



# Elks Tale



September 2019

Issue No. 6 - 19

A Fraternal Organization

Our Sixty Sixth Year

Well it's hard to believe but the best parts of summer are behind us. I'm already seeing leaves changing colors and falling in the back yard. The good news, the heat waves of 90 degree weather are behind us and the fall colors are on the way. The bad news, well, the best parts of summer are behind us.

This time of year, people are returning from vacations, children are getting ready to go back to school and families are returning to their daily routines. To this end, the BOD and the House Committee have several events in the works to get members back into the Grill Room and involved with various Elks activities. Look for details elsewhere in the Elks Tail.

As life goes on, I'm sure we have all looked back on things we wished we had done, or we didn't do. This most recently came back to me with the loss of my brother. My brother was much older than me and we really didn't see each other very often. He did, however, have a major influence in my life, in a good way, and I don't think he ever knew it. Why? Because I never told him. It's something that never came up in normal conversation but something I would think about once in a while.



Thinking about it occasionally and never saying a thing to him went on for years. If I had to guess, I would imagine that I spent over a weeks' worth of time thinking about it but never saying a word. Now think about it. If I had spent fifteen minutes telling him the positive influence he had on me, years ago, not only would I have saved all that time, but I'm guessing he would have felt pretty good about it. Win, win.

So, what's my point? We have all been on the receiving end of something that has bothered us, and on the giving end of something that has bothered someone else. I'm not talking about life changing events, that's something different. I'm talking about an off handed remark or action that has hurt someone else. Once this occurs, if it's not spoken about initially, the hurt feelings can go on for a long, long time. Nothing good can come from this and the wasted time the parties spent thinking about it are well, a waste of time and energy.

So, what's my point, number two? Talk. In life, if someone has done something that you feel has slighted you, talk to THEM. No need to tell everyone you know how you feel. This does nothing to resolve the issue. The person you feel has slighted you may not even be aware of your feelings. I am not saying it's easy to do. It's not as most people do not like what maybe an unpleasant conversation. But think about it, once done, it's done. No need to spend countless hours thinking about it. Life is too short.

Fraternaly,  
David Murphy, PDD  
Exalted Ruler

## Lodge Officers – 2019 - 2020

Exalted Ruler .....	David Murphy, PDD...	908.399.6934
Est. Leading Knight .....	Daniel Petitt, Sr. ....	201.341.3071
Est. Loyal Knight .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....	609.605.6694
Est. Lecturing Knight .....	Jen Montanelli .....	862.220.6698
Treasurer .....	George Upton, PER....	908.788.5963
Secretary .....	Barry Sheppard, PER .	908.782.3307
Tiler .....	Randy Kerr, PER.....	908.328.4091
Inner Guard .....	Eric Anderson .....	908.439.2532
Chaplain .....	Rich Lavagno, PDD.....	908.788.2917
Esquire .....	J.D. Harvis, PER.....	908.337.2271
Trustee - 1 Year .....	William Trstensky .....	908.334.7661
Trustee - 2 Year .....	Joel Wolff .....	908.782.7095
Trustee - 3 Year .....	Gabe Esposito .....	908.334.9562
Trustee - 4 Year .....	Dawn Kracht.....	908.303.2451
Trustee - 5 Year .....	Vincent LaSpada.....	908.236.9098



### Monthly Meetings



**Lodge:** Sept – June: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - 7:30 PM  
July & August: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday - 7:30 PM

**Auxiliary:** Sept – June: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday - 7:15 PM

## Grill Room Summer Hours

**Closed Monday & Wednesday (Except Meeting Nights)**

**Tuesday & Thursday 5:00PM – 10:00PM**

**Saturday 3:00PM – 8:00PM**

**Sunday 2:00PM – 7:00PM**

Submission deadline is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.  
Submissions received after noon on the 10<sup>th</sup> **will not be used.** Please submit articles and ads as early as possible. Articles, ads and other information to for publication can be sent to:  
[erflemington@gmail.com](mailto:erflemington@gmail.com)

