MAY 2019



ECHOES From the Watchung Hills Elks Lodge 885



Exalted Ruler's Message



I would like to Welcome and Congratulate all new incoming Officers and say Thanks to our repeating and retiring Officers for their service to the Lodge and the Programs of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Our collective goal should be the Benefit of our Lodge and the Order of

Elks, nothing is bigger or more important than our Obligation as Elks to respect and defend one another and our beliefs. To live with a spirit of fellowship, friendship and kindness towards one another. For we are a collection of many minds and many voices. There is no I, Me or Mine; only Us, We and Ours. Embrace our differences, celebrate our time together, and make each day better and brighter.

Our Cub Scouts in Warren Pack 182 helped us with our Spring Cleanup and they did a great job clearing leaves, brush and rocks from the property. The price of maintaining our Grounds is in contrast very small for such a Beautiful Secluded Property. "Many hands make light work."



To receive a full-color bulletin by email, ask us to update your email address by sending it to <u>membership@elkslodge885.org</u>. We do not have current email addresses for everyone!

Watchung Hills Elks Lodge #885 1 Elks Trail Warren, NJ 07059 908-668-9727 news@elkslodge885.org membership@elkslodge885.org www.elkslodge885.org https://www.facebook.com/Elks885/

The State Convention at Wildwood is in the planning stages and it will be here before we know it. We can ALWAYS use more participants marching in the Parade; it is an honor to represent Watchung Hills Elks in the Wildwood Parade – please consider joining us in Wildwood on Saturday, June 8th.

Thank you all for being a part of our Lodge #885 Family – I feel like we are making Progress and a Difference, which is our goal!



Officers

Exalted Ruler	Danny Larsen, PER
Esteemed Leading Knight	David Lewis
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Dave Dante
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Lisa Carracino
Secretary	Paul Lowell, Sr., PER
Treasurer	Donna Lowell, PER
Esquire	Betty A. Volker, PDD
Chaplain	Kathy Schulz
Inner Guard	John Pizzigoni
Tiler	(vacant)
1 Year Trustee	Francis Bellew, PER
2 Year Trustee	Gene Bataille, PER
3 Year Trustee	Denise Heilman
4 Year Trustee	Stephanie Zitsch, PER
5 Year Trustee	Deborah Figel
Justice	(vacant)

From the Secretary - Paul Lowell, Sr., PER

If you have not renewed your membership for 2019-2020 – maybe you just misplaced the renewal notice or are having problems. Please contact me and I will assist you in anyway possible.

Please have your family contact me or the lodge if you are incapacitated in any way. We feel bad as a group, finding out something has happened to a member after the fact.

Any questions or concerns you may have, please feel free to contact me at xcg395@verizon.net or my cell 908-230-7303.





Committee Chairs

Army of Hope	Danny Larsen, PER		
Americanism	(vacant)		
Auditing	Kim DeVizio		
Buildings and Grounds	David Dante		
Charities	Betty A Volker, PDDGER		
Drug Awareness	John Pizzigoni		
Elks Memorial Day	David Dante		
Elks National Foundation	Joann Bataille		
Government Relations	Paul Lowell, Sr., PER		
Hoop Shoot	Fran Bellew, PER		
Lodge Activities	(vacant)		
Membership	Paul Lowell, Sr., PER		
Parades	Danny Larsen, ER		
Public Relations	Mike Ryder		
Ritual	Betty A. Volker, PDDGER		
Scholarships	Fred Hayeck		
Soccer Shoot	Fran Bellew, PER		
Special Children	Betty A. Volker, PDDGER		
Veterans Services	Fran Bellew, PER		
Wildwood Convention	Danny Larsen, ER, PER		
Youth Activities	Fran Bellew, PER		
Youth Tournament	Fran Bellew, PER		
1			

Government Relations Committee



A new Elk year has begun and we start reporting the good deeds we do all over again for the fraternal Year 2019-2020.

We really short ourselves on what I

receive from Committee Chairs. Please

send me the following information as soon as possible after the event.

