

## Vestal Elk's Lodge learns about ICF's the EASY Way!

Organizations like the Elk's Lodge and other fraternal groups usually don't have huge budgets or excess cash waiting around to help fund things like expansion projects or new construction. The Vestal Elk's Lodge is no exception, they desperately needed a newer, bigger facility but affordability both from an initial cost standpoint and from a long term standpoint was a high priority, and one of the many reasons they turned to **Insulated Concrete Form Construction (ICF's).**



*Elk's Lodge—Vestal, NY  
(Still waiting for the sliding and finishing touches)*

John Gardner, who along with being a member of Lodge #2508, also served as Construction Manager for the project realized early on that ICF's are easy to build with. John who is 55 years old, said he may have been the youngest person on the crew, but their mostly member volunteers had no problems constructing both the below and above grade walls because of the **lightweight nature of the blocks.** The use of member volunteers to construct most of the building afforded them some savings and at the same time provided them with an **energy efficient, environmentally friendly, durable, comfortable and quiet facility.**

Their new building is about three times the size of the old one, which has allowed mem-

bers to take advantage of the space with more meetings, parties and events than ever before. Considering its size, and how much more use the facility gets, the **lower operating costs** due to the energy efficiency of the concrete walls has been a major benefit.

Using the versatile ICF components, John and his team were able to integrate the walk in freezer with the outside walls and the interior bar, allowing bartenders access to the cooler from the bar area through convenient sliding cooler doors, and the ability to stock the shelves from the inside. Taking advantage of both the benefits of energy efficiency and design versatility.

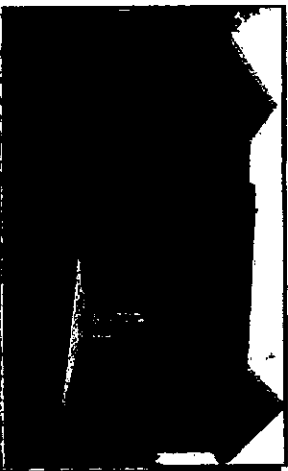
With the increase in activities at the Lodge, Elk's leaders were worried that noise levels, which in the past posed some problems with a few neighbors, might get worse. As it turns out, having solid concrete walls basically **sound proofs** the building. So the folks belled up to the bar are not bothered by the noise from the adjacent highway traffic, and when the band inside kicks it into high



*The beautiful interior of the new Elk's Lodge*

side gear, the neighbors can still sleep soundly.

## ICF Projects from around the state of NY



*Residential Home—Bergen, NY*



*Residential Home—Nichols, NY*



*Hampton Inn—Horseheads, NY*