



February 2021

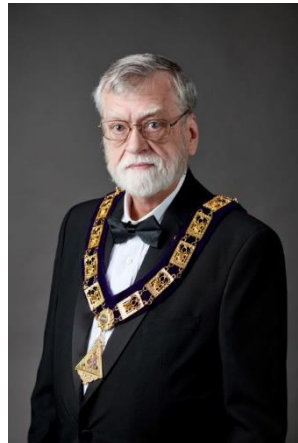
The Elks Tale

Issue No. 67 – 8

Flemington Elks Lodge #1928

It has been almost one year since the Covid-19 pandemic hit this Lodge with a fist in the financial and social gut. Almost knocked out, but not 'down and out', the Lodge is surviving barely.

During the hiatus which lasted from March to September, the building was vacant and it seemed that the Elks Lodge would never be alive again. We all hoped and prayed for everybody's safety and health and that was and is very important to the membership, our families and friends. During the Summer we watched as businesses, both big and small, disappeared. As we attempted to put some life back into the Lodge and begin the process of living with a 'new normal' we have hit some rough patches. It is nothing that the membership cannot overcome with some interest in keeping this Lodge a vital part of the local community.



We are constrained to a degree by the Governor's mandates and by the State Elks Association guidelines. And we are waiting for the day that the Lodge will be able to come alive again. We have returned to the regular schedule of Lodge Meetings, but currently are limited to the number of members that can be in attendance. We are now offering an electronic attendance 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 dues to pay the bills. Currently the Lodge has 37 members of the 347 total membership who are lapsed, and as I have asked previously, that money can go a long way to keeping this Lodge active. If you are a member in good standing and 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 Elks main principles of Charity.

I am also asking each and every member of this Lodge to make an effort to get someone interested in the Elks. We need to build up our membership and have some of those new members involved in the Lodge Committees. Our ageing membership will continue to diminish to a point that the Lodge could not continue. It's not the 'old days' anymore. We are living in a "new normal" society with new ways of doing things and new members will bring new ideas. It's your lodge and if the money stops and the membership drops just ask yourself "What could I have done to keep the Flemington Elks Lodge #1928 alive?".

*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

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

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 Trsentsky 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



We Can Do It!

An Elks Lodge can only be successful if the membership is active on Committees and volunteering to help out around the lodge wherever needed. The success is also dependent on attendance at meetings and social gatherings. Attendance at the meetings is usually the Lodge Officers and a few concerned members and that body count is about 10% of the total Lodge membership. I wish that was true at the Flemington Lodge because that would mean that there would be around 45 to 50 members at each meeting instead of the usual 15.

Though it is a common fact that most people join the Elks for the cheap drinks and cheap meals, but many become disillusioned when asked to 'lend a hand' and they fade into the woodwork never to be seen again. There are those who decry about "too much drama" within the lodge and it's not what they were looking for. But there are those who give and then give more and eventually burn out. I have seen members leave the Grill Room five minutes before a meeting starts and return after the meeting is over. That, to me, is just a downright disappointing act.

And then we have the 'advisors'. Those are members who call on the phone or send an e-mail and tell the active members what to do and what they did 'back in the day' when things were great. They don't show up at meetings or volunteer at the lodge and expect the Officers and Committee Chairs to follow their instructions and expect results. It takes men and women spending time and effort to keep this place up and running and, as of now, that is left to less than a dozen members. The weight of the Lodge is on our backs and as Exalted Ruler everything is falling at my feet. It's time to kick in and do something and keep the doors open. If you just take the time and care a little bit to help out by volunteering to do something, this Lodge can survive the current pandemic and loss of revenue. Otherwise you may find yourself left out in the cold.