- Number of Attending
- Number of Elks
- Number of assistants
- Total Elk Hours
- Total Assistant Hours

Here is what we really short ourselves on:

- Total Elk Miles
- Total Assistant Miles.
- Non cash Donations
- Cash Donations.
- Number in Attendance -- include everybody, guests and Elks.
- Hours and Mileage include shopping, going to schools, back and forth to the lodge or where the event is taken place.

We report on the various groups using the lodge and grounds for meetings, such as the Scouts, HPBA, Warren PBA, American Legion, VFW, School groups, etc.

Special Children's Committee - Betty A. Volker, PDDGER



It's that time of year again. Elks Camp Moore opens in July and runs through August. We currently have eleven children attending the summer sessions, one adult attending the adult week and two attending the adult respites.

The Lodge committee will be hosting a Camp Moore send-off picnic for everyone attending the camp this year and their families, which will take place Sunday, June 23rd at our picnic pavilion. We will need all the help we can get so, please let Denise Heilman or me know if you are available. A helper sign up will be posted in the Lodge.

The annual Central District picnic will be Sunday, July 21st. This is a good time for those who have not seen the camp in action, to join us and experience it firsthand. You will not regret it, that I can assure you. The camp also hosts an open house every year and this year it will be held Sunday, May 19th from 1:00-3:00pm. All are welcome and tours of the camp will be given.

The annual Charity Ball held in March was a sell-out and

Veterans Services Committee - Francis Bellew, PER



Our lodge had one contestant advance to the State Soccer Shoot.

His name is Rehaan Mittra. He came in second place in the U8 ("under 8 years old") boys division.

Drug Awareness Committee - John Pizzigoni



My name is John Pizzigoni; some of you may know me a Johnny Pizza. I was recently sworn in as Inner Guard in our Lodge and I have also taken the Drug Awareness Committee Chairman position.

I'll be reporting results from the Central District's annual "Walk out on Drugs" fundraiser (held April 28th) in the next bulletin, and hope you will help me further the cause of the Elks Drug Awareness campaign in the future.

a great success. The profits are being used to purchase a double swing set. One swing is for wheelchairs and the other is a type of seat for smaller children who can experience the joy of swinging without their wheelchairs.

The State SCC scholarship forms are available and have been sent to the local schools. If anyone knows of a family of a high school senior who may want to submit an application, please let me know.

The new calendar raffle for July 1 – December 31, 2019 are currently on sale, see me for purchase.

Enjoy the Summer!

Sewer Update - Danny Larsen, PER

Our Sewer Project has been approved by the Grand Lodge. We are working to complete the permit application for Warren Township and then we can engage with the construction company, electricians, etc. All indications are full steam ahead.

Sickness & Distress

- Lynn Spurier is not feeling well.
- Joanne Rehberger
- Deb Figel is recovering from a medical procedure.
- Donna Clancy is on the mend.
- Thomas MacStoker is not doing well.
- Gerry Del Piano is not doing well.



MAY 2019

Boosters - Echoes Boosters that have been renewed since November 2018 November 2018 Michael Metner Ken and Chris Burd Deborah Metner Stephen Terrible PSP Paul C. Staeger January 2019 Kathleen Olesen Stacy VanLier Michael Dalton **Denise Heilman March 2019** Steve Logothetis **Timothy Lasecia** William Jones Nancy Micou John Williams James Basille February 2019 **Timothy Velazquez Bruce Helmstetter** Ken Pawelek Linda Helmstetter Laura Pawelek Fred Fennimore George Dealaman William Heilman Tracy Fennimore **Rich Pasquarella** Barbara Verdic • **Thomas Mac Stoker** Vito Truglio • John Balog Michelle Waiser Betty Volker PDD John Tucker William Sorensen Jim Devizio J.E.B. Irvine PER Kim Devizio • Frank Giannelli **Bill Seavey PER** Jane Giannelli Michael Ryder April 2019 • Ross Long Michael Naumoff William Esposito • Fran Bellew PER Donna Lowell PER ٠ **Barney Coughlin PER** Paul Lowell Sr. PER Donna Forman **Charles Mott** Duke Anderson For \$10.00 a year, you too can be an Echoes Booster. • John Misiak Valerie Misiak All proceeds will offset the cost of printing and mailing Stanley Autocunas PER the Bulletin. Thanks to those who have already pledged Kim Frazier their support. **Daniel Ciarlariello** Rober Venitelli William Sorensen

