



March 2023

The Elks Tale

Flemington Elks Lodge #1928



It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the Exalted Ruler of the Flemington Elks Lodge #1928 for the past three years and this will be my last message as your Exalted Ruler.

I began my tenure under the deadly cloud of Covid-19 with the Lodge shuttered because of safety issues and directives from the New Jersey Governor's Office and by the Grand Exalted Ruler. So it was on April 1, 2020 that an unbelievable circumstances of events unfolded. To keep the Lodge open and thriving and to have money to pay the bills we had to think "outside the box". There was some controversy from all sides when I considered how to re-open the lodge. But with the help of a few key lodge members and key Auxiliary members we were able to open the doors to our

membership. With this "brain trust" we were able to begin rebuilding at a point where there was almost no money to pay any bill including the mortgage. Was it an easy task? No, but I am proud to say that the people who cared about this lodge and its members took actions to insure that the lodge would not become a memory.

Moments like this make me proud to be an Elk and especially a member of the Flemington Lodge. I know that the situation will improve as long as the lodge has members willing to sacrifice their time and energy and to continue a legacy that bears the principles of "Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity".

*Fraternally,
Daniel J. Petitt, Sr.
Exalted Ruler*

Lodge Officers – 2022 - 2023

..... Exalted Ruler	Daniel J Petitt, Sr., PER
..... Est. Leading Knight	Randall Kerr, PER
..... Est. Loyal Knight	Lee Trautman, PDD
..... Est. Lecturing Knight	Vincent LaSpada
..... Treasurer	George Upton, PER
..... Secretary	Barry Sheppard, PER
..... Tiler	TBD
..... Inner Guard	Eric Anderson
..... Chaplain	Mauro Fanelli, PER
..... Esquire	JD Harvis, PER
..... Trustee - 1 Year	Michele Seber
..... Trustee - 2 Year	Robert Mikesh
..... Trustee - 3 Year	John Lombardi
..... Trustee - 4 Year	Gene Sierp
..... Trustee - 5 Year	William Trstensky

Officers of the Auxiliary

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

2021 - 2022

Elk of the Year: *Louis Cestra*

Citizen of the Year: *Arthur C. Clark*

Officer of the Year: *Mauro Fanelli, PER*

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 2021-2022

Accident Prevention	Casey Hoff	908.507.5977
Americanism	TBD	
Army of Hope	Bruce Totten, PDD	908.246.0526
Auditing & Accounting	George Upton, PER	908.788.5963
Better Parades	TBD	
Building & Grounds	Casey Hoff	908.507.5977
Community Affairs	Daniel J. Petitt, Sr., PER	201.341.3071
Community Activities.	Tiffany Quick...	908.797.0670
Drug Awareness.	TBD	
Elks Tale Editor	Daniel J Petitt, Sr., PER	201.341.3071
Fraternal Committee	Lee Trautman, PDD	908.996.6724
Government Relations	Eric Anderson.	908.439.2532
Hoop/Soccer Shoot	TBD	
House Committee	William Trsentsky	908.334.7661
	Randall Kerr, PER	908.328.4091
Lodge Activities	Tiffany Quick..	908.797.0670
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	TBD	
National Service	TBD	
PER Association	Gregory Bodnar, PVP	908.752.9988
Public Relations	TBD	
Ritual Coach	Pete Naccarato, PER	
Scholarship	Jeff Anderson	908.439.2532
Sickness and Distress	Randall Kerr, PER	908.328.4091
Social/Comm. Welfare	TBD	
Special Needs Children	Suzanne Lucas	609.309.5238
Standing Relief	TBD	
Veterans	TBD	
Visiting	Joe Kanaby, PDD	908.782.4006
Youth Activities ..	TBD	
Website	Daniel J Petitt, Sr., PER	201.341.3071

PER ASSOCIATION

The PER's (Past Exalted Rulers) are scheduled to meet on Tuesday, March 14th 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**

A Message from the Lodge Secretary

The lodge is updating the membership files and it is vital to send in any new information if you have a change of address or phone number or a different e-mail address so that the lodge can keep you informed.

