



Johnson City Lodge #2821 held its first "Java for Joes - Cruisin for Classic Cars and Bikes". Participants admission fee was one can of coffee. Elroy was on hand to help collect the coffee that will be delivered to the USO in Watertown, NY for troops at Fort Drum.

On June 9th the Johnson City lodge held their first "Show off Your Doggie Show". Over \$1,000.00 was raised for the Broome County Humane Society. Our own Joy Turner took home the "Most Calm" Doggie Award.

The Lodge took part in Carousel Days on July 21. Many lodge members ran a fishing game for kids, cooked & sold food, and Elroy was caught jamming with one of the bands entertaining the crowd that day. Funds raised help the JC Partners to encourage growth of our hometown.

PORT JEFFERSON LODGE # 2138 HOSTS WOUNDED WARRIORS BIKE RIDE

Port Jefferson Lodge # 2138 was proud to host a rest stop for a Wounded Warriors fund raising bike tour. The group are veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and ride the bikes as part of their therapy routine. They had left Massachusetts early in the morning and crossed through Connecticut when they took a ferry to Orient Point. They took the North Shore roads and follow them to the Port Jefferson Lodge located on Route 112, just South of Route 347. The USO was in attendance to feed them and give them fluids to help keep them hydrated. Port Jefferson volunteered to be the designated rest area. The Lodge was open from 10 am until 7 pm when the last of the riders and crowd left. Pictured in the photograph are two of the organizers of the ride. On the left is John Wordin, President of Ride 2 Recovery, presenting a Challenge Coin to Suffolk Legislator Steve Engelbright. Third from the left is State Senator Ken LaValle who was already presented with a challenge coin from Forrest Bruke, CEO of United Healthcare's Public Sector, Government, Labor & Education Markets Division. On the right side is Lodge Exalted Ruler Anthony Florio.

Herkimer Lodge #1439 – When Est. Loyal Knight Joe Burdick was walking to the lodge, he noticed a lightning rod at the Herkimer Library, which should have be a flag pole. He decided that the lodge would adopt the flag. He arranged for the village to cut tree limbs around the pole and paint the pole. The lodge purchased a flag as well as a solar powered light. Now the library has a flag that can be seen day and night.

Liverpool Lodge #2348 recently hosted a clambake to honor the Korean War Veterans. Ambassador Kim, who is the Korean Ambassador to United States and his associates attend the CNY Korean War Vet annual clambake. At the conclusion of the Clambake he honored these veterans even further by covering the entire cost of the function.

Herkimer Lodge #1439 presented a gift card and dinner to ladies from the Christian Service Committee Knitting Ministry of St. Anthony-St. Joseph Church in Herkimer in appreciation of the lap robes and slippers they have donated for several years for the Herkimer Elks to take to the Syracuse VA Hospital when we make our visit to the hospital.



On Sunday, August 12, 2012 Colin Claus, the 15-yr. old who won the bike give-a-way at the June 2, 2012 North East District Veterans Service Military Family Fun Day event, & in turn donated it to a young boy from Afghanistan who has cancer & resides at the Ronald McDonald House in Albany, was invited to the pre-DD Clinic breakfast (along with his parents) at **Cohoes-Waterford Lodge #1317** & presented with some special gifts. He was given a \$100 Visa Gift Card from the North East District Veterans Service Chairpersons, along with a Certificate of Appreciation for his act of kindness & for exemplifying the Elks motto Charity. Clifton Park member, John Olsen, also presented Colin with a \$100 check from Shen LaCrosse, the organization that donated the bike to our 6/2 District Military event. Pictured in photo from left are Joyce Dominic-Schafer, Saratoga-Wilton Lodge; John Olsen, Clifton Park Lodge; Karen Hale, Scotia-Glenville Lodge; DD Paul C. Galarneau, Cohoes-Waterford Lodge; Colin; District Veterans Service Chair PER Regina Hogan, Cohoes-Waterford Lodge; Colin's mother Sheri & father Army Master Sgt. Leonard Claus, who was home for two weeks leave from Afghanistan.



On September 11th. **Staten Island Lodge #841** celebrated Patriots Day with a Candlelight Ceremony to remember 271 people, with each name being read and honored with the ringing of the bell and the Colors dipped, all from Staten Island. Over 80 men, women and children attended the ceremony, each taking from it peace and comfort. This simple ceremony continues to let our community know we never forget.



Watertown Lodge #496 members visited the Fort Drum USO on Thanksgiving Day and assisted with the Thanksgiving Dinner. The visiting member provided cookies and pies for the USO. While there they enjoyed lunch with some of the Fort Drum Soldiers and their families. In appreciation, the USO presented Watertown Lodge with a certificate of appreciation. Members that volunteered are pictured at the USO Center. They are Leading Knight Paul Nutting and his wife Ilene Nutting, Loyal Knight Ray Cooley, Courtney Jobson, and Past State President Tim Kelly.



Jamestown Lodge #263 provided a complimentary breakfast on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, for all area military veterans. Jamestown Lodge has provided this breakfast continuously for 94 years.

Attending the breakfast are from left, Michael Peters, PER and current Trustee, Thomas Jones, former US Army Captain, Gregory Noon, ER, Daniel Zepka former US Army Specialist and Abe Rosenberg, PER and US Army Vietnam veteran.

Jones served as the officer-in-charge of a military police element of combined police operations in Quang Ngni and Quang Tin provinces in Vietnam. He served one tour including three campaigns and for his service was awarded the Bronze Star.

Zepka served in the 65th Combat Engineers, 25th Infantry from 1968-69 and helped to defend the base and village at Chu Chi, Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. For his service he was awarded the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm and the Army Commendation Medal.

Rosenberg, a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran, served as a Specialist 4 at Cam Ranh Bay, Headquarters First Logistical Command and with the 518th Adjutant General Personnel Battalion.

Military Veterans living in the Webster, N.Y. School District were honored with a complimentary dinner sponsored by the Webster Spry Middle School and the **Webster-Fairport Lodge # 2396**.

The dinner which was held at the Webster-Fairport Elks Lodge, was the Spry Middle School Students and the Elks Lodge's way of showing their appreciation to the men and women of this community who have served, or are actively serving in our country's military.

A total of one hundred ninety (190) Veterans and their spouses attended. The Veterans were served dinner and dessert by thirty (30) Students of the Spry Middle School. The students were assisted by fourteen (14) Spry Middle School Bus Drivers and four (4) School Staff Members.

Members of the Webster-Fairport Elks Lodge performed the cooking and other food preparations. The dinner consisted of salad, spaghetti and meatballs, bread, cake, soft drinks, and coffee.