Grand Lodge for Officer Installation: From Left to Right: Kevin Krasnansky (PER, Piscataway 2414), Joseph Massimi (PDDGER, Piscataway 2414), Rita Massimi (PDDGER, Piscataway 2414), Dennis Kopik (PVP, South Amboy 784), Stephanie Zitsch (PER, Watchung Hills 885), Francis Glennon (PDDGER, South Amboy 784), Alice Leonhardt (PDDGER, East Brunswick 2370), Dennis Peck (PER, East Brunswick 2370), Patrick McDonnell (Central District State Trustee, Carteret 2235), Carol Bonura (Central District Vice President, New Brunswick 324).

Cub Scouts Pack 182

- Mike Ryder (Unit Committee Chair)

Pack 182 Scouters hosted the Watchung Mountain District Pinewood Derby at Warren Middle School on March 30. Over 115 Scouts from the district's twenty-two towns raced in six different races for several hours. Each hour from 9AM and on, Scouts in each of the six ranks raced each other on the 18 year old wooden racetrack still in use by Pack 182. Each hour, awards were presented to the top three racers and there were also a few trophies for car designs.

Later in April, several Scout families gathered to help with cleaning up the landscape around the Elks property. Leaves were removed from around the garbage cans and dumpsters, around all the buildings and the outside of the pool fence.





From the Bulletin Board – Just in case you missed it! - Mike Ryder

State Pins and Accessories are available for purchase. Order form is on the bulletin board.

Registration for the "Wildwood Convention" is up – form is on the bulletin board. "This form registers you for the 2019 New Jersey State Elks Association Wildwood Convention and includes entrance to the annual Member's Appreciation party on Thursday night, beginning at 9pm at the Convention Center. There will be music, dancing, assorted cocktail fountains, beer, wine, soda, snacks & nosh. Registration badges purchased in advance with this form cost \$5. Registration badges purchased in Wildwood cost \$8."

Registration is now open for the "Wildwood Inaugural Ball 2019", for 6:30PM on Friday, June 7th at the Wildwood Convention Center. Banquet tickets for Spouse, Elks & Guests are \$49/ ea (\$51/ea if using a credit-card). Checks should be made payable to "New Jersey State Elks Association." *Deadline is May 1st*. Sign-up form is on the bulletin board.



NJ State Elks Association 2019 Wildwood T-Shirt Logo

NJ Central District April 2019 bulletin, volume 15, issue 9 is available to be read. You can also read it at this link: <u>https://www.elkslodge885.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/dnlapril2019.pdf</u>.

Registration is open for the 18th Annual NJ State Elks Special Children's Committee" golf outing, a Shotgun Start to be held 8:30AM at Bunker Hill Golf Course, followed by a buffet lunch at Edison Lodge #2487. Prizes... Raffles... Cost is \$100/golfer.



Army of Hope - Danny Larsen, PER

Kathy Schulz and I attended the "Fox and Hound" fund raiser on April 9th at Menlo Park Mall and presented Mr. Brian Murphy (New Jersey Chairman for the AOH) with a \$500 check.

The funds are the proceeds from the Meatloaf Dinner fundraiser that Kathy and crew ran on Sunday, February 24th. The dinner at the Fox and Hound was well attended too, so I'm sure that the Central District AOH fund will benefit as well.



Public Relations

Happy May!

Your dedicated PR Committee Chair has been kept very busy with publicizing all the events lately, and has also been busy updating the look and feel of our website – please take a look if you haven't already, and let me know what you think: <u>https://www.elkslodge885.org</u>.

