



# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

August 2021



## Members,

Summer is in full swing and so is our Lodge. We have had a lot of exciting things going on since our last newsletter. I want to thank everyone for being responsible and courteous to others during the covid crisis. Let's all hope Delta doesn't spoil our fall or winter.

Corn Hole League has come and gone. A big thanks to Moe, Wendy, and company, and all that attended the league. It was very exciting to come down on a Thursday night and see a full house of members and guests having a great time. Keep up the good work and let's sign up a few new members.

The reverse raffle, while only an online experience and Blackstone Grill raffle, were huge successes and raised some much needed funds to help out our lodge during some trying times of mechanical failures and lodge closures due to Covid. Thank you, Brenda, and all that supported those very important fundraisers.

Tom Harder and a large group met at the lodge to discuss the process and work it takes to acquire Elk grants. This is an extremely important process that allows us to facilitate many special functions benefiting Veterans and Developmentally challenged individuals through grants we acquire from ENF funds. Thank you all that attended and let's get as many as we can and show our community what Elkdom is all about. Please feel free to ask me how you can get involved. We can always use the help.

Flag Day, 365 golf outing, and Elk Car Show were all great events that were facilitated by PER's, Officers, and members of our lodge. The support and participation of all involved are what make our lodge one of the best clubs around. It became very evident to me when attending National and State Conventions that we are not the norm but rather the exception. What sets us apart from other lodges is the generosity and willingness to volunteer. While I believe we can reach more and do more I am always proud to let others know that I'm a member of Flat Rock Elks.

While I was unable to attend the picnic due to family obligations I was able to stop by in the morning to see the awesome crew that put it together. Thank you for all that did for our members and their families.

Don't forget to join us for the Bob Cousino Memorial Golf Outing on August 21st and the PER's Pig Roast on August 28<sup>th</sup>, both sure to be a great time.

Sincerely Yours,

Brian Marvaso

Exalted Ruler

*Elks* Care - *Elks* Share





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## Message from Lodge Secretary

Members All:

It's nice seeing people back at the lodge. Come down and see all the new improvements to the lodge. We are going to start the third Thursday dinners next month and the girls behind the bar are starting to have burger specials again. Members don't realize we are one of the few lodges in our district that are open 7 days a week. This is due to our great membership. We have 44 delinquent members at this time. If you know a delinquent member remind him what he is missing and all the good we do for the community. We gave 6, \$500 scholarships to students in our district, \$2,000 to Downriver for Veterans, \$500 to MI Cookie, and \$1,500 to Stepping Stones. These are just a few things we do, but we can't do this without your membership. I will post a list of delinquent members, if you know someone on the list remind them to pay their dues. If you have a change of address or other information, contact me so I can make the changes. Stay safe and hope to see you soon.

**Mike Wrobel**

**Lodge Secretary**

The Elks State Convention was May 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Flat Rock Elks were well represented with the members from our lodge in this picture.



\*\*\*\*\*

## New Members

In June we added three new members to our Flat Rock Elks Family.

Jeffery Berge

Dave Dietz

Paul Floccari

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## June 13<sup>th</sup> was our Elks Flag Day Ceremony

Honoring the flag of our country on a day of national recognition for our flag is one of the proudest things we can do as Flat Rock Elks.

**After all, Flag Day was first introduced by the Elks.**

Flat Rock Fire Department displayed this large U.S. Flag from the Fire Truck in the Elks Parking Lot. Presentations by Jennifer Click (PER) and Mayor of Flat Rock, Mark Hammond were very inspiring.



**Elks Care - Elks Share**



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## Message from Lodge Trustees

Members All,

We hope you're having an enjoyable happy and healthy Michigan Summer and life is treating you well. While the summer months have a tendency for members to drift off a lot of activity, repairs and improvements have been underway or in the planning.

