



NEWSLETTER

5113 63RD STREET COLUMBUS, NE 68601 402.564.1451 THEELKSCC.COM ELKSCC@THEELKSCC.COM

IT'S 2026 AND THE ELKS IS OPEN!

Practicing benevolence: It's what we do

Join us in 2026 supporting our youth, veterans, and those in need

“The Elks is more than a country club and golf course.” We say this because it’s true. The mission of every Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks across the United States is to:

- live as examples of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity;
- believe in God and exemplify that faith;
- promote the welfare and happiness of members;
- live as examples of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity;
- believe and demonstrate faith in God ;



CHRIS NAHORNY
Exalted Ruler
Elks Lodge #1195
nahorny31@gmail.com

- promote the welfare and happiness of members;
- encourage American patriotism;
- cultivate good fellowship;
- serve as an Elks lodge and fraternal organization.

We do this by helping children grow up healthy and drug-free, meeting the needs of today's veterans, and improving the quality of life for our community and those in need.

And we are off to a great start for 2026!

This Wednesday, Jan. 21, the Elks will be awarding a \$7,000, combination Beacon and Gratitude grant to the Columbus Rescue Mission to help the organization build a much-needed storage and donation garage. The check presentation will be held at 5:30 p.m., and we will serve the residents and staff supper afterwards. Let Elks Secretary Jeanne Schieffer know if you can join us or if you want to support the Mission with food or supplies this year.

To celebrate youth, we will be sending six students to the District Hoop Shoot contest in York on Jan. 31. (See more about this on page 2.)

We will be awarding Elks’ scholarships for local 2026 graduates. Applications must be to Scholarship Chair Sam Hogeland by Feb. 2 for Legacy scholarships and by Feb. 15 for Veteran, Vocational, Past Exalted Ruler and Nebraska Golf Scholarships. Contact Sam via email: samuelhogeland@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Finally, we hope some of you will consider being an officer! See the ad to the left and ask any of the Elks officers how to get involved.



Want to make a difference in 2026? Become an Elks officer.

- Each year, Elks Lodge #1195 asks members of the Club to consider becoming a leader on the Lodge board.
- Our 2026-27 officers include: Justin Laudenklos (ER), Jon Faltys (Leading Knight), Chase Piel (Loyal Knight), Craig Mickey (Treasurer), Sam Hogeland (Esquire), Marty Divis (Chaplain), and Jeanne Schieffer, Secretary.
- The person will help with the Veterans Outing, present scholarships to students, and support local community projects. The position open is for the Lecturing Knight, a four-year commitment to lead the organization.
- He/She will also support exploration into a new business model where the Club can operate independently from the non-profit structure of the Elks. If you are interested, please contact Jeanne Schieffer at jeanneschieffer1982@gmail.com or one of the current officers.

HOOP SHOOT SENDS SIX TO DISTRICT EVENT IN YORK

Three time's the charm. This idiom was the answer to having a successful Elks Hoop Shoot this year. Your Lodge officers worked with our local school systems to hold three, separate Hoop Shoot contests.

The first, held on Oct. 29 at Scotus, was directed by Chris Nahorny, ER and Hoop Shoot Coordinator. The second was held on Dec. 7 at Lakeview and organized by Loyal Knight Jon Faltys. The final Hoop Shoot was arranged by Chase Piel and held at Columbus Middle School Dec. 21.

Collectively, more than 70 students participated, with the following students taking top honors in their respective divisions. These winners or their runners-up have been invited to participate in Districts on Jan. 31 in York, if they are available.

- 8-9 Girls Division Maddie Pekny
- 8-9 Boys Division Gavin Korth
- 10-11 Boys Division Keiton Stabb
- 10-11 Girls Division Brooke Suing
- 12-13 Girls Division Brooke Kreikemeier
- 12-13 Boys Division Jacob Heinrich



Above, Elks officer Chase Piel counts the baskets of Immanuel Lutheran student Keiton Staab who participated in the 10-11 division Hoop Shoot at the Columbus Middle School. Those who made the most baskets in 25 tries advance to Districts in York.



Deadline

If you are a 2026 graduate and want to apply for an Elks scholarship, please note the deadlines for submitting your application(s) listed here.

*Send applications to
Scholarship Committee
Chairman Sam Hogeland:
samuelhogeland@yahoo.com.*

ELKS LEGACY. Feb. 2

**VETERANS
SCHOLARSHIPS
VOCATIONAL,
NEBRASKA GOLF,
and PAST EXALTED
RULER**

Feb. 15

MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER

Dear Members,

As we begin a new year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past year and share a little about what's ahead for our Club.

Last year was a wonderful one for our community. From busy weekends at the Club to special events shared with family and friends, it was great to see so many members making memories here. Your involvement and support continue to be what truly makes our Club feel like home.

As we look ahead, our focus remains on creating a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere where everyone can enjoy their time—whether that's on the course, at the pool, or around the clubhouse.

We're excited about the plans for the year ahead and look forward to continuing to build on what makes our Club such a special place.

I am also pleased to share that we are in the final stages of the hiring process for a new superintendent, and I hope to share more by the end of the month.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to our Board of Directors and committee members. Their time, dedication, and thoughtful guidance play a huge role in helping move the Club forward, and we are grateful for their continued support and leadership.

Thank you also for being such a supportive and engaged membership. We're looking forward to another great year together and hope to see you and your families at the Club often.

Warm regards,

-Trista

MESSAGE FROM OUR GOLF PROFESSIONAL

Hello from the golf shop!

Thanks to all who stopped by the Holiday Sale! It was great to see your support of the club.

We've made room for some awesome new stuff coming this spring. I'd also like to extend a thank you to all who made time to get your shop credit spent. Having a hard cut-off date this year made it more difficult on you, but I appreciate your willingness to work with me on that.

Since it is the month of January (and the true dog days of winter), I wanted to have some fun with this month's column before we start thinking about the 2026 season and more of the "golf talk" you'll see in the next couple of newsletter entries.

Last month's "notable golf movies" column made me think about THE DEFINITIVE ranking for the best golf movies of all time.

1. *Tin Cup* - For us golf nerds, this is the most relatable golf movie in existence. Too many "golf sicko" quotes and actions to argue against its rightful place at the top)

2. *The Legend of Bagger Vance* - I mean come on! "A game that can't be won, only played."

3. *Caddyshack* - Who can forget: "A flute with no holes, is not a flute. A donut with no hole, is a Danish. He was a funny guy."


4. *The Greatest Game Ever Played*

5. *Bobby Jones: Strokes of Genius*

If you haven't seen one of these, give yourself a gift for 2026 and watch it. Then, tell me what you think. As always, I look forward to hearing your opinion the next time I see you on why this list is 100% correct!

-Derrick

JAN & FEB CALENDAR



January

16 Private Event

17 Formal Dance Club

20 OFC

21 Lodge Check Presentation to Columbus Rescue Mission, 5 pm

24 Private Event

28 Cactus

31 Private Event / No Dining Available

February



2 Elks Legacy Scholarship Applications Due

5 Private Event

13 Private Event

14 Holiday Dance Club / Valentine's Day Dinner Specials

15 Veteran, Vocational, Past-Exalted Ruler, Nebraska Golf Scholarships Due

17 OFC / Bridge

21 Formal Dance Club

25 Cactus

