





# Flemington Elks Lodge #1928

April 2025

# The Elks Jale

Our 71stYear



Gregory L. Fritz, Exalted Ruler 2025-26 (see page 3 for complete list)

April 2025 1

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Questions/Comments/Corrections Email us at <u>ACFKS1@gmail.com</u>

PLEASE EMAIL SUBMISSIONS FOR MAY ELKS TALE TO:

<u>ACFKS1@gmail.com</u> by **Friday, April 25** 

April 2025

# Flemington Elks Lodge #1928

#### OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Gregory L. Fritz
Esteemed Leading Knight	Bruce Totten, PDD
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Lee Trautman, PDD
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Shirley Lewis
Secretary	Barry Sheppard, PER
Trgasurgr	George Upton, PER
Tilgr	Vincent LaSpada
Inner Guard	Crik Anderson
Esquire	Andrea Kennedy
Chaplain	Randall Kerr, PER
Chaplain Emeritus	Mauro Fanglli, PER
Trustee - 1st Year	Robert Mikesh
Trustee - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Jason Karpi
Trustee – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Carl Ondrak
Trusteed — 4 <sup>th</sup> Year	Pavid Rockafellow
Trusted — 5 <sup>th</sup> Year	John Lombardi

#### MUXILIARY OFFICERS

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

#### 2024-2025:

Elk of the Year ~ tba Citizen of the Year ~ tba Officer of the Year ~ tba

#### Elks Information

#### **Monthly Lodge Meetings**

**Lodge Members** 

**Auxiliary Members** 

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Tuesdays at 7:15pm

April 9 and 23 May 14 and 28 April 8 May 13

#### WHERE TO GO ON-LINE.

For more information on the Flemington Elks, upcoming events, lodge happenings, pictures, functions and more, visit us online at: www.flemingtonelks.com

or go to Facebook:

Flemington Elks (public): Flemington Elks Lodge #1928

West Central District (members only): West Central District

Additionally, there are nationwide groups where members can find We Are Elks

information about the world of Elkdom: Laman Elkfrom New Jersey

#### Let the Lodge Secretary know if your information changes

The lodge is always updating its membership files so it's vital that you send any changes to your information (i.e., change of address, new phone number or e-mail address) so that the lodge can keep you informed... Don't miss out!

Contact Barry Sheppard, FER Lodge Secretary c/o Flemington Elks Lodge #1928 Flow Flemington, NJ 08822

(or drop your new information in the Secretary's Mailbox at the Lodge)

#### Reminders & Notices



Attend the lodge meetings.

Let your voice be heard.

It will make a difference!

Lodge Officers are required to attend on a regular basis (it is what you volunteered for after all).

April Meetings: Wednesday, April 9 and 23

After the meetings, join us for dinner (prepared by Chef Shirley) in the bar/grill and spend some quality time with fellow members.

#### **Life Membership Election**

At a regular Lodge session (Mr. Jerry Trstensky, 281 Church Road, Milford, NJ 08848-1812) has requested Life Membership in Flemington Lodge. Under Grand Lodge Statue 14.260 and the Flemington Lodge By Laws, Article 111, Sec. 2, this member has met the necessary requirements.

At the regular Lodge session of April 9, 2025 a secret vote will be taken concerning this matter.

Barry L. Sheppard, Secretary



As an Elk, we are always looking for ways to help...well this is a really great way... We need you to help with the premier showing of the play "The Parishioner" (see <a href="page 8">page 8</a> for more details)

#### WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- Place a sponsorship/ad or personal message in the Playbill) (<u>click here for Sponsorship Form</u>)
- 2. Donate a basket. Do you know of a business, friend or family member who can? Call 908-295-4345
- 3. Volunteer before or during the event. Call 908-295-4345
- 4. Buy a ticket and invite others to: <u>TheaterComedyProductions.com</u>



### In our Thoughts and Memories



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."

#### Absent Members from the Past Year

Kenneth Whalen ~ 01/30/2025
Thomas E. Higgins ~ 12/19/2024
Joseph M. Iselin ~ 09/29/2024
Daniel J. Petitt Sr., PER ~ 06/30/2024
William M. Creighton ~ 06/08/2024

William P. Cody, PER ~ 01/11/2025 Robert John Ferrence ~ 10/29/2024 James Susliewicz ~ 07/25/2024 John Mackay ~ 06/19/2024 Roger L. Cramer ~ 04/26/2024

#### **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, in the hospital or going through something distressful, please notify Gregory Fritz (908) 386-0407, the Exalted Ruler or the Lodge Secretary.