We won the lottery! The Somerset County Freeholders hold an annual lottery, awarding 40 non-profit organizations the opportunity to use the "Community Box" (Suite 306) at TD Bank's Somerset Patriot ballpark. I entered our lodge in the contest and we won! Our night is set for Tuesday, June 18 at 7:05PM, which is when the Somerset Patriots take on the Long Island Ducks. You can read click here to visit the ballpark's website: <u>https://www.somersetpatriots.com</u>, and learn more about this lottery here: <u>https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/Home/Components/News/3012/17</u>.

Our lodge has received a generous donation from my employer in the form of 15 HP laptops (running Windows 10) – these will be distributed as necessary to roles at the lodge for use in conducting lodge business. Let me know if you have a suggestion on good ways to put them to work for the lodge.

Articles in Newspapers and Online

Each month, I publish about 75-100 articles in the Echoes-Sentinel, Courier News, Renna Monthly and Showcase newspapers and online in our social-media channels. The stories shared through social-media are generally about things that won't fit in the monthly bulletin.

In case you curious, here is a list of our social-media channels – please take a look and send me your comments:

Our website	https://www.elkslodge885.org		
Email: Please Sign-Up if you haven't already!	https://www.elkslodge885.org/subscribe		
Echoes-Sentinel	Some stories only show up online: http://www.newjerseyhills.com		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/Elks885		
Grand Lodge	https://www.elks.org/lodges/home.cfm?lodgenumber=885		
Google Business	https://goo.gl/maps/TypePYx5bydkDwn68		
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/elkslodge885/		
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/company/28995256/		
Pinterest	https://www.pinterest.com/elkslodge885/		
Tripadvisor	https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g46899-d16866783-Reviews- Watchung_Hills_Elks_Lodge_885-Warren_New_Jersey.html		
Tumblr	https://elkslodge885.tumblr.com/		
Twitter	https://twitter.com/ElksLodge885		
VolunteerMatch	https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/org1143028.jsp		
Yelp!	https://www.yelp.com/biz/watchung-hills-elks-lodge-855-warren		
Youtube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbeVi6hN7YZh1YdDGazuE3w		



Public Relations, continued

- Mike Ryder

Additionally, stories are shared here as appropriate:

Facebook:	
"Warren Township Community Forum"	https://www.facebook.com/groups/448603401842870/
"Warren Township Neighborhood Forum"	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1066923643396801/
"4Town Forum" (Greenbrook, Watchung, Warren, Basking Ridge, Longhill, Liberty Corner, Berkeley Heights)	https://www.facebook.com/groups/618567921523590/
"Watchung Neighborhood Network"	https://www.facebook.com/groups/WatchungNN/
"I am an Elk from New Jersey"	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1483415748570278/
News12 NJ	http://news12-newjersey.eviesays.com/events/?/search?q=elks
TapInto Warren	https://www.tapinto.net/towns/warren/
Warren Patch	https://patch.com/new-jersey/warren



"Many Hands Make Light Work"

Has anyone noticed the makeup of our Committee Chairs? Take a look at the list on the second page of this bulletin. We have at least 22 Committees. Only four of them are run by people who aren't officers. Sixteen committees are chaired by six officers.

Here's the list, # of committees followed by the officer's name:

- 1 : John Pizzigoni
- 2 : David Dante
- 2 : Paul Lowell, Sr.
- 3 : Danny Larsen
- 3 : Betty Volker
- 5 : Fran Bellew

Additionally, two extremely important committees are vacant: Lodge Activities and Americanism.

This question is directed to all of you who aren't already on the list of officers or committee chairs... to all of you who aren't already volunteering around the lodge – what is keeping you from taking that first step forward to help out?

It just takes one step.

If you're not on a committee - look at the list of them. Join one that's chaired by one of these overloaded Officers; it's an easy way to learn how the committee works without having to take on too much responsibility at once. Let the folks who are officers concentrate on being officers, and let's split up the rest of the committees among the rest of us.

If you haven't been to a meeting lately, consider coming to the next lodge meeting – they are almost always over in under an hour, and we'd love to socialize with you before or afterwards.

