Association of Central New York, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Red Cross of Northern New York, Cerebral Palsy Association of the North Country, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County, Hospice of Jefferson County, Jefferson Rehabilitation Center, Meals on Wheels, North Country Children's Clinic and Northern Regional Center for Independent Living.

The list continued with Planned Parenthood of the North Country New York, Rotary Purple Heart Scholarship program, Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties, Watertown Salvation Army, Watertown Urban Mission, Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County, Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions, North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council, Volunteer Transportation Center of Jefferson County, Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Jefferson County and the Wounded Warrior Project, Fort Drum. PSP TIM KELLY said. "We raised \$200,000.00"



Exalted Ruler Brian Sherry and PER Kevin Reilly of **Haverstraw Lodge #877**, proudly present Fr. Madden of St. Peters church a \$300 donation towards churches annual turkey

drive. The lodge help with the donations so that 365 turkeys could be handed out to families that were need at this holiday time. On Sunday, November 18, the

**Watertown Lodge #496** held the annual harvest dinner for area senior citizens. Approximately 400 were served the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. As in past years, the Lodge provided busing for those living in senior residences. Every year we look forward to this event. It is a favorite for the volunteers and to those who return every year. Have a happy and safe holiday season from all of us at the Watertown Elks Lodge.

**Help Support the Elks Veterans Memorial Building - Donate Online**  
Donations are [now being accepted online](#) for the Elks Veterans Memorial Building.

Originally dedicated in 1926 to the memory of the fallen Elks of World War I, the Veterans Memorial Building is at the heart of Elkdom. Magnificently constructed a mile from Lake Michigan in Chicago, it is a breathtaking structure representing the values Elks cherish. It has since been rededicated to the memory of all American Veterans who have died for our great nation. It is our duty, in the name of these Veterans, to ensure this Memorial remains an extraordinary symbol of their bravery and patriotism.

Your donation will be used for the perpetual care and continued restoration of this Memorial. As an impressive structure with sculptures and murals by notable artists, continual upkeep is necessary for its preservation. It is our objective to sustain the interior and exterior beauty this building had at its dedication over 80 years ago. [A donation to the Elks National Memorial Trust](#) is tax-deductible under the 501c3 tax law.