Contact Barry Sheppard, PER
C/O Flemington Elks Lodge #1928
P.O. Box 261
Flemington, NJ 08822

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

The Auxiliary of Lodge # 1928

Big News! The Auxiliary is going back to NYC! We have tickets for the show "SIX" on May 21, 2023. Tickets are \$110. And RSVP's are due by the March 14th meeting. We will then open it up to non-Auxiliary members for any remaining tickets.

The Auxiliary not only donated food items to the Flemington Food Pantry but also donated a \$250. Check. Good work members!

The monthly bingo is doing great, hosting 200 guests or more. If you would like to help by either selling games or in the snack shack let Suzanne or Patti know. Or just come out for the fun!

The Auxiliary is able to sponsor 6 campers to Camp Moore this summer. How great is that!

Friday March 17th is are annual St. Pat's Day Dinner. George Upton will once again be making his delicious corned beef! Corned beef dinner \$25 or Fish & Chips dinner \$20 RSVP by signing up at the lodge or 908-528-7328. Get your weekend Irish on!

Sunday April 2nd we will be having an Easter Brunch Buffet. 10 am to 2 pm All your favorite breakfast items plus delicious lunch items. \$25

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Patti DeLuca

Auxiliary President

Absent Members for the Elk Year 2022-2023

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."

RICHARD S. GRAPER SR. 1/23/22

HENRY KUHL 1/29/22

GERALD J STOCKELBERG - PER 2/5/22



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.

**** Lapsation ****

It's never too late to send in your dues. As a delinquent member, you are not allowed to use the facilities, attend meetings, and cannot be sponsored by a member in good standing. The below listed members are currently unable to participate in any lodge functions and are missing out on the friendship of all other Elks.

Please remit your dues of \$76.00 for the year 2022-2023 to the Lodge Secretary

Stephen J. Bragg

Donald C. DeLuca, Jr. – PER

Timothy J. McGivney

Robert Lamothe, Jr.

Annemarie Sidor

Kelly DeLuca

Joseph Gherardi

Joseph Peake

Antonio C. Rubio

Anthony M. Stockelberg

Joseph Eggert

Anthony Muglia

Bruce A. Tomb

Tierney Trstensky

Kiki Swenson

Editor's Note:

Sadly, these fifteen members will be dropped from the roles of Elkdom if their dues are not paid by March 31, 2023. If you see a name of someone and you would like to assist them and keep them active as a member of the B.P.O.E., then please contact the Lodge Secretary for more information.



SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN COMMITTEE

The Annual Camp Moore Picnic for each District has been cancelled again in concern for the children and the continuance of the Covid Virus. Each Lodge is asked to donate \$200.00 so that the campers can still enjoy their picnic, but with the Camp Staff.

However, the Lodge Special Needs Committee is able to send six campers to Camp Moore this year so that they may be able to enjoy some open space and experience a different world for at least one week.

Regards,

Until next month,

Suzanne Lucas
Chairperson



(A Note from the Exalted Ruler)

It is a sad day when this lodge had to stop their monthly breakfast fundraiser because there aren't enough volunteers. All that is asked of you is one early morning Sunday to give of yourself so that others may enjoy a better life. Whether you can work in the kitchen or serve the diners or cleanup afterwards it is a vital part of this lodge. Please contact Suzanne Lucas and get some details on what you need to do to join the Sunday Crew.

+++++

Something to think about

What is it?

**The maker doesn't want it;
The buyer doesn't use it;
And the user doesn't see it.**

Answer – A coffin

How many birthdays does an average person have?