- Extensive sewer and drainage work has been completed both inside the Lounge area and outside the front entrance, including new cement and beautiful and updated engineered hard floors in the Lounge.
- With the help of our Treasurer Al Kowalewski and his wife Shelly many hours were volunteered working on providing documenting and building renderings for a Flat Rock Downtown Authority beautification funding matching grant to paint and update the lighting on the outside of our aging building. On 8/7/21 the City approved that grant.
- Your Trustees/ Board of directors spent several months working with painting contractors and educating ourselves on the best way to proceed so that the work would be long lasting and have our building reflect the pride that it should to our Community.
- Exulted Ruler Brian Marvaso assembled a committee to pick colors for the building's exterior and we thank them for the time and attention to make your Lodge a point of pride. Sometime in the Fall the painting will be completed.
- In the last several years we have had a lot of needed repairs, replacements, and improvements. Like any old home we are always working as a team to be responsible with the Lodges finances and looking ahead to necessary repairs before they strike, or the costs get out of control.
- Soon you will see repairs to the cement around the sewers in the parking lot, as well looking at sealing the roof, and in future years the parking lot will need additional repairs just to mention foreseeable items.
- How can you help? Support your Lodge by attending events and donating your time and or money when you can. That's what has kept us in Flat Rock for 74 years and with everyone's support we can look forward to 74 more productive years. But remember it will not happen on its own.

Enjoy the last days of summer 2021 and we hope to see you at our wonderful Lodge events!

Fraternally Yours,

Flat Rock Elks #1731

Trustees/Board of Directors

**Elks Care - Elks Share**

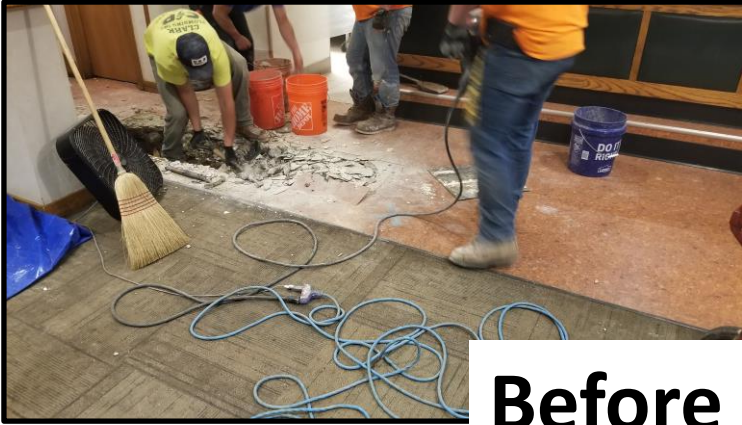




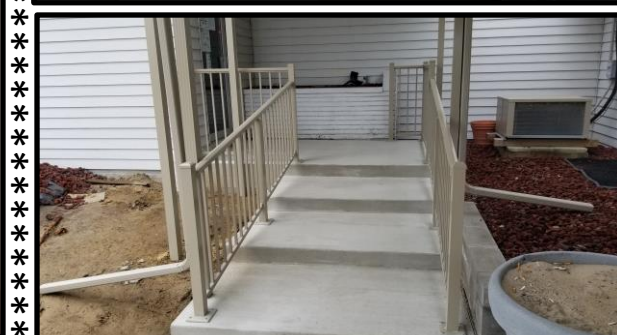
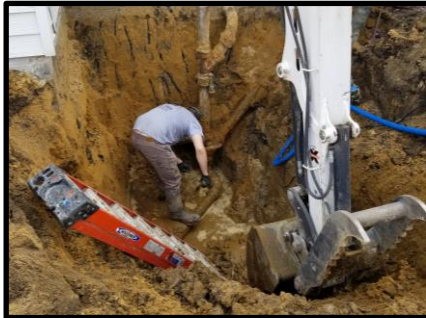
# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

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## Pictures of repair work around the Lodge



## Before & After







# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

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## Flat Rock Elks 365 Annual Golf Outing

On Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> the golf course was filled with 142 golfers and 20 volunteers that came out to support children with disabilities. After golfing everyone went back to the lodge for a nice meal provided by "Savvy Sliders". Overall we raised \$5,200 for 365. A Special thank you to all the Hole Sponsors listed below and all those that donated items and baskets to the event.