Volume 56, Issue 5



2019 Grand L	odge Officers		
GRAND EXALTED RULER	Rita Massimi, PDDGER Piscataway Lodge 2414		
GRAND LEADING KNIGHT	Joseph Massimi, PDDGER Piscataway Lodge 2414		
GRAND LOYAL KNIGHT	Stephanie Zitsch, PER Watchung Hills Lodge 885		
GRAND LECTURING KNIGHT	Richard Phillips, PDDGER Edison Lodge 2487		
GRAND SECRETARY	Alice Leonhards, PDDGER East Brunswick Lodge 2370		
GRAND TREASURER	Dennis Peck, PER East Brunswick Lodge 2370		
GRAND ESQUIRE	Frank J. Glennon, PDDGER South Amboy Lodge 784		
GRAND CHAPLAIN	Dennis Kopik, PVP South Amboy Lodge 784		
GRAND INNER GUARD	Kevin Krasnansky, PER Piscataway Lodge 2414		
GRAND TRUSTEE	Geno Bataille, PER		

2019	Lodge	Officers
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Exalted Ruler	Danny Larsen, PER	
Esteemed Leading Knight	David Lewis	
Esteemed Loyal Knight	David Dante	
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Lisa Carracino	
Secretary	Paul Lowell, Sr., PER	
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Chaplain	Kathy Schulz	
Inner Guard	John Pizzigoni	
5 Year Trustee	Deborah Figel	
4 Year Trustee	Stephanie Zitsch, PER	
3 Year Trustee	3 Year Trustee Denise Heilman	
2 Year Trustee Geno Bataille, PE		
1 Year Trustee Francis Bellew,		

Ceremony

Processional

Salute to the Flag

Installation of Officers Grand Lodge

Introduction of New Officers



Watchung Hills Elks Lodge 885 - Officers for 2019-2020

From Left to Right, Back Row: Betty Volker (PDD), John Pizzigoni (Inner Guard), Kathy Schulz (Chaplain), Donna Lowell (Treasurer, PER), Denise Heilman (Trustee), Paul Lowell, Sr., (Secretary, PER), Stephanie Zitsch (Trustee, PER)

Seated: David Lewis (Esteemed Leading Knight), Danny Larsen (PER), David Dante (Esteemed Loyal Knight), Lisa Carracino (Esteemed Lecturing Knight)

Not pictured: Deborah Figel (Trustee), Geno Bataille (Trustee, PER), Francis Bellew (Trustee, PER)



Stephanie Zitsch, PER, Trustee "Officer of the Year"

Left to Right: Stephanie (PER, Trustee) and ER Danny Larsen (PER).

Kim DeVizio "Vice-President Commendation"

Left to Right: Carol Bonura (Central District VP, New Brunswick 324), Kim and ER Danny larsen (PER).

Left to Right: Kenny and ER Danny Larsen (PER).

"Elk of the Year"



5/2 Liz Egan
5/5 Tony Zampella
5/7 Bryan Mroz
5/8 Jim Gold
5/12 Paul C, Staeger
5/14 Paul Lowell Sr. PER
5/16 Joseph Lencoski
5/17 John Schwartz

5/20 George Frodelly
5/21 Wayne Carlson Lisa Carracino
5/24 Alyson Donatelli Ralph Thompson Stephanie Zitsch PER
5/25 Fred Pether
5/28 Robert Staeger



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Lodge Meetings Officers – 7 pm General – 8 pm	3	4
5 efficiency 2001 Membership Meeting	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 🤣 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16 Lodge Meetings Officers – 7 pm General – 8 pm	17	18 Minute Armed Forces Day
19	20	21 BOD Meeting 7 pm	22 Comedy Night	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28 A PER Meeting 7 pm	29	30	31	

MAY 2019

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Elks Care - Elks Share

Watchung Hills Elks #885 1 Elks Trail Warren, NJ 07059

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Watchung Hills Elks Lodge #885 is online!

Point your smart-phone's QR-Code reader application (freely available if you don't already have one) at these images to jump to our sites. Bookmark our website so you can check the Lodge calendar. "Like" our Facebook page so you can stay in touch with the daily goings-on.





"So Long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."