Our brothers and sisters need to know that they are in our thoughts during times of illness or distress.

# In the News

# "The Parishioner" Presented by Theater Comedy Productions

Join us on Sunday, April 13 for the play, "The Parishioner," a very ironic way of looking at what happens when an angel asks a government assassin to do God's work. What could go wrong...EVERYTHING! We are so proud to present this humorous, live experience of the "The Parishioner." Before it premiers in NYC on April 19 at the Matthew Corozine Theatre, we get to see it first... and if everything doesn't go well on the 13<sup>th</sup>... it might be the last!

With all kidding aside, this is our moment for our lodge to shine. There will be Elks dignitaries, as well as local politicians and representatives from New York theatres at this performance





On Palm Sunday, April 13, we are going to transform our lodge into an experience (hopefully a good one). It will start at approximately 1:15 with Elks dignitaries, as well as local government representatives in our grill room. At 2pm we are having a champagne and light hors-d oeuvres prepared by executive chef Filomena of the Raritan Valley Country Club.

This will be an excellent opportunity to meet and greet many family and friends of the Flemington Elks. At 3:00 you will be escorted by monks to your seat (we are now looking for volunteers to be monks for a day)

This performance with professional actors from NYC, portraying roles that will amaze you and make you laugh. What more could you want? To find out more concerning this event, go to <a href="Theater Comedy Productions">Theater Comedy Productions</a>. To get tickets, go to <a href="Eventbrite">Eventbrite</a> "The Parishioner"

All of the profits are going into this lodge in one way or another to make the interior more welcoming so that the Booking Committee can sell events that can then raise profits that can go into renovations to fix the facilities.

We'll see you on Sunday April 13. Volunteers can get a sneak preview prior to the 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a chance for us at the Flemington lodge to show off our benevolence and loyalty to the Elks cause. I do need volunteers to make this program a success, please don't procrastinate, call me direct anytime (John Lombardi 908-295-4345). Let's make history together!

# Committee Chairs

Accident Prevention	Robert Mikesh	(908) 644-0526
Americanism	Vern Ainslie	(908) 399-2144
Army of Hope	Bruce Totten, PDD	(908) 246-0526
Auditing & Accounting	Robert Paolella	(908) 303-7855
Better Parades	Gregory Fritz	(908) 386-0407
	Patti DeLuca	(908) 528-7328
Building & Grounds	Robert Mikesh	(908) 644-0526
Communications	Andrea Kennedy	(908) 581-2522
Community Affairs	Cynthia Orsi-Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
Community Activities.	Eric Anderson	(908) 439-2532
Drug Awareness	Cynthia Orsi- Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
Elks Tale Newsletter	Andrea Kennedy	(908) 581-2522
Fraternal Committee	Lee Trautman, PDD	(908) 996-6724
Fundraising	John "Gemini" Lombardi	(908) 295-4345
Government Relations	Eric Anderson	(908) 439-2532
Hoop/Soccer Shoot	Cynthia Orsi- Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
House Committee	William K. Miller, Jr.	(908) 303-1322
	Tiffany Quick	(908) 788-6737
Lodge Activities	John Lombardi	(908) 295-4345
	Andrea Kennedy	(908) 581-2522
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	Cynthia Orsi- Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
National Service	Gregory Fritz	(908) 386-0407
PER Association	Bruce Totten, PDD	(908) 246-0526
Public Relations	Cynthia Orsi-Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
Scholarships	Dr. Jeff Anderson	(908) 439-2532
Sickness and Distress	Gregory Fritz	(908) 386-0407
Social/Community Welfare	TBD	
Special Needs Children	Suzanne Lucas	(609) 309-5238
Standing Relief	Lodge Officers	
Youth Activities	Cynthia Orsi- Kuhl	(732) 966-5704
Website	Andrea Kennedy	(908) 581-2522

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.

## Committee Updates/Reports

#### THE AUXILIARY OF LODGE #1928

What's Happening!

