



**SO ELKS #1154**



**2017/2018 OFFICERS**

<b>Exalted Ruler</b>	Michael G. Leonard
<b>Leading Knight</b>	John Ramsburg
<b>Loyal Knight</b>	Ian Lacey
<b>Lecturing Knight</b>	Annemarie Conte
<b>Secretary</b>	Bob Donnelly
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ron Housley
<b>Esquire</b>	Sam Finlay
<b>Chaplain</b>	Thomas Vena
<b>Inner Guard</b>	Paul Baron
<b>Tiler</b>	Andrew Zeitlin

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>Chairman</b>	Bob Fanneron
<b>Trustee</b>	Frank Fresco
<b>Trustee</b>	Gene Meyers
<b>Trustee</b>	Mike Charvala
<b>Trustee</b>	James Walsh

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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

**MESSAGE FROM OUR EXALTED RULER**



Hello Members,

I think we are all ready for spring to arrive! The lodge had more down time this month when we were left without power for several days. There was no damage to the lodge but we did have to postpone our comedy night to April 21st. As I write this, we anxiously await another storm and hope the lodge remains unscathed!

Our annual St. Patrick's Day dinner was a big success...and delicious! A heartfelt thanks to all of those who helped cook, set-up, and clean-up. I would

also like to thank the Holle family for their continued support of the event.

We continue to make improvements to the lodge and are receiving quotes on a new walk-in cooler and tap system. The old ones have served us well, but as we have more lodge events and parties the time has come to upgrade our bar. In the near future, we will have 6 taps of icy cold beer to enjoy at the lodge. Thanks to Jeff Bryant and Mike Charvala PER for leading the way on this big project.

March 31st marks the end of the Elk calendar year and we were happy to initiate 3 new members at the very last meeting (picture inside). We've added 60 new members in the last 2 years and I'm proud to say the future of the South Orange Elks looks very promising. Our revenue has also grown and I look forward to donating many checks to deserving local causes on behalf of the lodge. Case in point: last night the membership voted to give \$1000 to the South Orange Rescue Squad!

Also at the last meeting, I announced award winners for the year 2017-2018. Karen Rutberg is our Citizen of the Year, Allen Pierce was awarded an Outstanding Service Commendation, Ron Housley earned the title of Officer of the Year, and Michael Charvala PER has been honored as our Elk of the Year. Congratulations to all! We will be having an awards ceremony to distribute these honors in the coming weeks.

See you at the lodge!

Michael G. Leonard  
Exalted Ruler

**OUR LODGE NEWSLETTER IS GOING GREEN**

**HELP THE LODGE BY RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL**

Dear Members,

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 newsletter 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

**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**

Fellow members,

I would like to thank the many members who have paid their dues for the upcoming 2018-2019 Elk year. Approximately 100 members have already paid ! This helps the Lodge immensely as we have to pay \$3800 total in combined annual assessments to Grand Lodge and NJ State Elk Association. We have also incurred multiple expenses in the last 6 weeks. You have probably heard that we had to replace our furnace. We lost several nights where we would have been open. Also our Board of Directors are looking to replace our beer cooler and tap system. The cooler is on its last legs. All of this has put stress on our operating budget. PLEASE help the Lodge by paying your dues promptly online or in the mail. Dues can also be paid at the bar in the Lodge. Thanks you all for your prompt response.

Fraternally  
Bob Donnelly PER  
Lodge Secretary

## TREASURERS REPORT

As we approach our fiscal year end (the Elk year runs from 4/1-3/31), I am happy to say that the Lodge continues to be financially stable and overall in a very good position. All the hard work (First Friday events, Wednesday night members night, member and private parties, etc.) are all finally paying dividends. In addition, a growing membership with the members paying their dues on time also really helps. We need to remain financially strong as we have and will continue to need to put improvements into our Lodge building.

Recently we had to replace our boiler as the old one died (perfect timing in the middle of winter!). A big shout out to Mike Charvala for dealing with the insurance company and getting them to agree to pay \$8,000 towards the replacement!

We are now about to undertake one of the biggest jobs that has to be done – replacing the beer cooler in the basement as well as the beer lines and taps. This is long overdue. We estimate the cost to be approximately \$25,000 to have all this work done. Financially we have the money, so all is good. But that being said, we always need to replenish our bank accounts for future “rainy” days.

We recently held our annual St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, which was a nice success. After accounting for all costs, the Lodge made a profit of approximately \$700. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this such a fun evening!

We are always looking for new ways to bring good people, positive energy and \$\$ into the Lodge. If anyone has any good ideas, please let us know. We need to continue to fundraise to not only do the capital improvements that need to be done, we also need to fundraises to support all our charities!!

Wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy Spring!!

Ron Housley

Treasurer

## VETERANS COMMITTEE

Blue Jean Ball. The ball will be on 4/21/18 at the West Orange lodge. We have purchased 10 tickets and have reserved a table for 10 for the event. Please contact either John Dilley or Jimmy Walsh should you wish to attend.

