



March 2021

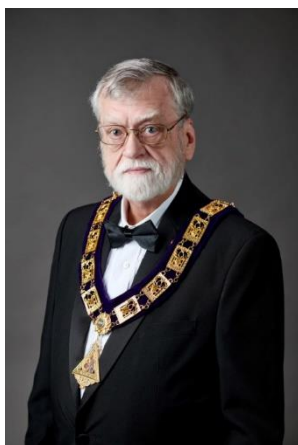
The Elks Tale

Issue No. 67 – 9

Flemington Elks Lodge #1928

"It ain't over 'til it's over" said baseball legend, Yogi Berra in 1973. His words ring so very true about this past year. We are entering a second year under the constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic and hopefully all of us will continue to practice safety protocols and stay healthy. The Lodge is also surviving, but just barely. We have restarted the monthly breakfasts on the last Sunday each month. As you would imagine, people are still wary of crowds and dining out. The Special Needs Committee is determined to keep this an ongoing event so that the local community will eventually come back and so that they are aware that the Flemington Elks is still an active organization.

On the bright side of this pandemic is the willingness of so many Lodge members to want to help in planning and working at ways to raise money to keep the Lodge open. Because of the loss of revenue from weddings and big events that usually rent our facility, the 'brain trust' of the Lodge have stepped up their efforts and there is now a shift in how the Lodge can raise money in the future. The thinking of the 'brain trust' or as we know them, the P.E.R. Association, is to conduct a variety of 'grab & go' meals for the local community and small events that will provide some monies for the Lodge.



We are constrained by the Governor's mandates and by the State Elks Association guidelines on the amount of persons allowed in the Lodge at one time, so the decision has been made to go small and more frequently with fundraisers. A few of our members are planning events that will enhance the status of the Flemington Elks during this ongoing crisis and will eventually become our 'new normal' way of doing business.

We are now offering an electronic attendance at the Regular Lodge Meetings via ZOOM so that those who are unable to attend because of sickness or they live out of state or are unable to come out at night would have access to the meetings and be able to express their ideas and opinions and also be able to vote on matters of importance.

The Lodge also needs your yearly dues so that the bills can be paid. Currently the Lodge has a total membership of 347 and we need to build that up so that we can have some new blood in the Lodge and a bigger base of volunteers. That money can go a long way to keeping this Lodge active. If you know someone who has not paid their 2020-2021 dues as of yet, why not make a payment for them under the guise of one of the B.P.O.E.'s main principles of Charity.

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

Lodge Officers – 2020 - 2021

Exalted Ruler	Daniel J Petitt, Sr.	201.341.3071
Est. Leading Knight	Randall Kerr, PER	
Est. Loyal Knight	TBD	
Est. Lecturing Knight	Gene Sierp	908.399.4997
Treasurer	George Upton, PER	908.788.5963
Secretary	Barry Sheppard, PER	908.782.3307
Tiler	Adam Papa	908.440.0196
Inner Guard	Eric Anderson	908.439.2532
Chaplain	Rich Lavagno, PDD	908.788.2917
Esquire	JD Harvis	
Trustee - 1 Year	TBD	
Trustee - 2 Year.....	TBD	
Trustee - 3 Year.....	TBD	
Trustee - 4 Year.....	TBD	
Trustee - 5 Year	William Trstensky	

Officers of the Auxiliary

..... President	Patti DeLuca	908.528.7328
..... Vice President	Deborah Keys	
..... Treasurer	Suzanne Lucas, PP	908.782.5037
..... Secretary	Laura Karnoff	908.400.1371
..... Trustee	Linda Upton, PP	908.788.5963

2020 - 2021

Elk of the Year: TBA

Citizen of the Year: TBA

Officer of the Year: Richard Lavagno, PDD

Monthly Lodge Meetings

Lodge Members: September to June:

2nd & 4th Wednesday - 7:30 PM

July & August: 2nd Wednesday Only - 7:30 PM

Auxiliary Members: September to June:

2nd Tuesday - 7:15 PM



Remember, if you:

