



August 2023

The Elks Tale *Flemington Elks Lodge #1928*



I am writing this after a successful Friday Night at our Elks Lodge, July 21, 2023. Bill and Carmella (I haven't got their last names down yet) had Laurie Vosbergs Band in to entertain us in the Grill Room, which I figure will accommodate 60 to 75 people. It was full, in the future (and there are at least 3 more planned for members and their guests we may need to consider using our ballroom). I also wish to thank our members who assisted in putting this on, many of which are our newest members.

I also recently returned from our State and National Conventions. I will be presenting a report on them at a future lodge meeting. We will be installing a new class of members at our August 9, 2023 meeting, as well as installing our new Trustee, Gregory Scott Bodnar, PER, PVP past trustee.

A special thanks goes out to our Auxiliary who stepped up and covered the repair of our walk-in cooler to the tune of almost \$4000.00 dollars. You can show your appreciation by attending their Barbeque and clam bake Sunday July 30th 2023.

I hope to be more informative in the future

Randall Kerr, PER, Exalted Ruler

Lodge Officers – 2023 - 2024

..... Exalted Ruler	Randall S. Kerr, PER
..... Est. Leading Knight	Michele Seber
..... Est. Loyal Knight	Lee Trautman, PDD
..... Est. Lecturing Knight	Vincent LaSpada
..... Treasurer	George Upton, PER
..... Secretary	Barry Sheppard, PER
..... Tiler	Todd Hunt
..... Inner Guard	Eric Anderson
..... Chaplain	Mauro Fanelli, PER
..... Esquire	Gregory Fritz
..... Trustee - 1 Year	Robert Mikesh
..... Trustee - 2 Year	John Lombardi
..... Trustee - 3 Year	Gregory Bodnar, PVP
..... Trustee - 4 Year	William Trstensky
..... Trustee - 5 Year	Marc Cunningham

Officers of the Auxiliary

..... President	Patti DeLuca
..... Vice President	Deborah Keyes
..... Treasurer	Suzanne Lucas, PP
..... Secretary	Laura Karnoff
..... Trustee	Linda Upton, PP

2022 - 2023
Elk of the Year:
Citizen of the Year:
Officer of the Year:

Monthly Lodge Meetings

Lodge Members: September to June:
2nd & 4th Wednesday - 7:30 PM
July, August & December: 2nd Wednesday Only - 7:30 PM

Auxiliary Members: September to June:
2nd Tuesday - 7:15 PM

Committee Chairs 2022-2023

Accident Prevention	Robert Mikesh	908.644.0526
Americanism	TBD	
Army of Hope	Bruce Totten, PDD	908.246.0526
Auditing & Accounting	Bruce Totten, PDD	908.246.0526
Better Parades	Gregory Fritz	
Building & Grounds	Robert Mikesh	908.644.0526
Communications	Carmella Shaw	320.884.3331
Community Affairs	TBD	
Community Activities.	TBD	
Drug Awareness.	TBD	
Elks Tale Editor	Daniel J Petitt, Sr., PER	201.341.3071
Fraternal Committee	Lee Trautman, PDD ..	908.996.6724
Fundraising	Carmella Shaw	320.884.3331
Government Relations	Eric Anderson	908.439.2532
Hoop/Soccer Shoot	William Lesiak	
House Committee ..	William Trsentsky	908.334.7661
	Randall Kerr, PER ...	908.328.4091
Lodge Activities	John Lombardi.....	908.295.4345
Long Range Planning	Bruce Totten, PDD ...	908.246.0526
Mediator	Lee Trautman, PDD .	908.996.6724
Membership	Barry Sheppard, PER	908.963.7835
National Foundation	Daniel J Petitt, Sr., PER	201.341.3071
National Service	Gregory Fritz	908.386.0407
PER Association	Gregory Bodnar, PVP	908.752.9988
Public Relations	Cynthia Orsi- Kuhl	732.966.5704
Scholarship	Jeff Anderson	908.439.2532
Sickness and Distress	Michele Seber	908.442.1499
Social/Comm. Welfare	TBD	
Special Needs Children	Suzanne Lucas	609.309.5238
Standing Relief	Lodge Officers	
Youth Activities	William Lesiak	908.787.8746
	Andrea Kennedy	908.581.2522
Website	Carmella Shaw	320.884.3331

The above are listed as the Committee Chairpersons. If you would like to participate in any of these committees, please contact the Chairperson. The lodge can always use an extra hand in accomplishing our goal of supporting the community and it will make it easier for that committee to succeed. If you wish to become a Chairperson, then contact the Exalted Ruler for more information.