We will be dropping off gift bags at the East Orange VA hospital on Palm Sunday. Two groups are packing gift bags for the event. The Boy Scouts are going to be packing bags at our Lodge starting at 10 AM on **Saturday** morning. Jimmy Walsh and John Dilley (and any volunteers who wish to attend) will also be packing gift bags on **Sunday** morning at 11 AM at the Lodge. The bags will be dropped off at the VA hospital at 1:00 PM on Palm Sunday morning.

The Homeless Vet Welcome Kit program is progressing very well. We have donated \$1250 so far to the project, and the monies donated have been reimbursed by Grand Lodge. We plan to continue the donations for the foreseeable future.

Other grants for the vets are in the mill, and we will announce them as they are approved.

John Dilley Sr.

Veterans Committee Chairperson

**SPECIAL CHILDRENS COMMITTEE**

The SCC is working hard on the annual golf outing, which will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup> this year. We need golfers and hole sponsors to make the event a success. The outing will be held at the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth again. Please see the included flyer/sign-up sheet for all of the info. If you can't golf on that day, then maybe you can sponsor a hole. This is our main fundraiser for Camp Moore and really need everyone's participation.

Fraternally,  
Jim Walsh, PDD  
SCC Chairman

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

The Fundraising Committee is gearing up and running. Our first event is anticipated to be the 1st Annual Elks Dog Show scheduled for May 19 from noon to 4pm (rain date May 26) in the parking lot. Additional events and revenue streams are being listed and prioritized. All ideas are welcome!

Andy Zeitlin

**IMPORTANT DATES & INFO**

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS**

**Calendar of Events**

**March**

26th **Officer Installment. 7:30 pm**

**April**

- 1st **Wildwood deposits due**
- 2nd **Lodge meeting 7pm - followed by NCAA championship at 8:30 pm**
- 7th **First Friday 8 pm**
- 16th **Lodge meeting 8pm**
- 21st **Lodge Blood Drive 10 am**
- 21st **Comedy Night 7:30 pm**
- 31st **Wildwood balance due**

**May**

- 12th **Wildwood Tricky Tray fundraiser West Orange**
- 19th **South Orange Elks Dog Show**
- 31st **Wildwood Reunion**

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

Fraternally,  
James Walsh (201)207-1228

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For more up-to-the minute information about the lodge, our events, latest press or members info, please visit our website at:

**[SO Elks Website](#)**



# **New Jersey Elks Wildwood Reunion**

**May 31st to June 3rd**

3 Nights Lodging at the oceanfront Gondolier Motel

Friday and Saturday dinner included

Open bar from Thursday 4pm until Saturday 2am

Hot Dogs available all day and night

All this for only \$425 per room!!

(2 adults) additional adults \$50 per night

**\$100 deposit due by April 1st, balance by April 31st**

For more info ask the ER or Lodge Secretary

This year the NJ State Elks Wildwood Reunion is May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are staying with the West Orange lodge again at The Gondolier Motel. It's a nice motel with a pool and right on the beach.

This year the cost is only \$425 per room! That includes 3 nights lodging, dinner on Friday and Saturday, open bar from Thursday PM to late Saturday night, light breakfasts, and all the hot dogs you can eat! It's really a great deal.

I need \$100 deposits by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The balance is due by April 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Bring the family or a friend. If you split a room it's only \$212.50 a person!  
Extra adults in a room cost \$50 per person, per night.

Contact Mike Leonard at [SouthOrangeElks@gmail.com](mailto:SouthOrangeElks@gmail.com) for more info.  
There will be a sign up sheet in the lodge and the deposit is due when you jot down your name.

Please welcome our new members : Deron Kennedy, Sean Van Slyke and Nicole James.



Andy Zeitlin, Bob Donnelly, Ian Lacey, Deron Kennedy, Mike Leonard, Sean Van Slyke, Nicole James, Tom Vena

**South Orange Elks  
Blood Drive**

**Celebrate the arrival  
of spring by making a difference.**

**DONATE BLOOD TODAY.**

**Saturday, April 21, 2018  
10:00am - 03:00pm**

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
Special Children's Committee**

**Chairman**  
James F Walsh



**Co-Chairman**  
Vincent Nardone



**South Orange Elks Lodge #1154  
Proudly hosts the  
34th Annual  
Special Children's Committee  
Charity Golf Tournament**



**Friday – July 13, 2018  
Galloping Hill Golf Course, Union NJ  
Shot Gun Start at 8:30 am – Check in at 7:30 am**

To reserve a foursome, please complete the information below and return to:

**South Orange Elks  
Attn: Gene Meyers  
220 Prospect St  
South Orange NJ 07079**

1. Captain \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Or assign me to a foursome \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ golfers (at \$160.00 each)  
Please make checks payable to: **South Orange Elks SCC**

**Reservations are limited – Payment is due by July 13, 2018  
For additional information please call Gene Meyers @ 908-578-5038**

South Orange Elks #1154, 220 Prospect Street, South Orange NJ 07079, 973-762-9848