Marine Deputy Joseph D Conflitti  
Thornberry Family  
The Clicks - J&J PER  
Schembri Family  
A&K Construction  
Kowaleski Family  
Bear & Marge  
Pronto Freightways  
Dearborn Exchange  
Premier Office Installations  
Jeff & Mickie Recker  
Bob & Corrie Hale  
Paul & Sue Robinson  
Tom Harder  
Pat, Kim, Matt & Chet Strickland  
Mike Moffitt  
Flat Rock Elkady's

French Landing Liquor  
Kiwanis Club of Woodhaven  
Mike & Debbie Wrobel  
Seaway Mechanical  
Mercure Agency  
Jerry Ward PDDGER  
Jeff & Hillery Weiler  
Chris & Karen Wooten  
Danny Gaynier  
Ken & Kathy Cesta  
S&S Hydroseeding Rob Schock  
Brian & Michelle Marvaso  
Carter, Milena & Teagan Smith  
Jim & Gay Elamon  
Billy Blohm  
Dave & Tammy Steffen  
Flat Rock PER's

**Marissa Strickland – Leading Knight**

**Elks Care - Elks Share**



# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

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## Scholarships



Another year of the Most Valuable Scholarship competition has been completed. This is a nationwide program that begins with administration on the local level. Students apply on line for scholarships in competition with their local peers, statewide peers and nationally. At the local level each Lodge recognizes the top three achieving young women and the top three achieving young men in their community. At our Lodge, we provide each of the six students with \$500 scholarships and advance them through District, State and National level judging where they can be eligible for up to \$60,000 in scholarships. Our six winners this year are: Payton Bucki, Caroline Groll, Ava Pervam, Dawood Virk, Alexander Stewart, and Logan Lundgren.

Although our scholarship is officially known as the "Most valuable Student" scholarship, I personally feel it should be identified as the "Most valuable person" scholarship because the criteria for selection go well beyond scholarship. All applicants are judged on seven separate merit-based standards including excellence in the classroom; leadership skills; community service; employment activities; athletics and extracurricular activities; and the all-important essay (in prior years ACT and SAT scores were also considered but this year it was eliminated due to the decision by many colleges to waive the standardized tests due to health concerns associated with mass testing during the pandemic). To win one of our awards the student must be an intelligent, caring, well rounded young adult who has been placed in leadership roles by his or her peers. Our scholarship winners represent the three highest achieving young men and three highest achieving young women from throughout our community which includes 17 different private and public high schools covering all of Monroe County and a large portion of Southern Wayne County. Our winners included three valedictorians (five in total applied). Most importantly we were able to recognize six fine young men and women who have served their communities and fellow students through multiple charitable activities and leadership roles at their schools.

The competition in our Lodge alone was very rigorous. Three of our six students advanced through District level competition to the State Level and two of the boys were award winners at the State Level and advanced to National scoring. This is a group we should all be proud of.

Special thanks go out to the Members of the Scholarship Committee who took valuable time away from their busy holiday schedules back in December to evaluate and score dozens of applications. Those Members are Carol Wallace, Tammy Steffen and Brian Marvaso. Without their help, the program would not be possible.

**Paul Robinson (PER) - Scholarship Committee**

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## Message from Lodge Veterans Committee

On Aug. 21, 2021, we will hold our annual Veterans Golf Outing at Wesburn Golf Course. We are hoping for 144 golfers to fill the course. Still looking for a few more golfers, sponsors, donations, and volunteers. With the current situation in the country today, we will be taking a close look as to what events for Veterans will be taking place soon. Stay tuned for info on the Thanksgiving Day Dinner and the Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony.

On July 15, 2021, I delivered the ENF Spotlight Grant of \$2,000 to Ann Rose Rudisill, President and founder of Downriver for Veterans. She will be using this donation to assist a young veteran who has PTSD. He has received a service dog to help him, however he needs a fence for his yard. This will be used for the purchase and installation of a fence so he can continue to keep this animal.



The veterans committee is also purchasing smoke alarms and a carbon monoxide detector for a disabled veteran home in the Flat Rock area.