March 2025

The Auxiliary welcomed everyone to their St. Patrick's dinner on Friday, March 14th. It was a wonderful night and everyone had a great time. Thank you to all that came out! A big Thank You goes out to our chef, PER George Upton, on another delicious corned beef dinner. Also, thanks go out to Suzanne, Pam, MaryAnn, Linda, Bruce, John and Barry for all your help. Slainte!

March started out with a bang with bingo having 190 bingo guests. There were many newbies playing the cards along with the old timers. Come out and join in the fun! The next bingo is April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Last month we gave you the list of Auxiliary members who have made it to lifetime membership. Long time Auxiliary member Luba Polhemus has also been added to the lifetime member list. Thank you everyone for your support of the Auxiliary over the years. They're back! Great big THANK YOU's go out to Patti DeLuca, Deborah Keyes, Laura Karnoff, Suzanne Lucas and Linda Upton. The ladies have graciously volunteered for another year at their office.

Here they come 2025-26

Also, at the meeting the Auxiliary voted on the yearly donations from the Special Needs Children Committee. Each one of the following organizations will receive \$1100.00... The Ark of Hunterdon, Center for Educational Advancement (CEA), Certified Fitness, Elks Camp Moore, Hunterdon Healthcare Child Development Program, Hunterdon Outreach Program (Hops), Mane Stream Special Needs Riding, Riding with Heart Therapeutic Riding and Star Throwers. We are so glad that our work throughout the year allows us to help these great organizations with the awesome work they do in the community.

If anyone would like to join us at the Music Mountain Theater in Lambertville to see the show Pippin please get your money and RSVP's in by April 1. No April Fooling! Show date & time, May 18<sup>th</sup> 3pm and tickets are \$35. After the show anyone who would like to join us, we will be going to the Lambertville Station for an early dinner after the show.

The Auxiliary will also be getting tickets to see Queens of Country at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Saturday June 28, 2025. Matinee doors open at 11am. Tickets \$88. RSVP's and money must be in by April 8th meeting.

The Bylaws committee gave the first reading of the additions and changes to the Bylaws at the March meeting. The next reading will be at the April meeting and then will be voted on at the June meeting. Come on out for a delicious Pasta Dinner! The Auxiliary will be serving a pasta dinner on Wednesday, April 16, 2025. 6:30 to 8pm. Dinner choices are ... Chicken Parmesan with spaghetti, Sausage & Peppers with spaghetti or Vegetable Lasagna. Dinners include ... salad, dessert, coffee & tea. \$15.00 RSVP to 908-528-7328.

March's birthday members are ... Deborah Cervanka, Eileen Decker, Andrea Dilts, Kim Graper, Elaine Lohnicky, Shirley McPherson, Erica Palko and Barbara Rathbone. Happy Birthday Everyone!

The Auxiliary's next meeting is Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 7:15 pm.

Happy Easter!

Auxiliary Trivia ... On February 17, 1962 the Flemington Elks Auxiliary President, Mrs. William Lombardi, presented Exalted Ruler, Holmes F. McCormick, Jr. the Flemington Elks flag at the 8th annual Elks dinner dance.

Tatti DeLuca

President, The Auxiliary of Lodge #1928

#### **BOOKING COMMITTEE**

We continue to move forward on implementing a process that is not only transparent but also as simple as it could be. I'd like to remind everyone that all bookings should go through John Lombardi and Shirl Lewis.

John Lombardi

Chair, Booking Committee

#### LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

NJDOT has asked that we remove our Elk's signage by March 28<sup>th</sup> so they can start the Rte.31 widening project. The right of way set back has yet to be staked out so we do not know exactly where the state or township states where we can legally install the sign. Our thought at this time is to install the sign on the island where the Elk is located. We had our sign in that location many years ago at the southern end of the island. Whatever the decision, we will bring it on the floor of the lodge for the members to vote on the location.

Working in the best interests of the lodge and our members.

Wishing our officers for the 2025-2026 Elk year the utmost success.

Fraternally,

Bruce R. Totten, IDD GER

State Trustee

#### PAST EXALTED RULERS (PER) ASSOCIATION

The PER Association will again be working with our new officers in their Ritual presentation in reading their parts and the proper emphasis and annunciation of the words. We are also going to teach them the proper deportment moves to increase their working as a team and increase their impressiveness. We made copies for each of their job descriptions and duties.

