Exalted Ruler Message

I would like to start off saying that this is going to be a great year! So far this year, we had the Inaugural Ball which a wonderful start to the year. A special thank you the Elkadys for making all the appetizers. Our lodge hosted a district meeting where we received a check for the downriver ARC program. Joe Morgan put together the Kids Easter Party in a blink of an eye. He had a great turn out and the kids had a blast.

So much has happened in the short time of me being in this position and there is more I want to accomplish. My goal is to bring back old events that we all loved, including the Mothers Day Breakfast and International Dinner, plus many more! I want to make sure we are focusing on the elk members who have been a part of this lodge along with the new members we are trying to bring in, making them all feel welcomed and appreciated.

It's an honor to be in the position and I can not wait to see what this year brings.

Marissa Strickland Exalted Ruler

As the father of Marissa, I am very proud of her for her accomplishments. Her decision to join the Elks as soon as she turned 21, taking the position of Inner Guard right away, then going into the chairs. She has grown up in the Elks, attended every children event and assisted in many. Her dedication to Elkdom is to be applauded. I am positive she will succeed as the Exalted Ruler for our 75th year. **Pat Strickland, PER**

Swearing in of Officers







ring

Officer of the Year Al Kowalewski



Steve Przybylo





Secretary Message

Hope everyone is doing well. The new Elks year started April 1st. Please check and make sure your dues for this year are paid. Stop down and see all the updates that have been done to the lodge. We are in the process of picking out new paint for the building and repairing the parking lot. The building is getting old and in need of a fresh look. The cost of everything is going up, but we are trying to keep our cost to the members down. We have 653 members and all have different views on things, please try and remember we are all one of the same team. Respect your lodge brothers and sisters, bar staff, and property. I want to thank everyone who helped with fish fry's, steak dinners, kids functions, gun and reverse raffles, golf outings, etc. This all helps keep our lodge open 7 days a week and support all we do for the community. Have a safe spring and hope to see everyone soon.



Don't forget your Annual Membership Dues should be paid on or before April 1st Your current membership card will not allow access to the Elks or events for members only. Please Pay Your Dues ! Your membership helps us do great things.

Mike Wrobel Lodge Secretary

Elks Care - Elks Share

Thank you to all the Members that have paid their dues on time.



Granville Baker

Born: October 5, 1925 Initiated: March 5, 1948 Life Member: January 16, 2002 74 Years As Elk Member Died: October 23, 2021

Haskel E. Howard

Born: December 31, 1925 Initiated: December 16, 1949 Life Member: January 2, 1991 73 Years As Elk Member Died: March 8, 2021

Paul Marshall

Born: April 24, 1959 Initiated: September 19, 1999 Died: December 20, 2021

Elks Care - Elks Share



The first of April I never remember I pay my dues at the end of December but I'm a Good Member I never hear the eleven strokes chime I'm not in the lodge at that particular time

but I'm a Good Member I don't give to the National Foundation but I brag about the good we do in the Nation

but I'm a Good Member I don't go to the meetings or address the ER I expound on my viewpoint while perched at the bar but I'm a Good Member

State Major Project gets nothing from me I have no handicapped children you see but I'm a Good Member

Although I don't vote in annual elections I sure disagree with my brothers selections but I'm a Good Member

I go to the parties (the ones that are free) When they charge to get in I stay home and watch TV

but I'm a Good Member

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Lodges of Sorrow I never attend But I will expect you all there when I reach my end but I'm a Good Member

And on the first Sunday in the month of December in the long years to come I'm sure you'll remember

that I was a Good Member

Author Unknown





It's been a few years since the Easter Bunny has been able to visit the Flat Rock Elks to bring the fun of a Easter Egg Hunt, Making Crafts, visiting with the Easter Bunny and best of all was the Petting Zoo.

Thanks to all who donated their time and even more so for all the food, candy and supplies. The event couldn't have gone off without your help and support!! This was the biggest Easter event we've had with over 100 kids. All of them had a great time! Raffle ticket sales for the tablet were close to \$400. The petting zoo was a big hit for all and the crew will be back next year.

Joe Morgan – Lecturing Knight













Sargent & Deputy Zoo's Favorite Pigs



Every year the Petting Zoo is one of the Children's favorite things to do. Able to be Hands-On they get to pet rabbits, chicks, snakes, pigs and even a Kinkajou. The Petting Zoo has been bringing different assorted animals to the Flat Rock Elks for 13 years, only missing the 2 Covid years. Not sure who enjoys the animals most, the Children or their Parents. It was great to have them back.











Visiting with the Easter Bunny



For years everyone thought that the Easter Bunny was Jill..... Jill wanted to let everyone know that the Easter Bunny is real.



Raffle Winner received an Amazon Fire Kids Pro























Elks Care - Elks Share



Message from the Trustees

Members All,

We hope everyone had a blessed Easter Season. We certainly encourage you to be a part of all that your lodge has to offer both in terms of fun and fellowship, but even more importantly all the excellent work we all as members do for Vets, 365 Special Needs Children, Elks National Foundation and so much more. As you plan your spring and summer be sure to make a point of including Lodge events as a part of your life.