Wash your hands,

Social distance of six feet,

Wear a mask,

Get vaccinated,

We can survive the pandemic

Committee Chairs 2020-2021

Accident Prevention	Daniel J. Petitt, Sr.	201.341.3071
Americanism		
Auditing & Accounting	George Upton, PER	908.788.5963
Better Parades	Daniel Petitt, Sr.....	201.341.3071
Building & Grounds	Casey Hoff	
Community Affairs	Daniel Petitt, Sr.....	201.341.3071
Community Activities.	Tiffany Quick	908.797.0670
Dishwasher	Randy Sornberger .	908.328.3432
Drug Awareness.	Daniel Petitt, Sr.....	201.341.3071
Elks Tale Editor		
Fraternal Committee	Rich Lavagno, PDD	908.788.2917
Friday Night Dinner		
Government Relations	Eric Anderson.....	908.439.2532
Hoop/Soccer Shoot		
House Committee	William Trstensky Randall Kerr, PER	
Lodge Accountant	Bragg & Karnoff.....	908.788.2998
Lodge Activities	Tiffany Quick	908.797.0670
Mediator	Lee Trautman, PDD	908.996.6724
Membership	Barry Sheppard, PER.	908.782.3307
Monday Morning Crew		
National Foundation	Daniel J. Petitt, Sr	201.341.3071
National Service	TBD	
PER Association	Rich Lavagno, PDD	908.788.2917
Public Relations	Daniel Petitt, Sr.	201.341.3071
Ritual Coach	Pete Naccarato	
Scholarship	Jeff Anderson	908.439.2532
Sickness and Distress	Randall Kerr, PER	
Social/Comm. Welfare	Eric Anderson	908.439.2532
Special Needs Children	Suzanne Lucas	908.782.5037
Standing Relief		
Visiting	Joe Kanaby, PDD ..	908.782.4006
Youth Activities....		
Website	Sean Bergin.....	732.801.1231

Grill Room Hours:
6pm to 10pm Tue to Sat



We Can Do It!

YES, WE CAN!! Together we can overcome these tough times and keep this Lodge alive. I am happy to see and hear so many members coming up with ideas to raise money and keep us together. I know that there are many others who have been staying away from the Lodge for various reasons and now is the time to 'step up' and volunteer to help those who have been active.

And if you cannot volunteer then consider a monetary donation to the Lodge. Many members have already sent in a check that will help the Lodge pay its bills and your donation can go a long way in supporting our efforts. Send what you can. Make the checks payable to: Flemington Elks Lodge #1928. Please make a note in the notations that the money is a donation to the Lodge. I thank you, the Lodge Officers thank you and the people that we help in this community will definitely thank you.

Daniel J. Petitt, Sr
Exalted Ruler

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 by the 25th 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**

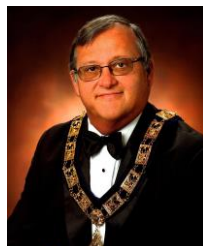
There are also nationwide groups where members can find out about the world of Elkdom:

BPOE News
Elks Social Media Network
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

State Trustee

I'm proud to be the West Central District's Representative to the State Trustees. As of this writing, we have not met yet, but there is a meeting planned for the near future. I am excited to have this position and learn how New Jersey as a State uses its funds. I will try to report on anything that is important and affects our Lodge.



PDD Rich



Special Needs Children

WOW!! We just had our "NEW" busy breakfast on January 31st with 113 diners staying within the COVID guidelines. We were so tired from all the activity but a "good" tired. It has been slow starting back up but we hung in and we are seeing a lot of our "old" friends coming back each month.

We signed up 6 campers for this summer and were just starting to find out who got a spot for their camp time when the Elks Camp Moore Board had to make the very difficult decision to cancel 2021 camp sessions. It is unfortunate but necessary. I understand they are working on a "virtual" program to entertain the campers as an alternative which seems to be the "new normal" for our youth.

That's it for this month.

Be Safe & Be Well,

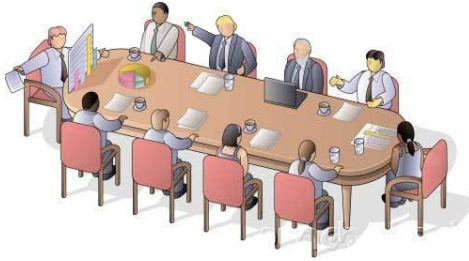
Suzanne Lucas
Chairperson



Flemington Elks Auxiliary

The Auxiliary has been having our regular Tuesday evening meetings since October and our holiday meeting was a covered dish and party. The food was excellent, so a big THANK YOU to all the members, and it was a fun time exchanging gifts by the fire. Oh and we can't forget about Suzanne's version of the Night Before Christmas! We have been looking into fundraising for both the Auxiliary and the Lodge that are compliant with the Lodge Covid regulations. When the weather warms up and hopefully the restrictions are lifted we will have more info on upcoming events. Our members have also been volunteering at the Sunday breakfasts, since they were restarted in the fall, and are glad to see the pre-virus regulars coming back and enjoying the delicious breakfasts. The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be Tuesday March 9, 2021 at 7:15. Come out enjoy an evening with friends and share your ideas.

Patti DeLuca
President



BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees are tasked with overseeing the financial health of the Lodge by authorizing the proper payment of the bills and keeping the Lodge on a solid footing.

Currently the Flemington Elks Lodge only has one trustee. With the new 'Elk Year' starting on April 1, 2021 the Lodge will have three Trustees. There will be two open chairs and I ask any member in good standing who wants to serve to please contact the Exalted Ruler.

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HOUSE COMMITTEE NEWS

The Grill Room has been maintaining steady hours since September so that members and their guests can enjoy the friendship and social interactions that we've known over the years. The House Committee invites you to come back and enjoy an evening again. All safety protocols will be followed and you will find a friendly face behind the bar.

