



ROCKLAND COUNTY SHIELDS

PO BOX 15 NEW CITY, NEW YORK 10956

April 2026

OFFICERS (2026-2027)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT
Ed Weireter

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
John Pinto

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Lou Falco III

TREASURER
Joe Cain

SECRETARY
Lynn Hayes

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Jim Sciacca

1ST SGT. AT ARMS
Paul Arico

2ND SGT. AT ARMS
Bob Davan

EDITOR
Peg Varieur

CHAPLAIN
George Albin

DIGITAL MEDIA OFFICER
Dennis Dodrill

TRUSTEES (2026-2027)
ORANGETOWN
Daniel Ryan

CLARKSTOWN
Chris Brigando

HAVERSTRAW
Manny Figueroa

STONY POINT
Keith Hansen

RAMAPO
Mike Higgins

TRUSTEE AT LARGE
Tim Connolly Jr

HEALTH AND WELFARE
John Dillon

HISTORIAN
Mark Murphy

PAST PRESIDENT
Christian Cortelli

Legal Counsel
StolzenbergCortelli

We had the NY State Division of Homeland Security conduct a "Citizens Preparedness" seminar in March, right before the General Meeting. The class ran about one hour and covered topics such as: emergency plans, preparing a survival kit, pet safety, cyber security, and gathering important documents. It was very well attended.

We will set this up again before a General Meeting very soon. Many thanks to Mark Murphy for arranging this event.

Applications for the Tim Finn Memorial Scholarship Program must be submitted by 12 noon, on May 1, 2026. College bound students are encouraged to apply.

The applicant must be the son or daughter of a Shields Member and must be accepted into college as a freshman for the Fall 2026 semester. Scholarships will be awarded at the May General Membership Meeting.

Applications must be submitted on line. The link can be accessed in the April email and on our website:

www.RocklandCountyShields.org

(Click on the RESOURCES tab, then select FORMS)

Super 50-50 tickets went out in March. Please support the Super 50-50 as it is the foundation of the Shields Scholarship Program.

LEOSA range date is, Thursday, May 14, 9:00 AM. Members can register at the April General Membership Meetings. All necessary forms will be at the meeting. A notary will be present to complete the Affidavit.

See you at the Elks. Bring a new member!

Fraternally,
Ed Weireter

"Mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent." (Adam Smith)



Membership

The next general membership meeting will take place at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at the Haverstraw Elks Lodge. Come see old friends and maybe make some new ones. Bring a new member!

Proposed for Membership

Mike Burke
Thomas Hovagim
Ramon Mendez
Ali Amoros
Jonathan Javier
Michael T. O'Bryan

Proposed Agency

NYPD, Ret.
NYPD
NYPD, Ret.
NYPD
NYPD, Ret.
NYS Office of Cannabis Management

Proposed by

Joe Cain
Joe Cain
Mark Murphy
Ed Weireter
Ed Weireter
Christina Honan

Membership applications can be found on our website by clicking [HERE](#).

In addition to membership applications, you will find photos, archived newsletters, Shields history and the calendar. We are also on Facebook as Rockland County Shields.

If you purchased a 2025 300 Club ticket, you will be receiving a text message to purchase your existing number for 2026. If you do not wish to purchase this year, please let us know so we can offer it to the waiting list.

If you wish to receive text message updates and meeting reminders, please send an email with your name and cellular phone number to rcshieldnews@gmail.com

ROCKLAND COUNTY SHIELDS



SCAM ALERTS

Scam text messages, or "smishing" (SMS phishing), are fraudulent messages designed to steal personal information, money, or credentials by impersonating trusted sources like banks, government agencies, or delivery services. These messages often create false urgency, such as fake account freezes or missed deliveries, prompting users to click malicious links. Red flags include unsolicited messages, suspicious links, and requests for private data, which should never be engaged with.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

04/29/26	7:00 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAVERSTRAW ELKS LODGE
05/05/26	7:00 PM	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING LYNCH'S ON THE GREEN
5/10/26-5/16/26		NATIONAL POLICE WEEK
05/16/26	11:00 AM	ROCKLAND COUNTY POLICE MEMORIAL CEREMONY ROCKLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
05/27/26	7:00 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS HAVERSTRAW ELKS LODGE
06/02/26	7:00 PM	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING LYNCH'S ON THE GREEN
06/24/26	*6:00 PM*	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING BRING YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER AND ENJOY THE OUTDOOR DECK (WEATHER PERMITTING)
06/28/26	2:00 PM	300 CLUB PARTY AND DRAWING HAVERSTRAW ELKS CLUB GOOD LUCK TO ALL TICKET HOLDERS
NO SUMMER MEETINGS		
09/08/26	7:00 PM	WELCOME BACK EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING LYNCH'S ON THE GREEN
09/30/26	7:00 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAVERSTRAW ELKS CLUB
10/06/26	7:00 PM	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING LYNCH'S ON THE GREEN
10/10/23	7:00 PM	SHIELDS' 60 TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE
10/28/26	7:00 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAVERSTRAW ELKS CLUB



CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the family of member James Filgate (NYPD, Retired) who passed away on January 28, 2026.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to William Simurra (Suffern PD) on his promotion to Lieutenant.