**Thank You,  
Your Veteran Committee Chairman,  
Pat Strickland (PER)**

## **Bob Cousino Memorial Veteran's Golf Outing**



Flat Rock Elks will be sponsoring a Veteran's Golf Outing  
Proceeds going to our local "Hometown Heroes"

**Saturday – August 21, 2021**

Location: Wesburn Golf Course

7:00 am Check-In 8:00 am Shot Gun Start

**\$75 Per Golfer - 4-Person Scramble \$300**

Deadline for Sign up is August 9, 2021

**Hole Sponsor \$50 Sign-up at Flat Rock Elks or call Pat or Ken**

Dinner at the course catered by Savvy Sliders.

Lunch at the turn, drink tickets, longest drive,  
closest to the pin, Skins and other games available

**Raffle Baskets and Alcohol donations appreciated.**

Sign up early slots will fill up quick. - Sign up at Flat Rock Elks Lodge.

For information contact Pat Strickland at 734-771-0481  
or Ken Cesta 734-642-5605.

**Elks Care - Elks Share**





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## Message from Mi Cookie Project

Dear Exalted Ruler and fellow Members All,

I want to thank you for your continued support of the Mi Cookie Project.

We were recently given a grant of \$500. We asked for these funds for recreation activities. With Covid 19, we have been isolated from each other and the community in general. Our bakers needed opportunities to safely socialize.

We are celebrating five years in operation and the Flat Rock Elks have been with us every step of the way. Supporting us with grants and allowing us to sell cookies at the fish fries. So how appropriate to celebrate our accomplishment of 5 years at the Flat Rock Elks. To have a party on the patio for a safe celebration outside.

We were able to give the Flat Rock Elks \$100 cleaning fee. Another \$350 in food, soft drinks and paper products, and used the balance of the grant to defray the cost of new T shirts for our bakers. (\$50)

We appreciate the Flat Rock Elks and all they have done to support our program.

**Thank you and God Bless,  
Maggie Gibson  
Mi Cookie Project**



**Elks Care - Elks Share**



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## Message from Past Exalted Ruler's

### Latest P.E.R.'s News

As most of you know, the term P.E.R.'s stands for our group of "Past Exalted Rulers" who have served their terms as officers in previous years. Our Lodge is one of the very few Lodges whose Exalted Ruler only serves one year. Since our Flat Rock Elks Lodge was founded in 1947, we have had 74 different members serve as Exalted Ruler.

Of those 74 P.E.R.'s, 38 are still with us today.

Next year Flat Rock Elks will be celebrating 75 years with a new Exalted Ruler.

Our main duty is to guide the present Lodge Officers in doing their best job in their present position, which we do. Our next job is to put on "Fundraising Events". Without membership support of these events, it would be very difficult to keep the Lodge doors open seven days a week.

In looking back over the past ten years the P.E.R.'s have raised and donated over \$21,000 to the Lodge when problems arose. Here is just a few to mention: Roof repairs in the Lodge Room, New Awnings, Repairs to the outside sign, New Ice Machine & Freezer in the bar, Two new Deep Fryers, New Freezer in the Kitchen in name of Bob Cousino (PER). We also help to support the Lodge with donations to help pay bills.

Due to the "Covid" stuff, we have not had any events up in our Hall in a long time. So, our next event is coming up on August 28<sup>th</sup> "P.E.R. Pig Roast with the Saddle Rock Band". Tickets are on sale now, show your support by attending this event as the funds do go back to helping the Lodge. Also, get a chance to win the "BlackStone Grill" that we are raffling off during this event.

**Thanks in advance for your continued support!**

**The P.E.R.'s of "Your Elks Lodge"**

Drawing August 28<sup>th</sup> After PER Pig Roast

## BLACKSTONE Grill

*Flat Rock Elks*

**Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$20**

Cook a huge variety of foods in minutes on your Blackstone 36 in. Griddle Cooking Station. Its thick cold rolled steel griddle surface is perfect for pancakes, steaks, fajitas, quesadillas, hamburgers, bratwurst, veggies, fried rice, the possibilities are endless. The four independently controlled stainless steel burners allow you to control the cooking experience and cook multiple items at once. 720 sq. in. griddle cooking surface made of cold rolled steel for excellent heat retention and distribution with a sturdy, powder coated steel frame.