## Committee Chairs

Americanism .....	TBA
Auditing.....	TBD
Better Parades.....	TBD
Community Activities .....	Tiffany Quick .....908.797.0670
Dishwasher.....	Randy Sornberger ....908.328.3432
Drug Awareness .....	Daniel Petitt, Sr. ....201.341.3071
Elks Tale Editor .....	Sean Bergin .....732.801.1231
Friday Night Dinner .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
Fundraising Committee.....	TBD
Government Relations .....	TBA
Hoop/Soccer Shoot .....	Tim & Dawn Kracht ...908.303.2451
House Committee .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
Indoctrination .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
Internet Coordinator .....	Sean Bergin .....732.801.1231
Investigation .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
Lapsation.....	Barry Sheppard, PER .908.782.3307
Legal Advisor .....	TBD
Lodge Accountant .....	Bragg & Karnoff.....908.788.2998
Lodge Activities .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
Mediator .....	Lee Trautman, PDD ...908.996.6724
Membership.....	Barry Sheppard, PER .908.782.3307
National Foundation .....	Linda Murphy, PER ....609.605.6694
National Service .....	Ken Whalen, PER.....908.730.0040
PER Association .....	Rich Lavagno, PDD.....908.788.2917
Presiding Justice.....	TBD
Public Relations.....	Sean Bergin .....732.801.1231
Recreation .....	Tiffany Quick .....908.797.0670
Ritual Coach .....	Pete Naccarato, PER..908.788.0176
Safety Officer .....	Daniel Petitt, Sr. ....201.341.3071
Scholarship.....	Jeff Anderson .....908.439.2532
Sickness and Distress .....	David Murphy, PDD...908.399.6934
Social/Comm. Welfare .....	TBA
Special Needs Children.....	Suzanne Lucas .....908.782.5037
Visiting .....	Lee Trautman, PDD ...908.996.6724
Youth Activities .....	Alan Bodine .....908.720.6605
Website .....	Sean Bergin .....732.801.1231

## Officers of the Auxiliary 2019 – 2020

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.....908.788.5963

## LODGE WEBSITES

The Flemington Elks lodge website is: [www.flemingtonelks.com](http://www.flemingtonelks.com) for information on upcoming events, lodge happenings, pictures functions, and general lodge information. We also have a Facebook Page (public), Facebook Group (members only) and a West Central District Group (members only)

**Elk of the Year: Christine Esposito**  
**Citizen of the Year: Jo Ann Riesz**  
**Officer of the Year: Joel Wolff**

## HELP!

To cut costs, please consider canceling your physical copy of The Elks Tale and switching to E-Mail only. Contact Barry Sheppard to make this change:  
[bls1928@embarqmail.com](mailto:bls1928@embarqmail.com)

## FOR BOOKINGS

**Please Call: 908.788.8203**

*Please be sure all bookings for both inside and outside the lodge building go through the booking agent.*

### Somerset Children's Center Board of Directors

Joel Wolff - Member  
Barry Sheppard - Member

## ATTENTION:

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



**Friday Night Dinners will  
be back in September!**  
**6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.**

Friday Night Dinners will be back monthly, depending upon volunteers to cook and serve the meals.

Contact Linda Murphy 609.605.6694 if you are interested in helping with Friday Night Dinners. We need volunteers in order to keep this function going! Please consider helping out.

Menus are posted on our website weekly at [www.flemingtonelks.com](http://www.flemingtonelks.com)

## Elks National Foundation

**For pledges, contact:  
Linda Murphy: 609.605.6694**



## Funeral Services

A reminder to all members and their families: Should a member pass away, the Officers will perform the funeral service at the family's request. Please contact the Exalted Ruler for arrangements.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## PER Association



The PER Association will hold its next meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the conference room at the lodge. Members – don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have any immediate questions or concerns. A special thanks to PDD Joe for continuing to send out cards to our association members. I was happy to receive mine.

*PDD Rich*

*Flemington Lodge PER President*

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## Ramblings by Rich



Well, summer is almost over, but not quite yet. As I was lying on the beach, I had some random thoughts in life that I would to share. We've all been told that light travels faster than sound. This is why people appear bright until they open their mouths. They say money talks. But all mine says is, "Goodbye!" I'm skeptical of anyone who tells me they practice yoga every day. That's a bit of a stretch. You know, you don't need a parachute to go skydiving. You need a parachute to go skydiving twice! Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but that same person will check when you say paint is wet, or a plate is hot?