PER ASSOCIATION

The PER's (Past Exalted Rulers) are scheduled to meet on Tuesday, September 5th at 7:00 PM in the conference room. If any lodge member has any concerns or questions or even a great idea, please don't hesitate to ask any active **PER** for answers, since we work with the Exalted Ruler and the lodge officers. Our thanks to all who support our lodge.

Fraternally,
Greg Bodnar PVP
PER Association President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

No report available.

Bill Trstensky
Trustee

B.P.O.E INFORMATION

The Flemington Elks lodge website is: www.flemingtonelks.com for information on upcoming events, lodge happenings, pictures, functions, and general lodge information.

The Elks Tale is posted on our website on the 1st of each month!

We also have a Facebook Page (public): **Flemington Elks Lodge #1928**
and a West Central District Group (members only): **West Central District**

**There are also nationwide groups where members can
find information about the world of Elkdom:**

BPOE News

We Are Elks

I am an Elk from New Jersey

**Please visit these Facebook pages for more information from the
Grand Lodge and other Lodges that pertain to all Members of the Elks**

The Auxiliary of Lodge # 1928

Flemington Elks Auxiliary. Is it hot enough for you? Come into the cool at the Flemington Elks Lodge. We have the Clam Bake & BBQ Sunday July 30, 2 to 6 pm. Delicious food, good music and fun comedy & magic.

Don't forget Bingo Thursday August 3. Come out and try your luck!

Meetings are starting up September 12, 6:30 pm. It will be a dinner meeting along with welcoming new members to the Auxiliary. This is a good meeting to come out and see old friends and make some new ones as you enjoy a delicious dinner.

We will once again be having the Witches Halloween Ball on Saturday October 21. The Auxiliary will also be helping the Lodge Veterans Committee on Saturday November 11. We will be serving a dinner for area Veterans. So stay tuned to see what's happening with these events.

As some of you might know the Lodge's walk-in refrigerator wasn't working correctly and the Lodge officers asked if the Auxiliary could help with the cost of fixing it. We did them one better, the Auxiliary paid the entire bill! Thank you to all who have helped with the different events that made it possible for the Auxiliary to do this.

Patti DeLuca

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Lodge and Auxiliary Email Blasts;

I've been sending email blasts on a regular basis to lodge and auxiliary members for about 15 years. The information has included Friday Night Dinner menus; Pasta Night menus; Sunday breakfast notices; Grill Room events; lodge and auxiliary committee benefits and fundraising events; and messages from the Exalted Ruler. Over the past few weeks and months I haven't received much information to share with the membership. Recently, I've received quite a few negative emails stating that I intentionally don't share event information, and that "people" don't receive any communication. I don't know who "people" refers to, but some possible reasons why I've received these comments might be the following:

- 1. Members haven't communicated the details of the events that they're sponsoring. Recently I received four emails from four different people regarding an event. None of those emails contained detailed information (time, date, committee hosting the event, food or no food, cost of event). If you're planning an event, please don't wait until two days before the event, or the day of the event, to let me know the details.**
- 2. Members haven't provided a working email address to me or Lodge Secretary Barry Sheppard. Barry and I have worked together on this project for years.**
- 3. Member has blocked my email address, ensuring that they don't receive any communication.**
- 4. Member has changed his/her email address and never informed me or Barry of the change. I have also heard complaints that I delete names at will. This has never happened.**

If my volunteer efforts are no longer needed, I'll be happy to stop the email communication immediately. Your email addresses are kept confidential and I have never shared them without permission from the owner.

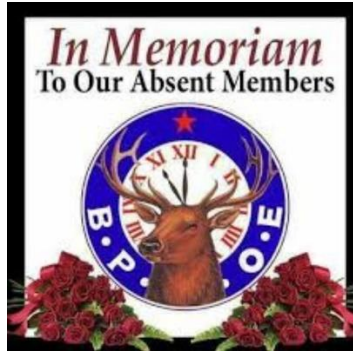
Disrespectful emails and comments are never welcome and have grown tiresome, but kindness is always appreciated.

Respectfully,

Eileen Lavagno

NOTE from the Editor,

Please send any and all information about upcoming events to Eileen so that her weekly e-mail blasts are up-to-date and informative. Posting also in the Elks Tale, but that is a monthly issue.



Robert E. Rowe 3.5.23 Floyd L. Evans, Jr 3.13.23
David B. Miller 3.14.23 Arthur W. Rockafellow 3.17.23
Howard 'Kenny' Quick, Jr. 5.6.23 Ronald Cozze 7.11.23

**Elks are never forgotten, never forsaken.
Morning and noon may pass them by,
the light of day sink heedlessly in the West,
but ere the shadows of midnight shall fall,
the chimes of memory will be pealing forth the friendly message:
"To Our Absent Members."**

Funeral Services

A reminder to all members and their families that should a Lodge Member pass away, the Lodge Officers will conduct a Funeral Service at the family's request.

