



SOUTH ORANGE ELKS #1154

THE BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

SO ELKS #1154 **MESSAGE FROM OUR EXALTED RULER**



Hello Members,

As you are aware our new Elk Year started in April, and with that we have elected new Officers & Trustees for the 2019//2020 year, Please look to the left of this letter for a listing of our new Officers & Trustees.

I would like to thank all previous Officers & Trustees for your commitment to our Lodge, and to all of our new Officers & Trustees as well; Thank You.

As of this writing the South Orange Elks Lodge currently has 226 active members, with 4 more members awaiting initiation on the 20th of May.

Yearly Dues: Thanks to all who have thus far paid your yearly dues; if it's slipped your mind it's not too late. You can take a moment to go to our website, or stop into the lodge any night we are open to either pay cash or use a card at the bar. If you are in hardship and can't presently pay your dues, please contact Secretary Bob Donnelly.

Your dues are needed to continue our charitable donations, and in part have (if I've read the report correctly), helped our lodge's charitable givings this last year to be over \$34,000.

In closing, I would like to thank PER Mike Leonard on an astounding three years of service to our lodge, and in helping it grow not only with new members, but in community recognition as well. If you see Mike, make sure to shake his hand and thank him for all of his efforts these last three years.

See you at the Lodge!

Fraternally,
Jerry O'Connell
Exalted Ruler

2018/2019 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Gerald O'Connell
Leading Knight	John Grew
Loyal Knight	Annemarie Conte
Lecturing Knight	Scott Fleisch
Secretary	Bob Donnelly
Treasurer	Ron Housley
Esquire	Dan Hayes
Chaplain	Thomas Vena
Inner Guard	James Joyce
Tiler	John Ramsburg

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman	Gene Myers
Trustee	Mike Charvala
Trustee	James Walsh
Trustee	Michael G. Leonard
Trustee	Allen Pierce

SOCIAL MEDIA

- [Members Only Facebook page](#)
- [Public Facebook page](#)
- [Our website](#)

OUR LODGE NEWSLETTER IS GOING GREEN

HELP THE LODGE BY RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Dear Members,

Help the lodge save money, and our environment.

We are asking that anyone with an email address please start receiving this newsletter electronically. We spend a lot of money each year printing and sending paper newsletters that could be delivered in a snap electronically. The email version of the newsletter will get to you faster, it's in full color, it has clickable links embedded in it, and you are essentially giving the lodge more money to spend on our charitable endeavors. Currently we are still sending over 50 newsletters via the mail and that's way too many.

Please email me at SouthOrangeElks@gmail.com with your name and email address to help us out. Thanks!

LODGE UTILIZATION

Our lodge is available for parties and events! We have a maximum capacity of 100 for a cocktail party and about 80 for a sit-down dinner.

Non-Members

The lodge is available for use to non-members for a donation of \$500 for 5 hours (add \$50 for parties of 70+ guests). The 5 hours is the total time for set-up, party, and clean-up. Alcohol may be brought into the lodge for an event but it must be kept behind the bar and served to guests by an Elks bartender. No lodge-owned alcohol can be served. The kitchen is available for prep, storage, and to keep things cold in our fridge. No oven/stove use is allowed. Sterno cans may be used to keep hot things hot.

Members

Membership has benefits! As an Elk, you're able to use the lodge for 5 hours for a donation of \$300 (an extra \$50 for parties of 70+ guests). Another HUGE benefit is that our entire cash bar (wine/liquor/beer) is available to you and your guests.

Your event must be YOUR event. By this we mean it's your party and you know all the guests. There is no such thing as member sponsored parties. This means that unless it's YOUR party and you know all the guests personally. Members can't be the front person for a neighbor's birthday party, a 5th cousin's bridal shower, or a school fundraiser, etc. These are NJ State laws set by the Alcohol Beverage Control. If we don't follow the law we put our liquor license at risk.

If you would like to book the lodge for an event please call 973-762-9848

SECRETARYS CORNER

Dear fellow members,

The new Elk year started on April 1st; thank you to all members that have paid their dues thus far. We have held the dues at the same level as last year. The total for regular members will be \$84 . Life members will pay \$34. Our Lodge depends on our members dues to continue all of our charitable works in the community. Thank you in advance for your prompt remittance of your dues.