I think I'm done for this month, but I'll leave you with this thought: It's not the fall that kills you, it's the sudden stop at the end.

Keep on laughing until next month. And thank you for all your positive feedback!

*PDD Rich*

## Drug Awareness Program



It is that time of year again when the Flemington Elks Lodge has a table at the Hunterdon Count 4H Fair. On display will be information about what we do as Elks and how our volunteer efforts directly support the charities of Elkdom. Also available to the fair goers will be handouts on the Elks Drug Awareness Program and giveaways such as wristbands for the children.

I am asking for members to give some time to assist me at the table this year. I will be at the fair each day from 10am to 10pm and it would be nice to get some relief, and have you step up for just a short time. Any member who volunteers will get a parking pass for that day and before or after volunteering you can enjoy the fair at no cost.

The dates of the 4H Fair at the South County Park are Wednesday August 21 to Sunday August 25, 2019. If you can be there any time after 4:00pm, even for a short time, it would be greatly appreciated. The hours on Sunday are 10am to 5pm. Please contact me @ 201.341.3071 or by e-mail at [dandee350@yahoo.com](mailto:dandee350@yahoo.com) for further details as soon as possible.

ELKS CARE-ELKS SHARE

Respectfully,

*Daniel J. Petitt, Sr.*

*Esteemed Leading Knight*

## Day at Camp



It was a beautiful Summer day. Sunshine and joy filled the air. It was Camp day and the anticipation was building. The car was loaded with people and supplies for the day. The drive to the mountain was filled with conversation and laughs. The trip didn't seem that long because it was spent with friends who share the same ideas about what we were doing.

Upon arrival at the mountain camp we unloaded the car and watched as some campers arrived with their parents or guardians. You could see their eyes brighten and their bodies rearing to get going. It would be a week away from home. A week where they could be on their own and play and breathe the clean air and have a counselor to be right next to them every minute.

Our mission was to make the day a special one and a simple one. We cooked burgers and hot dogs and the DJ played her music. The campers laughed and danced and screamed with joy. They were free to express themselves and they did with all of their hearts and minds as much as they could.

Some of us watched over the campers as they accomplished their dance moves or sang a song their way and hugged the counselors. We saw hope in their eyes, they saw tears in our eyes. Tears because it is what we do. We are Elks and we care, and we share and watching these campers just makes your heart and soul fill with pride. We do a very small part to make the campers lives a little better, but to them it is a gift.

This is Camp Moore and it is the State Project. We go once each year to make them a little happier, but I truly believe that being with these campers makes us a little bit happier about ourselves.

I go every year because I want to do something and see the campers faces with the widest and brightest smiles. I hope that more Elks will join us next year.

*Daniel J. Petitt, Sr.  
Esteemed Leading Knight*

## Food for Thought



A lie can travel halfway around the world while truth is just putting on its shoes. When I despair, I remember that all through history the ways of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they can seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall. Think of it--always. Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored. Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world would do this, it would change the earth. The truth is, unless you let go, unless you forgive yourself, unless you forgive the situation, unless you realize that the situation is over, you cannot move forward. The best way to find out if you can trust somebody is to simply trust them. Above all, don't lie to yourself. The man who lies to himself and listens to his own lie comes to a point that he cannot distinguish the truth within him, or around him, and so loses all respect for himself and for others. And having no respect he ceases to love.

*Linda Murphy PER  
Vice President WCD*

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## Mini Golf Outing



I really would love to do a miniature golf outing I know it was something done in the past and I would love to resurrect it. A fun time with good friends and afterwards we can go back to the lodge for some refreshments. I have not set a date in September yet as I want to see how many are interested. Bring the family and let's have a fun day  
Contact me at: 609.605.6694  
Email me at: [erflemington@gmail.com](mailto:erflemington@gmail.com)

*Linda Murphy PER  
Vice President WCD*

## Auxiliary Report



Hi Everyone! Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Our September 10th meeting is a dinner meeting, so come hungry and don't forget to RSVP. I hope all the "old timers" will be there and that our newbie members will join us as we get the fall & winter events planned. Got kids? Or if you yourself like the superheroes get your tickets for our Super Cool Halloween Party. You'll get to meet Spiderman, Captain America and Wonder Woman along with a dashing pirate. Come out and try your luck at Bingo on Thursday September 5th and/or enjoy a delicious breakfast at the Sunday breakfasts which will be starting back up on September 29th. Both events benefit the Special Needs Children's Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patti DeLuca*  
*Auxiliary President*

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## Where Are They Now?