**Tickets Available At The Elks Lodge**



Blackstone 36" Griddle/Grill  
Soft Cover with UV Protection  
Blackstone Commercial Grade 4-Piece Griddle Cooking Toolkit

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## Flat Rock Elk's Pig Roast

### Saturday - August 28<sup>th</sup>

### Whole Roasted Pig Dinner \$20

Dinner also includes: Fresh House-Made Kielbasa - Loaded Baked Potato's (Sour Cream, Butter, Chives & Bacon) Fresh Corn on the Cob - Corn Muffins Cucumber and Tomato Salad - Fresh Strawberry Cake

**Doors Open 5:30pm - Dinner 6:00 to 7:30pm**

**Music by Saddle Rock Band 7:30 to 11:30pm**

The Saddle Rock Band is a five piece Classic Rock, Country, Oldies, Motown type band.

**Cash Bar - PER Event**



**Advance Tickets only - purchase by - Wednesday 8/25**





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## Elks Lodge PER's along with Wanderer's Car Club Sponsored a Classic Car & Motorcycle Show Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup>

This was our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Car Show at the Elks and Doo Wop Danny has been the DJ for these car cruises every year. There were even a couple motor cycles this year.

Proceeds from this Car Show were over \$2,000 to help the Flat Rock Elks with needed on going repairs and maintenance of our aging club. The group from the Wanderer's Car Club took care of registrations, 50/50 Raffles and the auction items that Terry Barrett gathered up from many local businesses. We had over 40 gift cards and items to be given away. Thank you to Bobbi, Alice, Linda, Lynn and Sally for taking care of that.

It was a sunny, hot, dry day and we still had 75 cars and a few motorcycles. It was a great show for sure.

A big thank you to the cooks and the bar attendant. The food was delicious. It was a group effort and everyone did a great job. Let's hope for another good show for 2022.

Terry and Sally



Buying tickets from Bobbi and Linda for the auction items.



DJ – Doo Wop Danny



PER's – Cooking the Food

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# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

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## Lodge Activities

On Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> we held our first "Reverse Raffle". It was a real nail biter if we would sell out, but our 200<sup>th</sup> ticket was sold a half hour before the raffle started. Thank you to those who helped make this online event a success. And congratulations to all our winners!

The Reverse Raffle generated \$3,975 in proceeds towards building repairs. In addition, our top 2 winners donated 20% of their winnings back to the lodge. Thank you to all those who helped sell tickets and to all who purchased tickets!

Immediately following the raffle there was a LOT of excitement and feedback on how we can add more fun twists and opportunities to go home a winner. Stay tuned as we are targeting March 2022 for offering this again as a social event with dinner.



On Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> we had an absolutely beautiful day for our annual lodge family picnic. It was great to see so many attending our first large event after the state eased all the COVID restrictions. Everyone really enjoyed the opportunity to socialize again.

I want to thank ALL the volunteers who helped! (Prepping the ribs the day before, loading and transporting everything to the park and back, cleaning and putting everything away.) It's a LOT of work but many hands definitely made the work easier.

Thank you to our ER, Brian Marvaso for donating the corn. And to Paul and Sue Robinson for making a donation towards all those frozen goodies we enjoyed on a hot day.

But, I also want to thank those who donated to our can/bottle drive. THOUSANDS of cans and bottles were returned which enabled us to fully fund this event without asking the lodge for a dime.

Next up – Bus Trip to Firekeepers – stay tuned, plans are in the works for another trip to the casino in September. A flyer and sign up sheet will be out shortly.

**Brenda Scicluna - Entertainment Committee**

**Elks Care - Elks Share**





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**ONLY 32 DAYS TO WAIT UNTIL  
THESE TWO GREAT DINNERS  
ARE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND  
STARTING FRIDAY-SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**



**Drive-Thru Carry-Out Dinners  
Your Choice of Shrimp or Cod Dinners**

**PUBLIC WELCOME**

Watch for more detail to follow.