As you may know, this year, 2022, marks the 75th Anniversary of our Lodge which is a wonderful milestone. Our Building even with prior planning and preventative maintenance is going to have unforeseen repairs, major and minor. As your Trustees we take this seriously and make every effort to act as needed to keep costs manageable, necessary and avoid the "kicking the can down the road" approach.

Fort Street Plumbing was hired to dig and install two needed sewage access lines just outside the kitchen door near the deck. This process was necessary so we could have access to all the outside drains on the north and east sides of our building for future clean outs and access to video scoping in the future. The lines were checked, hydro flushed and reported to be clear and in good condition. Big thanks to Treasurer, Big Al Kowalewski, for taking the time to help schedule time with contractor and verify what had been completed.

The first week of May the cement work around the drain catch basins will be restored with new concrete as well as the area around the new drain clean outs. A cement ramp will be installed at the Kitchen door to simplify access through that door. The roof above the storage area of the social hall had an eight foot tear that was leaking. We had it repaired for \$450 and had an evaluation of future maintenance and repair work. We are planning to do the deck if we get the materials and money. We could really use your help, if you are a New Member, we really encourage you to come out and see what we are about. If you are unavailable to help please think about possibly making a donation of some supplies that are in need.

Remember Membership meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday at 7:30 pm. This is where official Lodge business is conducted, not at the bar or social media, and you can ask questions, participate and get the real story firsthand. Trustee/ Board meets the second Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Fraternally Yours, Flat Rock Elks Trustee's Jeff Click PER Jeff Recker PER Dave Scicluna Dave Metty Keith Diedrich













Mi COOKIE PROJECT MI Cookie Project 19621 Wood Street Melvindale, MI 48122 micookieproject@gmail.com 734-770-2223

2-2-22



Dear FR Elks,

I want to thank you for your continued support of Mi Cookie Project. Your donations do so much for our program. And we make sure to stretch your donation to get the best bang for the buck! Since we aren't paying wages and everyone is volunteer, all money donated goes to programming for our bakers/athletes with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism.

This past weekend we went north for some sports training. Snowboard, Alpine Ski, Cross Country Ski and Snowshoe. State Special Olympics Winter Games were cancelled, as much of Special Olympics has been due to Covid. (It is slowly opening back up, YAY!) So, we were able to train for our sports. And more importantly, get out of the house and into the fresh air.

We had so much fun in the snow!

We are already in the planning stages for Special Olympics Bocce, swimming and kayak for this spring and summer. And have already scheduled our camping trip up north. Got to make those camping reservations early.

I've attached some of the pictures from this past weekend. We can't thank you enough for your continued support of the bakers with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism at Mi Cookie Project.



God Bless

Maggie Gibson & Friends

Mi Cookie Project





















Jo Brighton Special Athletes 4460 18th Wyandotte, MI 734-759-6300

Dear Flat Rock Elks #1731,

We would like to Thank You for the donation of \$1,750 that we received for the Jo Brighton Special Athletes. This donation is very important in helping us to offer the athletes their favorite sports. Since Covid, we have not been able to have our annual fundraisers. It is important for us to raise money for the athletes, especially since they do not pay to play for any of their sports. We receive no money from the school district, we rely totally on donations and fundraising. We have not been able to offer any in person sports for almost 2 years. I am happy to say that we have been able to start bowling, swimming and track and field so far. The athletes are so excited that they have been able to start back up. Your donation has helped us to buy new bowling shirts, new equipment and awards for the athletes.

Thank you,

Kim Thornberry Jo Brighton Local Coordinator Special Olympics of Michigan jobrightonspecialathletes@gmail.com





Lodge Activitie

On March 26th we held our 2nd Reverse Raffle. With the many plumbing challenges we have been dealing with recently, this was a great fundraising event for our lodge that came at a good time. It came down to the last day, but all 200 tickets were sold!

Last year the event was done online due to COVID. This time we were able to do it in the hall, which was much more fun. Congratulations to all the lucky winners! We are already working on plans to make it even better for next year. Any suggestions for improvement and to make it more fun are always welcome.

Now let's talk about that steak dinner! We decided to offer the steak dinner as a separate ticket and sold 150 dinners. Wow – we had no idea how many to expect and were very pleased with the turnout. I don't know about your steak, but mine was fantastic! We had so many people comment about how much they enjoyed it that I will see what I can do to incorporate steak dinners into future events.

It was so great to see the hall full again. This was the kind of event where people could come with friends and family, enjoy a meal, enjoy some adult beverages and catch up with each other with a chance to win some money at the same time.

I want to thank those who helped me with the Reverse Raffle and also the steak crew for doing such a great job. And a big thank you to all who supported this event!

Next up – Euchre Tournament on Saturday, April 30th. Only \$10 to enter (\$12 at the door). Sign up sheet at the bar. See the attached flyer for details.