The PER Association is wishing Exalted Ruler Greg and our 2025-2026 Lodge Officers a successful and smooth transition. We will continue to support and assist them in their job performance.

Fraternally,

Bruce R. Totten, IDD GER

State Trustee

#### SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN COMMITTEE

Well, the egg prices are still a bit unruly for our breakfast, so we are holding off until April 30th!! Anyone interested in volunteering for the breakfast, you can call me at 609-309-5238. We did cater a very successful breakfast for the HCHS Lacrosse team on March 16th for over 200 diners. Our bingo on March 6th was well attended by 191 players which was up from February 6th of 101.

We are catering the Hunterdon Outreach Programs gala on April 5th which is always a fun night and looking forward to the Lodge Installation on April 11th.

Until next time,
Suzanne Lucas
Special Needs Children Committee
Auxiliary Treasurer

#### VETERANS COMMITTEE / ARMY OF HOPE COMMITTEE

Our congratulations to ER Greg and his Lodge officers on their election for the 2025-2026 Elk year. We are looking forward to his leadership and his team of officers and committee chairs, in continuing to increase our charitable work within our community.

Fraternally,
Bruce R. Totten, PDD GER
State Trustee



# The Grill Room





The Lodge's Grill Room is a gathering place for members and their guests/family members, a place to socialize and enjoy friendships.

Come in to watch sporting events, such as NASCAR, Golf, Basketball, Football and more.

It's open every day (except Monday) for you and your guests' enjoyment.

Your hosts in the Grill Room are:

Annie Carlos Donna Gayle Greg Shirl Sue Tiffany













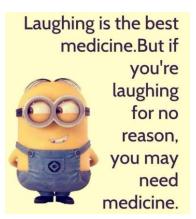






## Ramblings by Rich...

Ramblings by Rich



Hello Everyone,

Well, it's springtime and the flowers are starting to bloom. Do you know how brand new spring flowers greet each other? They say, "Hey Bud!" I just opened a new flower shop this spring and business is blooming. It is also a good time for sales. As a matter of fact, the bed store is having a spring sale. Unfortunately, the rest of the beds are still full price! I also started a business building boats in my attic. Sails are going through the roof.

Back in September Eileen and I drove 675 miles north to Flemington to visit friends and family. My uncle asked us if we took turns driving on the way up. I told him, "Yes, it was too hard to get to NJ in a straight line."

I recently went to a silent auction. I won a dog whistle and two mimes. My neighbor has two dogs named Rolex and Timex. I asked him why he named them that? He said they were his watch dogs. We just got back from a trip to Holland. One day I found a wooden shoe in the toilet. I guess it was clogged. Someone complimented my parking today! They left a note on my windshield that said "Parking fine." A warning to everyone! Do not give Rice Krispies to young children. I ate them as a youngster. Now when I stand up I snap, crackle and pop.

I have been writing "Ramblings by Rich" for seven years now. I was just thinking that if I had a nickel for every pun I've posted, I'd have a pun per nickel.

That's it for this month. Keep on smiling until next time!

PDD Rich

## Upcoming Events at Our Lodge



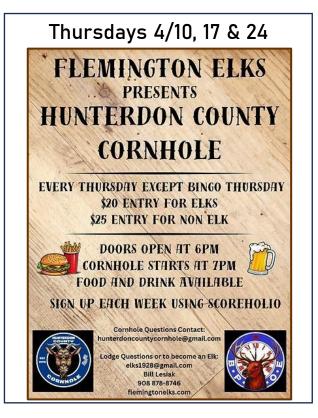
The deadline for submitting information for the May Elks Tale is

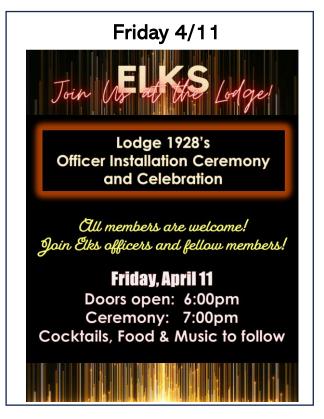
Friday, April 25, 2025

For more information on any below events, visit us online at:

www.FlemingtonElks.com









# Wednesday 4/16

Flemington Elks Auxiliary's

# Pasta Dinner

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 6:30 to 8:00 pm



Choice of ...