THANK YOU

Thank you to member Tony Stone of Shadow Firearms and Tactics for his sponsorship of the March meeting.

Thank you to the NYS Department of Homeland Security for the informative Citizens Preparedness Presentation held prior to the March meeting. We would also like to thank the Haverstraw Elks for the use of their facility to hold this training.

POPPA

The Police Organization Providing Peer Assistance will present at the upcoming April meeting. Director Thomas Hovagim will be speaking on mental health and law enforcement. Operating 24 hours a day every day of the year, POPPA assists officers in coping effectively with stress related to personal life stresses and stress related to the law enforcement profession. You can obtain more information by visiting the website at <https://poppanewyork.org/>

TIM FINN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The application for the Tim Finn Memorial Scholarship Program will be available online on March 15, 2026. Please ensure the application is complete and all supporting documentation is submitted via email only by noon on May 1, 2026. At that time, the application site will no longer be accessible. Hard copy applications or supporting documents will not be accepted. The application and instructions can be found [HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_YCZOIXTfPiUU6TxnJEnKUAb5lQi-0h_E5JkGfhp92nT1AQ/viewform?usp=header)
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_YCZOIXTfPiUU6TxnJEnKUAb5lQi-0h_E5JkGfhp92nT1AQ/viewform?usp=header
Scholarship awards will be presented at the May General Membership meeting at the Haverstraw Elks.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Get well wishes to Shields President Ed Weireter who is home and doing well after a recent hospitalization.

We currently have two members in need of transportation assistance to and from dialysis appointments. Thank you to those of you that have reached out to help. If you can be of assistance, please contact us via email at RCShieldsnews@gmail.com and we can put you in touch.

Well wishes to all our members who are dealing with health issues. Please reach out if The Shields can be of help.

ROCKLAND COUNTY SHIELDS

60th Anniversary Dinner Dance

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF DINNER, DANCING AND
CAMARADERIE!

*Saturday October 10, 2026 7:00 pm
Haverstraw Elks Club
877 Elks Drive, Haverstraw N.Y.*

125.00 per person includes cocktail hour, sit down dinner, open bar and dancing. Cocktail attire suggested.

Reservations and table requests can be emailed to:

*Rcshieldsnews@gmail.com Payment can be made to
"payrocklandshields@gmail.com" via zelle, or mailed to:
PO Box 15 New City, NY 10956*





ROCKLAND COUNTY SHIELDS

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Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters of The Rockland County Shields,

The Rockland County Shields will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary on Saturday, October 10, 2026, with a festive Dinner Dance. Our Executive Board and membership invite you to support this special event.

There are a variety of ways that you can support this year’s event, including attending the Dinner Dance, sponsoring a journal ad, or making a direct donation. Details for purchasing tickets and journal ads or making direct donations can be found on the enclosed form as well as on our website, rocklandcountyshields.org. Thank you in advance for supporting the 60th Anniversary of The Rockland County Shields.

Sincerely,

Ed Weireter
President, Rockland County Shields

60th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Saturday, October 10, 2026, at The Haverstraw Elks

\$125.00 per person includes:

Cocktail Hour 7 p.m.–8 p.m., Dinner & Dancing 8 p.m.– Midnight with DJ Rockin’ Richie Lea

Table requests will be accommodated as able.

Names of attendees _____
Number of attendees _____
Phone number _____
E-mail _____
Table requests _____

Journal Opportunities:

Please consider supporting our event by purchasing a Journal Ad. A commemorative journal will be available in both printed and digital formats. Sponsorship Ads are a great way to showcase your business and show your support for The Shields.

Journal Ad Submission Deadline: Friday, September 15, 2026

E-mail journal ads to rcshieldsnews@gmail.com. Accepted Content: size 5”w x 7.5”h; in the form of a fully designed ad, text/image, or business card.

Please indicate your preference below:

- Back Cover \$300 Inside Front Cover \$200
 Full Page \$100 Half Page \$75 Shields sponsor listing \$50

Payment for the Dinner Dance and Journal sponsorships can be made:

- **electronically** by emailing the completed form to rcshieldsnews@gmail.com and paying via Zelle to “PayRocklandShields@gmail.com” or
- **mail** the completed form and a check to: Rockland County Shields, PO Box 15, New City, NY 10956. Checks should be made out to “Rockland County Shields”.

Thank you for your support.