See You Soon,
Randy Kerr

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PER ASSOCIATION

The PER's are still actively supporting our Exalted Ruler Dan and our lodge. We have been meeting regularly to discuss different ideas to help our lodge survive during these trying times. We can use any positive ideas and thoughts from members that can help out our lodge. Please contact any PER to discuss.

Our thanks to the organizers of the recent fund raising event with Dream Dinners. We thoroughly enjoyed our meals while supporting the lodge.

Fraternally,

PDD Rich Lavagno

PER Association President

**** Lapsation ****

This is a list of the Lodge Members who haven't sent in their dues as of this month. As a delinquent member, you are not allowed to use the facilities, attend meetings, and cannot be sponsored by a member in good standing.

Final Notice

2520 - Jeff Agugliaro 1554 – Andrew Babar Jr. 2523 – Melisa Batot 2525 –
Francisco Bowero 2527 – Jon Cantagallo-Rohn 2214- Robert S. Cole 2013 –
Raymond Collins 2368 – James Connelly 2388 – Marty Cunningham 2073 –
Patricia Cunningham 1932 – Sudhir Dalal 2541 –Kelli Dochterman 1858 –
William Faber 2494 – Joseph Fedalen 2491 – Jason Fisch 2372 – Troy Fischer
2429 – John Gabel 2341 – Harry Gano 2493 – Kaitlin Hingel 2235 – John
Keller 2533 – Robert Kiebasis 1762 – Ernest Luster 2461 – Amy Mack
2508 Timothy McGivney 659 – George Muller 851 – Arvid Myhre 1041 –
Stanley Ozimek Jr 1447 – Donald Peterson 2530 – Peter Plesh 2524 - Anthony
Rolon 2478 – Antonio Rubio 533 – Robert Schottman 2504 – Craig Sulkey
2450 – Timothy Swahn 2474 – Tierney Trstensky 1458 – Wayne Voorhees

The preceding is a list of all Delinquent members of the Flemington Lodge # 1928. If your name is listed, please remit your dues of \$69.00 for the year 2020-2021. A dues notice has been sent to all those listed, if your dues are not paid you will be dropped from membership on March 31, 2021.

Won't you please pay your Dues? We do not want to lose you as a member.

Barry Sheppard, PER/Secretary

Elks National Foundation

The mission of the ENF is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work.

**For pledges, contact:
Daniel J Petitt, Sr. 201.341.3071**

To reserve a room for your event or social gathering

Please Call: 908.788.8203

ALL bookings for both inside and outside the lodge building go through the Booking Agent.

Absent Members for the Elk Year 2020-2021

Howard (Rich) Schmitter	March 14, 2020
Thomas Cannizzaro	March 24, 2020
Francis Feola	April 12, 2020
Frank Bodnar	April 29, 2020
Clarence M. Merrell	
Richard D. Mannon	
Oscar Stirger Jr.	
Joseph F. Venziale	



Ramblings by Rich.....

Hi Everyone,

Well, it's been a while since I've shared some ramblings. I hope everyone is staying healthy. It must be tough for everyone staying home and trying to keep busy. I keep busy reading books. I read that in recent times nobody named their sons Lance any more. I found that odd, since in the Middle Ages, they named their sons Lance a lot!

Another book that I read was a biography on the man who invented Lifesavers. They said he made a mint!

Just before the pandemic hit I was lucky enough to visit a monastery. As I was walking past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips. I asked, "Are you the friar?" He replied, "No, I'm the chip monk."

I was fired from my job at the bank. An old lady came in and asked me to check her balance. So I pushed her over.

I hope I put a smile on your face and made you forget about these times for a moment. I'll leave you with one last thought: Never criticize a man until you've walked a mile in his shoes. Then, if you don't like him you're a mile away and you have his shoes.

Keep smiling!
PDD Rich





**Best Wishes to Our Members who are
Celebrating their Day this March**

1. Kelli Dochterman
2. Christopher Unger, Daniel Petitt, Sr. ER
3. Paul Kuhl Jr., Thomas Stover, Frank Emanuele
5. Michael Stager
6. Amy Mack, Christopher Grimes, Anthony Rolon
7. James Van Derveer, PER, Lillian IBach, Robert J. Serridge Jr.
8. Allen Rake
9. Jerry Trstensky Jr.
10. Robert Tronolone
11. Joseph Kovi, Judith M. Gold
13. Philip DeStefano
15. Joseph Gherardi Janes Delaney, Edward Saunders
16. Adam Papa, Donald Peterson
17. Richard Graper Sr., Patricia Cunningham
19. Carl Ondrak, John Slaughter, Jeffrey Allegar, Donna Agulis
20. Jason Fisch, Lincoln Karnoff
22. Ralph Alexander
23. Gary Strouse
27. Richard Vail
28. Peter Nemec
29. Paul Blodgett



Attention

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.

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 for arrangements.

A Message from the Lodge Secretary

Do you have a change of address or phone number or a different e-mail address?

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)