Answer – Check the April issue of the Elks Tale



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

coleen.devlin@lcloud.com

bycarpet@aol.com



Life Membership Application

**At a regular lodge session, Mr. Walter Hinline,
3 Bush Road, Flemington, NJ 08822-1220, requested Life Membership in the
Flemington Elks Lodge #1928.**

**Under Grand Lodge Statute: 14.260 and the Flemington Lodge By-Laws, Article
III, Sec. 2, this member has met the necessary requirements.**

**At the regular lodge session on March 8, 2023 a secret vote will be taken
concerning this matter.**

**Fraternally,
Barry L. Sheppard, Secretary**



The Statutes of the Grand Lodge require each lodge to hold nominations for Lodge Officers at the first Lodge Session in the Month of February. This session is also known as Past Exalted Ruler Night.

At the second Lodge Session the election was held and the below listed members will serve as Lodge Officers for the upcoming Elk Year of 2023-2024.

Exalted Ruler (Elected)	Randall Kerr - PER
Esteemed Leading Knight (Elected)	Michele Seber
Esteemed Loyal Knight (Elected)	Lee Trautman - PDD
Esteemed Lecturing Knight (Elected)	Vincent LaSpada
Lodge Secretary (Elected)	Barry Sheppard - PER
Lodge Treasurer (Elected)	George Upton - PER
Esquire (Appointed)	J.D. Harvis - PER
Chaplain (Appointed)	Mauro Fanelli
1 st Year Trustee	Robert Mikesh
2 nd Year Trustee	John Lombardi
3 rd Year Trustee	Gene Sierp
4 th Year Trustee	William Trstensky
5 th Year Trustee (Elected)	Martin Cunningham
Inner Guard (Appointed)	Eric Anderson
Tiler (Appointed)	Todd Hunt

Your presence made a difference.

HOUSE COMMITTEE NEWS



No report available

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 the USFL Football League is playing as well as 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 has been poor and it is a shame that more members do not attend so that they can be an active part of the lodge. It is also imperative that all of the Lodge Officers attend on a regular basis because that is what you volunteered for.

As a regular lodge member it is not mandatory, but it is a great way to learn what is happening at the lodge first hand. It gives you a chance to participate and 'say your piece' about the business of the lodge and, of course, after the meeting spending some quality time with other members.



As the lodge moved through the past two years with the assistance of generous donations not only from the membership, but also from non-members, the Flemington Lodge is becoming more solvent. But we have a long way to go to guarantee that our missions of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity will be continued.

Membership renewals are in the mail, please take the time to reflect about the Elks and your support. If you can send in a check for any amount, it will go a long way to keeping the Flemington Lodge alive. And, once again, I thank you for your support and everlasting love of this organization.

Daniel J. Pettit, Sr.
Exalted Ruler



Ramblings by Rich

Hello Everyone,

Spring is near, but right now it is cold and flu season.

I recently had the flu so I went to my doctor. As I was sitting in the waiting room a person ran in shouting, "Doctor! I think I'm shrinking." The doctor calmly responded, "Now settle down. You'll just have to be a *little* patient." After that appointment I went to the grocery store. The cashier asked me if I wanted my milk in a bag. I replied, "No thanks. I'd rather keep it in the carton."

I recently bought my friend a refrigerator for his birthday. I can't wait to see his face light up when he opens it! My neighbor just got two dogs and named them Rolex and Timex. They are his watch dogs. Last night I had a dream that I was a muffler. I woke up exhausted.

I'm sure everyone has had to change their passwords every now and then. I needed a new password that was eight characters long, so I picked Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Did you hear that the invisible man married the invisible woman? Their children are nothing to look at either.

That's it for this month. Remember: Whatever you do in life, always give 100% unless you're donating blood!

Keep on smiling!