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

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 am 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

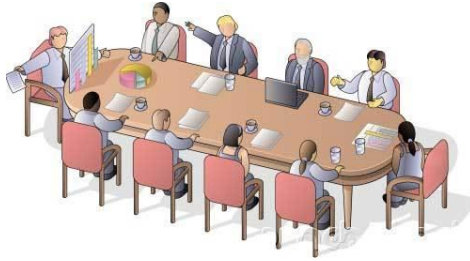


A lifetime of experience will offer many lessons and cultivate many skills. Some of them will be explicit, like how you do your laundry, invest your income, and raise your children. Some of them will be more subtle and abstract, but important nonetheless. Ideas such as how to respond to illness, deal with rejection, and what to do when a relationship isn't working. One of our most valuable skills that everybody would benefit from learning, should they want to live a fruitful, is when to move on. I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts. Just remember, optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.

Linda Murphy, DDGER WCD



Suzanne Lucas
Chairperson



BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

Currently the Flemington Elks Lodge only has one trustee. We can have up to five members as Trustees and if you so desire to be an active part of this world of Elkdom please contact an Officer so that your name can be placed in nomination at the next Lodge meeting on February 10,2021.

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 .

+++++

HOUSE COMMITTEE NEWS

The house committee has been busy during this down time cleaning and assuring stock is good. Inventory is complete and new ideas for drink and food specials are being brainstormed for when the day comes we can open our doors. That have discussed the 'new norm' and have plans in place to address what that might bring. All coolers, ice machine and glassware have been scrubbed, new matting for the shelves and a few special new things as an added surprise of our members are waiting for that special day.

=====

PER ASSOCIATION

The PER's are still working on ways to keep the Lodge up and running by holding fundraisers. I'm sure there are a lot of things to be discussed at the meetings. All PER's are welcome to these meetings with their ideas and thoughts.

Hope to see soon.

PDD Rich

**** 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.

Please remit your dues of \$71.00 for the year 2019-2020

Jeff Agugliaro

Andrew Babar Jr.

Melisa Batot

Francisco Bowero

Jon Cantagallo-Rohn

Robert S. Cole

Raymond Collins

James Connelly

Marty Cunningham

Patricia Cunningham

Sudhir Dalal

Kelli Dochterman

Floyd Evans Jr

David Everitt

William Faber

Joseph Fedalen

Jason Fisch

Troy Fischer

John Gabel

Harry Gano

Kaitlin Hingel

John Keller

Wayne Voorhees

Robert Kiebosis

Paul Knoll

Ernest Luster

Amy Mack

Timothy McGivney

George Muller

Arvid Myhre

Stanley Ozimek Jr

Donald Peterson

Peter Plesh

Anthony Rolon

Antonio Rubio

Robert Schottman

Craig Sulkey

Timothy Swahn

Tierney Trstensky

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





Ramblings by Rich (Editor: This is an oldie, but worth waiting for)

Hello Everyone,

Summer is here in full swing, and it sure is hot outside! It's so hot outside that even the pig said I'm bacon[baking]. Do you know how you can tell that the ocean is friendly? It is always waving. One summer, I owned a company that made sun tan lotion that was better than all the others, but I don't like to rub it in! I then went to work in a science lab. It was fun, but I didn't trust the atoms because they made everything up! Anyhow, with the heat outside, and the current situation, I have been stuck at home watching lots of TV including the news. There are some strange stories being reported lately. There was one story about the gang going around town shoplifting clothes in size order. Police believe they are still at large. Another story stated that because of the virus, the Seven Dwarves have been advised that as of today, they can only have meetings in groups of six. One of them isn't Happy. One final thought. You really got to hand it to short people. They usually can't reach it anyway.

Stay safe and healthy and I hope to see everyone at the Lodge soon.

PDD Rich





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

Gerald Slovokolwski

Chester Dalgewicz

H.B. Thomas

Douglas D. Dickson

Craig Sulkey

John Cunningham II

Anne Marie Sidor

Annie Scully

Peter Cosentino

Alexander Leist

Larry Johnson

Fredrick DeJacma

Thomas Buxton

Robert McCann

Douglas Wachter

Gene Sierp

Robert Jablonski

Joseph Kovi

Donna King

Joseph Fedalen

Ken Gangaware

James Suskiewicz

James Connelly



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)