Please contact the Exalted Ruler or Lodge Secretary for arrangements.

Sickness and Distress

If you know of a Lodge Member who is ill, home bound or in the hospital please notify the Exalted Ruler or the Lodge Secretary so that information can be posted on the 'Sickness and Distress' board and a visitation can be arranged.

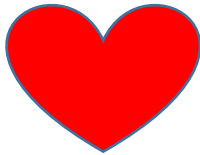
Our Brothers and Sisters need to know that we care about them during their time of illness.

SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN COMMITTEE

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support to help our Special Needs children. It is so important that we do not lose sight of our goals to care for those disabled and to those families who can appreciate a 'helping hand' from the Flemington Lodge.

Please come out and enjoy the company and friendship of the Auxiliary and Lodge Members when an event is held so that the little ones can also enjoy their moment in the sun.

And because of your efforts as you enjoy the Summer, please note that there are campers also enjoying their Summer at Camp Moore.

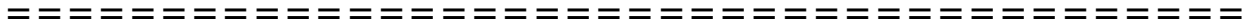


Regards,

Suzanne Lucas
Chairperson

Something to think about

**Why aren't there 'knock-knock' jokes about America?
BECAUSE FREEDOM RINGS.**



Who are You?????????????

These e-mails listed below have been returned as "Undeliverable". If you recognize any part of it that belongs to you please send an e-mail to Dan Petitt at dandee350@yahoo.com with the correct or new address

misty12382@msn.net

jimindexcel@myexcel.com

bycarpet@aol.com

shotgunbill14@gmail.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE NEWS

No report available.

Next House Committee meeting is not scheduled.

House Committee Co-Chair

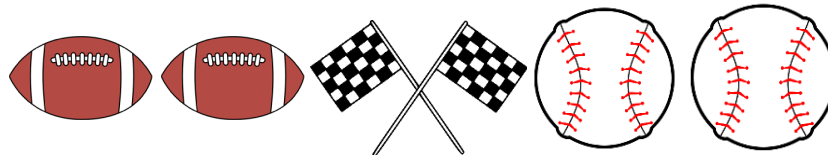
Randy Kerr, **PER**



**Grill Room Hours:
6pm to 10pm Tue to Sat
Sunday 1245pm to???**

Don't forget that every Sunday the Grill Room is open for watching the NASCAR races and now as always Major League Baseball. (METS, YANKEES & PHILLIES)

Your host and bartender, Michele, will have the TV's set to watch all of the sports action. Doors open at 1245pm.



MEETING NIGHT



Attendance at the Lodge Meetings is a very important part of being a member of the B.P.O.E.. During these lodge sessions you can participate in any discussion concerning the lodge and vote on issues that will also affect the lodge and membership. Your voice can be heard and it will make a difference.

As noted by a "Member in Good Standing", it has been a nice surprise to have 24 members attending the past few meetings. It shows that there is an interest in the lodge and the members do care. That member would like to see at least 40 members come out for a meeting and show support for the lodge and help to make decisions that will benefit the charitable works of the Elks.

All of the Lodge Officers are required to attend on a regular basis because that is what you volunteered for.

And, of course, after the meeting you can spend some quality time with other members while enjoying your favorite beverage and some homemade cooking from???



Ramblings by Rich

Hello Everyone,

Well, it's summertime and it sure is hot. As a matter of fact, the other day it was so hot that I took all of my clothes off and opened every window. I felt so much better, although the other people on the bus didn't seem so pleased! Things are really strange down here in the South. I saw a car being driven by a sheep in a bathing suit. I bet it was a lamb bikini. Did you hear about the shepherd who drove his sheep through the city? He got a ticket for making a ewe turn! Do you know what happens to an illegally parked frog? It gets toad. I was walking down the street the other day and was hit by a violin, then a clarinet, and finally by a french horn. I think it was an orchestrated attack.

My wife, Eileen, tried to apply at the post office for a job but they wouldn't letter. They said only mails work here! I recently bought a boat because it was for sail.

Do you know what you call a cow with no legs? Ground beef. How about a cow with two legs? Lean beef. How about a cow with all of its' legs? High steaks.

That's enough for this month. Keep on smiling and remember: when nothing is going right, go left!

Keep on smiling!

PDD Rich

August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3 Bingo	4	5
6	7 Blood Bank	8	9 Lodge Meeting	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Blood Bank	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



*Election of vacant 3rd Year Trustee position
on August 9, 2023
at the Regular Lodge Meeting*

**NEW CANDIDATE
INITIATION AUGUST 9, 2023**

More....