You can also pay by credit card and PayPal on our website : soelks.com

Payments are also accepted at our bar.

Fraternally,
Bob Donnelly PER
Lodge Secretary

IMPORTANT DATES & INFO

Calendar of Events

May

- May 4 Camp Moore Work Day - all volunteers welcome
- May 20 New Member Initiation (members)
- May 23 May 23 Bingo 7 pm at East Orange VA Hospital

June

- June 1 Sip & Swap (public) 7:30-11:00
- June 6-9 NJ Elks Wildwood Convention
- June 7 First Friday
- June 13 Flag Day Ceremony (more info later)
- June 22 Garden Open House (public) 1:00-3:00
- June 22 East Orange VA hospital picnic 11AM start
- June 29 Baby Races (public)

July

- July 5 First Friday
- July 8 SCC Golf Fund-raising Tournament
- July 13 Lyons VA hospital picnic
- July 13/14 MAPLEWOODSTOCK BEERGARDEN!

August

- August 7 Camp Moore visit & cooking for the staff and campers

*If you wish to volunteer, or would just like more information, please visit our Facebook pages and ask, or stop by the lodge while we are open.

WE ARE OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS!! 8pm

For more up-to-the minute information about the lodge, our events, latest press or members info, please visit our website at: <http://soelks.com>

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

If someone you know is suffering from a medical, physical, financial or other crisis, please contact our Sickness & Distress Committee

On March 10th we lost a long time and valued member of our lodge, Joseph “Eric” Flanagan. Eric was Passed Exalted Ruler of our lodge. He was also our lodge SCC Chairman for many years and Director at Elks Camp Moore. He will be missed.

Fraternally,
James Walsh
(201) 207-1228

VETERANS COMMITTEE

“So Long As There are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will Never Forget Them”

1. On Palm Sunday, 4/14, the District Vets Committees delivered 75 Easter gift bags (60 for the men and 15 to the women) to the veterans at East Orange VA Hospital. We had help from West Orange Boy Scout Troop 2 assembling the gift bags on the day before. Included in the gift bags were thank you cards from a Special Needs Children’s Class at Harrison/E. Newark 2326.
2. Our next monthly district veterans meeting will be held on 4/24 at 7PM at the No. Arlington lodge.
3. On 4/27, we will hold an open house at the new annex building from 12 noon – 3PM. This newly renovated storage building will be a welcome addition to the district. The ribbon cutting ceremony will occur at 1:00 PM that afternoon.
4. On May 22, the next monthly district veterans meeting will be held at 7PM at the No. Arlington lodge.
5. Just a reminder for the VA picnics... East Orange picnic will be on June 22, and the Lyons picnic will be on July 23.

John Dilley
Veterans Committee

SPECIAL CHILDRENS COMMITTEE

Our lodge SCC will be holding our annual Golf Outing on Monday, July 8th so save the date!! Sign-up sheets are available, see Jim Walsh or Gene Meyers.

On August 7th the South Orange SCC will be going up to Elks Camp Moore to cook for the campers and counselors. If you would like to help out please give me a call, 201-207-1228. A great opportunity to see the camp in full swing.

We are still looking for new members for our committee. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the lodge at 7pm. Not sure what you want to do? Just come and sit in on a meeting, hear what we do.

Jim Walsh, PDD
SCC Chairman

District SCC News

I would like to thank everyone who helped with and attended the Charity Ball on March 30th, which honored our own Tommy Fresco as “Person of the Year”. It was a great night, the “murder mystery” was enjoyed by all and we made a good profit for the kids and Camp Moore.

On May 4th the district will be going up to Elks Camp Moore to help get the cabins ready for our campers. We will be painting the cabins, power washing & treating the decks and whatever else needs to be done. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated. We are meeting up at the camp at 10:00 am.

May 19th is Open House at Camp Moore. If you’ve never been, this is the perfect opportunity for you to see and get a tour of the camp. It truly is “a Miracle on the Mountain”.