1. Chicken Parmesan

Spaghetti

2. Sausage & Peppers

Spaghetti

3. Vegetable

Open to members of the Auxiliary and the Lodge and their guests RSVP

Sign up at the lodge or call 908-528-7328







# DONATING BLOOD SAVES LIVES!

and it's easy to do at the Flemington Elks Lodge located at 165 Route 31South, Flemington, NJ

FOR DATES AND TIMES
VISIT www.FlemingtonElks.com

Walk-Ins are welcome but Appointments are preferred. Schedule your donation through: NY Blood Center

Call: (800) 933-2566

Visit: www.NYBC.org

Questions: George Upton, PER (908-612-2167)



Appointments are accepted\* as well as walk-ins.

All safety protocols are enforced.

Check our Facebook page for updates and any changes that may occur.

\*You can schedule through the NY Blood Center by calling 800-933-2566 or visiting www.nybc.org.

# BLOOD DRIVES UPCOMING DATES:

- Friday 4/4 & Monday 4/21
- Monday 5/5 & 5/19
- Monday 6/2, 6/16, 6/23 &
  6/30
- Monday 7/14 & 7/21
- Monday 8/4, 8/18 & 8/25
- Monday 9/8, 9/15 & 9/22
- Monday 10/6 & 10/20
- Monday 11/3

#### Why Donate Blood?



#### √ Save multiple lives:

- It's needed every two seconds in the U.S.
- It helps patients with cancer, blood disorders, traumatic injuries and more
- A single unit of blood can be separated into four components that can help save multiple lives

#### ✓ Benefits to you:

- A free health screening
- A healthier heart and vascular system... donating at least 1x a year can help improve your blood flow and reduce arterial blockages
- Lowers your risk of cancer
- Balances your iron levels

#### ✓ Added bonuses:

- Burn calories... your body burns ~500 calories to replace the blood that was removed, so it's like burning calories without doing anything
- A free snack for you after donating

Blood and platelets can't be manufactured, so they can only come from volunteer donors but only 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly, so it's important that people who meet the requirements donate as often as possible.



# **Upcoming Events at Other Lodges**

### SATURDAY, 4/26





#### Thursday 5/1









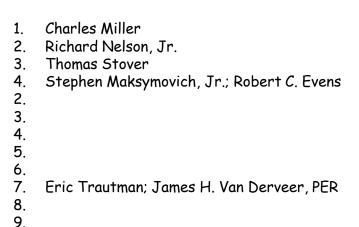






## Birthdays

# Best Wishes to our members who are celebrating their special day this month!





12. Patsy Lehman; Cheryl Chiodo

13. 14. George J. Walker

10. 11.

19.

21.

23.

15. George D. Muller

16. Thomas P. Carr

17. Felix Rossi; Bruce R. Totten, PDD; Herbert B. Moore; Leslie W. Haley

18. Arthur Brannick; Dennis Tretter

20. Lincoln Karnoff

22. Edward J. Jamison III; Robert Lord

24.25. John Kalmbach; Matthew Lieb; Leslie White26. Francis X. Brown, Jr.

27.
28. William Maksymovich; Thomas Teubert, PER; Michael J. Eannone; Guy Grignon

20. William Maksymovich, Thomas Teabert, PER, Michael J. Eanhone, Buy Brighon 29. 30.

31.

# Our Sponsors

We can't thank our sponsors enough.
Please support these amazing organizations.



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Judith "Judy" M. Gold, SRES



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for "Best Real Estate Agent"
and "Best Entrepreneur"
Hunterdon Happening List 2023





#### Past Awards

2015, 2016, 2020 and 2023 Winner Best Real Estate Agent Hunterdon Happening List 2016 Hunterdon County 10 Top Movers & Shakers Hunterdon Happening List 2017 and 2023 Winner Best Entrepreneur Hunterdon Happening List

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### Fill in the blanks:

- It belongs to you but other people use it more. What is it?
- 2. How do you say "hard water" with only 3 letters?

(answers on page 25)















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# Answers to "Fill in the blanks":

Your name
 Ice



# P.O. Box 261 165 Route 31 South Flemington, NJ 08822