PDD Rich

March 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 Bingo	3	4
5 NJSEA Elections **	6 Blood Drive	7	8 Lodge Meeting	9	10	11
12 	13	14 PER Meeting Auxiliary Meeting	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Dinner	18
19	20 Blood Drive	21	22 Lodge Meeting	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	April 1 Installation of Lodge Officers

>>> Election for State President, District Trustee and Vice President will be conducted at the Manville-Hillsborough Lodge from 200pm to 400pm



St. Patrick's Dinner Friday March 17, 2023

Please contact Patti DeLuca for more information about these events

The Installation Ritual of Lodge Officers will be conducted on Saturday April 1, 2023 at the Lodge. More information concerning times and the ceremony is available by contacting PER 'Randy' Kerr .



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

- 1.
2. Christopher Unger, Daniel J. Petitt, Sr. - **PER**
3. Paul Kidd, Jr.
- 4.
5. Michael Stager
6. Christopher Grimes
7. Lillian Ibach, Robert Serridge, Jr.
8. Allen Rake, Erin Wade
9. Jerry Trstensky, Jr.
10. Robert Tronolone
11. Joseph Kovi, Judith M. Gold
- 12.
13. Philip DeStefano
14. Santiago Cuellar
15. Robert Jablonski, Joseph Kovi
16. Adam Papa, Todd B. Hunt
17. Patricia Cunningham
18. Patrick McDonough
19. Carl Ondrak, John Slaughter, Donna Agulis
20. Lincoln Karnoff
- 21.
22. Ralph Alexander
23. Gary Strouse
- 24.
- 25.
- 26.
27. Richard Vail
28. Peter Nemec
29. Paul Blodgett
- 30.
- 31.



Elk of the Year: *Louis Costar*
Citizen of the Year: *Arthur C. 'Sandy' Clark*
Officer of the Year: *Mauro Fanelli, PER*



Lou



'Sandy'



Mauro

And a 'round of applause' to Casey Hoff and Patti DeLuca for receiving a Special Award for their continued service and dedication to the Flemington Elks Lodge.

The winners of the NJSEA Hoop Shoot that was conducted on Sunday February 12, 2023 at South Plainfield High School.

Our congratulations to all and now on to the Regionals at Wilkes-Barre, PA in March.

Boys 8-9	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Ciro Boniello	North	Westwood 1562	20
2nd	Priansh Maniar	Central	Edison 2487	19
3rd	Kyle Kenny	South Central	Red Bank 233	17 (3/5)
Girls 8-9	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Gianna Orlando	East Central	Union 1583	16
2nd	Savannah Helling	Southeast	Manahawkin 2340	14 (5/5)
3rd	Sofia Manzano	Northeast	Paramus 2001	14 (2/5)
Boys 10-11	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Thomas Koch	North	Westwood 1562	20
2nd	Patrick Hennessey	South Central	Old Bridge 2229	17
3rd	Jake Jones	Central	Metuchen 1941	16
Girls 10-11	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Leila Martiesian	North	Westwood 1562	20
2nd	Kalaya Schraft	West Central	Somerville 1068	17 (3/5, 5/5)
3rd	Hailey Catania	Southeast	Manasquan 2534	17 (3/5, 3/5)
Boys 12-13	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Paolo Zamora	East	Bayonne 434	22
2nd	Ryan Colaizzo	South Central	Freehold 1454	20
3rd	Jonathan Lopez	East Central	Union 1583	19
Girls 12-13	NAME	DISTRICT	LODGE	SCORE
1st	Amanda Ciser	West Central	Somerville 1068	19 (4/5)
2nd	Emeryl Azcona	Southwest	Mount Holly 848	19 (3/5)
3rd	Riya Narkar	Northwest	Parsippany-Troy Hills 2078	18

The first-place winners have been notified of the next level of competition which is the Northeast Central Regional Contest held on March 17-18 at Wilkes Barre, PA. If the first-place contestant is unable to attend, the second-place winner will be notified. The respective District Chairs will be notified of any changes.

If anyone from your District plans to attend the Regional Shoot to support their contestant, please let me know and I will get them the information.

Many thanks,

Barbara Muller

NJSEA Hoop Shoot Director