UPCOMING
EVENTS



BINGO NIGHT

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
DOORS OPEN: 6:00PM
GAMES BEGIN: 7:30PM



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Best Wishes to Our Members who are Celebrating their Special Day during August

1. Walter Williams
2. James Bush
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
6. Thomas Higgans, Eric J. Baumann
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. Frank Gradl
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
16. Chris Gacos, Scott Cleary
17. William T. Pritchett
- 18.
19. Donald Mulligan
- 20.
- 21.
22. Carmen Garfole
23. James Santonastaso
24. Jeffrey Anderson, John David Harvis - **PER**
25. Douglas Allen, Gregory Fritz
- 26.
- 27.
28. Walter Campbell, Michael Panko
29. Samuel Powell
- 30.
31. Nicholas Gurski

The Flemington Elks Lodge will benefit from your used clothing and books.

The lodge will receive remuneration for all items that are donated.

A used clothing drop-off shed is in the lodge parking lot with the help of Turnkey Enterprises, LLC. Items accepted: clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes and stuffed toys. Please do not leave any other items.



Drop off old hard cover or paperbacks in the book bin.



Due to the overwhelming response to the June raffle and the outpouring of love for the Flemington Elks Lodge we were able to have another drawing for the month of July.

The winning numbers of the July Raffle are:

1st Place - 1132

2nd Place - 1176

3rd Place - 0954

Congratulations to the above winners and

Thank You for supporting the Lodge.





Volunteers needed for these committees:

Americanism

A program of the Elks' Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee. The Americanism essay contest is based on a patriotic theme for students in 5th through 8th grade to promote patriotism.

Community Affairs & Activities

Liaison between the lodge and the local communities to ensure that their needs are provided for by our commitments

Drug Awareness

The Elks Drug Awareness Program distributes literature and organizes events to make kids and their parents aware of the dangers posed by alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs. The Elks are committed to eliminating the use and abuse of illegal drugs by all members of society and believe that in order to ensure a bright future for our country, it is essential that our children be raised in a drug-free environment.

Lodge Activities

Some of the activities the Flemington Lodge conducts are a Flag Day Ceremony, participating in a local Memorial Day Parade or celebration, having a regularly scheduled Blood Bank, Bingo games each month and an Elk of the Year Celebration.

*****Of course, if you wish to help out on any other committee please contact that Committee Chairperson or the Exalted Ruler for more information*****

REPORT FROM THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION CHAIRPERSON:

ENF - Statewide (As of June 30, 2023)

Lodge	Rank	Members	Total	Per Capita
Manville/Hills	2	178	\$2790.00	\$15.67
Bound Brook	26	189	765.00	4.04
Middlesex	32	221	755.00	3.41
Princeton	38	170	525.00	3.08
Somerville	78	1203	727.00	0.60
Lambertville	88	239	70.00	0.29
Clinton	103	201	0.00	0.00
Flemington	106	291	0.00	0.00

108 Total Lodges in New Jersey

The mission of the Elks National Foundation is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We help youth develop lifelong skills, send students to college, meet the needs of today's veterans, support the charitable work of the state Elks associations, and fund projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities.

Like all Elks, the Foundation values the belief that charity is the greatest of all virtues and that by sharing and giving, we have the power to replace sorrow and despair with hope and confidence. Donations to the Foundation help us fund programs that match our cornerstone values of knowledge, integrity and community.

I ask that you donate to the ENF so that the Flemington Elks Lodge can invest in our community and continue the work that signifies our desire to be there to help those who need us. Our charitable gifts are the reward for volunteering and the culmination of our desires to benefit others. This lodge has stumbled over the past few years in giving, but now is the time to rise again and become a pillar of the local community.

Daniel J. Petitt, Sr. - P.E.R.

ENF Chairperson



WCDVP Dan Erickson of Middlesex Lodge #1488 with
WCDDD Ed Leib of Manville-Hillsborough Lodge #2119.

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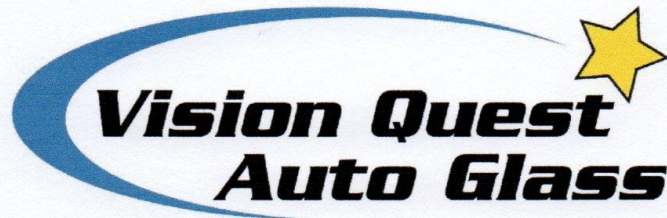


Daniel James "D.J." Wright
Owner, Executive Director
N.J. Lic. No. 4537

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8:00am to 4:00pm EST

Note: B & B Press is now printing the Elks Tale for the Flemington Lodge.