



Erie County Deputy Sheriffs Badge & Shield Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 81 • Niagara Square Station • Buffalo, New York 14201-0081

APRIL, 2026

Our April meeting will be held on **Monday, April 20th, 2026** at **Danny's Airport** located at **3715 Genesee Street in Cheektowaga, NY**. This meeting is for **Members & Guests**. Please remember to contact **Debbie** at least **one week** prior to the meeting at **716-816-5368** (text or call) or email at nortond8991@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Thank you for your continued cooperation! **Reminder: Members are \$20 and Guests are \$25. Meetings begin at 6:30pm.**

Our March meeting was held at the Elma Towne Grille. We had a total of 31 members in attendance. The split club was won by Liz Dillon with a jackpot of \$75!

For those who have submitted their membership cards and dues, **THANK YOU!** For those who have not, this will be your final newsletter. Enclosed is another membership card to be completed and returned with your dues to: The Badge & Shield Club, P.O. Box 81, Buffalo, NY 14201-0081. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

The **47th Annual Badge & Shield Awards and Retirement Dinner** was held on **Saturday, March 21st, 2026** at The Columns Banquets in Elma, NY. We are happy to report that it was a huge success, and everyone had a great time. We received many compliments on the venue/food as well as the presentation. Thank you to the committee who made this event a wonderful celebration for our awardees and retirees.

Our sincere condolences go out to the families of **Mrs. Mirna Haeick, Mother (Mother-in-Law of Reserve deputy Shawn Slattery, retired Deputy with the Jail Management Division)** and the passing of **William Flickinger, a retired member of the Scientific Staff and major donor to the Sheriff's Explorer program.**

2026 Officers:

President

Christopher Clark

1st Vice President

Robert Koch

2nd Vice President

Michael Sullivan

Recording Secretary

Karen Morgan

Treasurer

Ken Napora

Corresponding Secretary

Debra Norton

(716) 816-5368

Sergeant-at-Arms

Robert Bykowski



The Mounted Division will be hosting "Mounted for Meals" on Saturday, April 4th, 2026 from 10am to 1pm at the Broadway Market at 999 Broadway in Buffalo. Non-perishable items and monetary donations will be collected to benefit the *Response to Love Center*. Please support this very worthy cause.

The Armor Volunteer Fire Company in Hamburg, NY, conducts an annual gun raffle fundraiser, offering 62 chances to win firearms (such as Henry rifles) or cash prizes. Tickets for the 2026, [3/26/26] calendar-based raffle are priced at \$50 each, with a kick-off event held at the fire hall. Please contact Club Member Mark Radder for tickets and information at underdep@verizon.net

President's Message:

It is always heart-warming to attend the Annual Retirement and Awards Dinner to see the pride and happiness expressed on the faces of the family members of those being honored. We, the officers and directors get so many compliments on how nice the ceremony was and how much it meant to their families. The 47th Annual dinner on March 21st did not disappoint. We are grateful to Sheriff Garcia, County Executive Poloncarz, and our Master of Ceremonies Patrick Hammer (weatherman at Ch.2-TV) for their comments recognizing the accomplishments of those receiving awards and in celebrating their retirement.

There was a total of 485 years of service in the 2025 retirees who attended and received their plaques. The stories and details behind those who achieved awards were diverse and painted a picture for those in attendance of the many responsibilities of the Office of Sheriff. As your President, I was delighted to recognize Joel Cancilla, a retired ECSO Detective, as our 2025 Club Member of the Year with the Alfred Gennuso Award for tireless work on behalf of the Badge & Shield Club and other activities he has planned for members of law enforcement both active and retired. Joel has worked tirelessly on numerous Club committees and chaired our successful raffle fundraiser. His goal for 2026 is to get more new members in the Club and to have our present members become more active. You will find Joel at one of our monthly meetings. Thank you Joel and again, we appreciate all your efforts.

My sincere appreciation to our Awards Committee members and to the Club's Directors and Officers for another successful year, thank you! This is your Club – get involved, come to meetings and share some time and stories with your friends!

Reminder: National Law Enforcement Memorial Month is every May, which is right around the corner. May 15th is designated as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. Presently, we do not have any details on local ceremonies – so if you are interested in these services keep your eyes and ears open as our May newsletter could be too late with that information. As I have in the past I encouraged anyone who is in the Washington, DC area to visit the Police Memorial. It is an experience you will not forget.

If you have any news or information you would like to see included in the monthly newsletter, please contact Chris or Debbie.

See you at Danny's!



**Chris Clark
President**



**Debbie Norton
Corresponding Secretary**

Please check out our Badge & Shield Club website www.Badgeandshieldclub.com and share any newsworthy items or bits of history for the newsletter with us.