## Shrimp Dinner



## Cod Dinner



**Dinners Include:**  
Cole Slaw  
Golden French Fries,  
Hush Puppy  
Dinner Roll  
Condiments

Flat Rock Elks – Serving Great Fish Fry Dinners Since 2008

26917 Telegraph Rd. Flat Rock, MI 48134

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# Flat Rock Elks Newsletter

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## Bob Cousino Memorial Veteran's Golf Outing



First Annual Golf Outing in Bob's name to honor all he did for Vets.

Flat Rock Elks will be sponsoring a Veteran's Golf Outing  
Proceeds going to our local "Hometown Heroes"

**Saturday – August 21, 2021**

Location: Wesburn Golf Course

7:00 am Check-In      8:00 am Shot Gun Start

**\$75 Per Golfer - 4-Person Scramble \$300**

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**Hole Sponsor \$50 Sign-up at Flat Rock Elks or call Pat or Ken**

**Dinner** at the course catered by Savvy Sliders.

**Lunch** at the turn, drink tickets, longest drive, closest to the pin, Skins and other games available

**Raffle Baskets and Alcohol donations appreciated.**

Sign up early slots will fill up quick. - Sign up at Flat Rock Elks Lodge.

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## Flat Rock Elk's Pig Roast

### Saturday - August 28<sup>th</sup>

### Whole Roasted Pig Dinner \$20

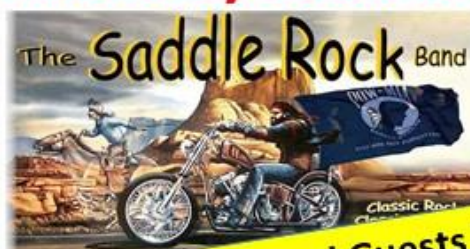
Dinner also includes: Fresh House-Made Kielbasa -  
Loaded Baked Potato's (Sour Cream, Butter, Chives & Bacon)

Fresh Corn on the Cob – Corn Muffins

Cucumber and Tomato Salad - Fresh Strawberry Cake

**Doors Open 5:30pm – Dinner 6:00 to 7:30pm**

**Music by Saddle Rock Band 7:30 to 11:30pm**



Saddle Rock Band is a five piece  
Classic Rock, Country, Oldies,  
Motown type band.

Members and Guests Welcome

### PER Event



**Advance Tickets only - purchase by - Wednesday 8/25**



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Drawing August 28<sup>th</sup> After PER Pig Roast

Pop's  
Corner

## BLACKSTONE *Grill*



*Flat Rock Elks*



**Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$20**

Cook a huge variety of foods in minutes on your Blackstone 36 in. Griddle Cooking Station. Its thick cold rolled steel griddle surface is perfect for pancakes, steaks, fajitas, quesadillas, hamburgers, bratwurst, veggies, fried rice, the possibilities are endless. The four independently controlled stainless steel burners allow you to control the cooking experience and cook multiple items at once. 720 sq. in. griddle cooking surface made of cold rolled steel for excellent heat retention and distribution with a sturdy, powder coated steel frame

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At The Elks Lodge**



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Soft Cover with UV Protection  
Blackstone Commercial Grade 4-Piece Griddle Cooking Toolkit**

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## Flat Rock Elks - Rummage Sale

**Three Days: Wednesday - Thursday – Friday  
September 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

### **Donations Needed**

Time to clean out those closet fortunes and donate them for a good cause.

All proceeds from this event will be used to purchase Christmas Gifts for the children that register for the Flat Rock Elks Children's Christmas Party in December and additional children events in 2022.



**Volunteers needed to help set-up Sat – Tue September 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>  
Call Jill Cousino at the Elks 734-782-1847**

**Got leftover Garage Sale stuff We'll take it every little bit helps.**



Donations accepted starting today. Just bring whatever you have to donate to the Flat Rock Elks Lodge 1731



**Elks Care - Elks Share**