That is a question that has been asked by so many members. But the real question is: Who Are They? They are the members that maintained this lodge through some glorious years and some lean years. They were officers and committee chairs who kept this place alive. They sponsored great events and raised money for our charities. They worked tirelessly to make this lodge a 'home away from home' for everyone.

They made the Flemington Lodge famous throughout the state by being the best Ritual Team, the best marchers in the State Convention Parade and always winning trophies for their efforts. And, as is typical in most lodges, they were 'burned out' after so many years of constantly doing for others. They silently and slowly stepped back from all the volunteer hours and all the repair work around the lodge. They said that the new members should have their chance in the spotlight and then, suddenly, they stayed away.

There are many reasons why they stay away, and I cannot blame them for not wanting to do any of the 'heavy lifting' anymore. It's our turn to do the right thing. This lodge has existed since 1954 and it may continue for many more years, but not without the guidance of those members who made this lodge strong and well known and made it an anchor in this community. Yes, their bodies are old and yes, they want to relax and enjoy life and yes the Flemington Elks Lodge #1928 needs them now more than ever.

How do we need them? We need your ideas on how to accomplish our goals and bring in new members and raise money and so much more. You know who you are because I have spoken to you and pleaded with you to come out to the lodge and guide us. We need your help. We need your strength. We need to know that the 'long time members' can and will support the lodge and show us the way to success.

This lodge is your lodge and always will be. We can't do it alone in today's world, we need you.

*Daniel J. Petitt, Sr.*  
*Esteemed Leading Knight*

## **ABSENT MEMBERS FOR THE 2019- 2020 ELK YEAR**

*John O. Wilson, PDD 1/2/2019*

*S. Rudger Benjamin 1/2/2019*

*Daniel Knee 5/14/2019*

*Bea Sabo – 6/2019*

*Phil Stevens – 7/4/2019*

***THEIR VIRTUES ARE WRITTEN UPON THE TABLETS OF LOVE AND MEMORY***

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## **UPCOMING DATES**

September 3 – Dollar Hot Dog Night  
September 5 - Bingo  
September 6 Steamed Clams FND  
September 8 - NFL Football Sunday  
September 9 – Army of Hope Picnic (Lacey Lodge)  
September 11 - Lodge Meeting  
September 15 - NFL Football Sunday  
September 21 – Casino Night  
September 22 - NFL Football Sunday  
September 25 - Lodge Meeting  
September 27 Open Mic night  
September 29 – Breakfast

# Happy Birthday to our Members!!

**September 2019**

**Change of Address or Phone No.? Not receiving your Elks Tale? Clip and send new info to:**

<b>9/1</b> Donald Ciotta	<b>9/8</b> Robert Ferrence	<b>9/18</b> Gordon K. Johnson, Jr.	<b>9/22</b> Michael McClernon
<b>9/2</b> Louis Sferlazzo	<b>9/9</b> William E. Dixon	<b>9/19</b> Thomas Walsh	<b>9/26</b> Chris Ondrak
<b>9/5</b> Vincent LaSpada	<b>9/11</b> Barbara Schmitter Carol Paige	<b>9/20</b> William E. Pritchett H. Gordon Horn	<b>9/30</b> Robert S. Cole Nicholas Gurski
<b>9/6</b> Richard Furlong	<b>9/12</b> Robert Hopek	<b>9/21</b> William Padolillo Dawn Kracht	
<b>9/7</b> Lee Trautman	<b>9/15</b> Randy Sornberger		

**Barry Sheppard**

**C/O Flemington Elks Lodge No. 1928**

**P.O. Box 261**

**Flemington, NJ 08822 (or drop it in the Secretary's box at the Lodge)**

**Phone: 782-3307**

**Going south for the winter? Send your winter address to Barry Sheppard, let him know when you plan to leave and return, and we will see that your Elks Tale follows you there.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AD PAGE ON FILE AT CORNERSTONE**



**Flemington Elks Lodge No. 1928**  
165 Routes 31 South, P.O. Box 261  
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

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(908)782-8759

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