Save The Date – we have a date set for our annual picnic in the park. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 16th. Watch for a flyer coming soon with more details.

Brenda S



























Muskrat Dinner



After missing the rat dinner last year due to the Covid Virus, we were able to bring it back this year. The PERs had no clue how it would go over. They did all the usual work of cleaning, soaking, boiling, cooking and serving the critters. To our surprise, the doors opened to people waiting in the parking lot. The line did not stop until we had to tell an older couple that we were SOLD OUT! They were not very happy. We sold out so fast that Stu Isreial from the Plymouth Lodge had to make his last serving spaghetti. The few people that came for the spaghetti commented how good it was also. As people came through the door, they were thanking us for bringing the dinner back. We had one guy that brought a poster in that Thanked the Elks for having the rat dinner again. I even saw a 3 year old little girl chowing down on some muskrat. They told her it was chicken. She never even gave it a second thought, she just kept chewing until she was full. The people that came in were ready to spend some money. As soon as they paid for the dinner, they were looking for the 50/50, the giant bottle of homemade wine and gun raffle tickets which we did not have. By the end of the day I think the PERs satisfied about 80-100 people with bellies full of muskrat and spaghetti. Thanks to everyone that helped with the event. You all do an amazing job each time this event is put on.

Jeff Recker (PER)

Click Link for more information Muskrat Dinners a Tradition During Lent Downriver - Hour Detroit Magazine









elks Care - Elks Share



Elkady Soup Cook Off

Happy Spring to Everyone

At the beginning of the new 2022-2023 Elk Year, I would like to thank 2021-2022 Elkady President Michelle Marvaso for an outstanding year, cumulating with the 1st Soup Cook Off the Elkady's have been able to sponsor in 2 long years. This year the soup cook off had 15 delicious soups and approximately 50 judges. 1st Place went to Hillary Weiler, 2nd place to a non-member who wanted to participate in the cook off and 3rd Place went to Sue Robinson. It was a great success!



Pull out those recipes and start planning for our next soup cookoff.

Upcoming Events:

Please join us for our next Quarter mania on Thursday May 5th , Mothers Day/Cinco De Mayo Theme. I'm pretty sure that the Margaritas will be flowing. More information to follow

About our organization:

The Elkady's are strong supporters of the Flatlock Elks and a great organization to be a part of. We meet every 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm and welcome all who would like to join us. If you are interested in joining our organization, please reach out to me at

<u>Kimberlystrickland55@yahoo.com</u>, I would like to extend an personal invitation to you to join us for our Elkady Banquet planned for May. It doesn't require a lot of time to be a Flat Rock Elkady ,any and all help is appreciated by our Flat Rock Elks. If you want to be part of an organization with dedication to our Flat Rock Elks and an organization that is truly appreciated for all that we do, then the Elkady's are for you.





Thank You Letter to Elkadys

April 14, 2022

B.P.O.E. Lodge # 1731 Elkady Association Flat Rock, MI 48134 734 782 1731

Dear Elkady's,

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Thank you so much for your very generous donation of \$5,000 towards the surprise replacement of the beer cooler in the upstairs hall.

Because of this we did not have to touch any of our Lodges hard earned savings. The new beer cooler will allow us to have hall rentals and member events more worry free for years to come.

Our building and facilities are aging and will require additional maintenance, replacements and upgrades planned and unplanned in the years ahead. By working together we can meet the needs of our Lodge and Elkdom and serve the needs of our membership and community for years to come. On behalf of our membership, we say Thank-You!

Please keep up your good works on behalf of everything we stand for. Particularly helping us maintain a building we can all be proud to call home. Frankly, you do a lot more than you get credit for and we felt that you needed to be recognized for your efforts.

Fraternally Yours, Trustees 2022/2023

Jeff Click (PER) Keith Diedrich Jeff Recker (PER) Dave Scicluna Dave Metty



Thank-You for another great season!

Member's all:

We hope that everyone enjoyed another season of Fish Fry's. We have completed our 14th year of serving you and wonder where the time went to. Every year we try to find new ways to serve you better. None of this would be possible without the dedicated members of your Fish Crew. Every one of them works hard and dedicates themselves to making sure our members and guests enjoy themselves and that we can help keep the Lodge financially strong into the future. It is a major source of income and enjoyment for our Lodge. I want to thank each and every one of them for giving so freely of their personal time and talents. It takes two days to prepare for the Fish Fry, cleaning and filling fryers, hand cutting the Icelandic cod, preparing coleslaw, packing dinner rolls from the Delray bakery, filling condiments, making beer batter, not to mention the cooking, packaging meals, running the food to carryout doors, 50/50 raffle sales, taking money and orders in the cold winter months, dishwashing and clean-up just to mention some of what's done. Some members spend their own money on gas picking up the supplies and keeping inventory and organizing all of the supplies, a big task for which we are very grateful.

Some fun FACTS of this season.

- 5,218 dinners served this 2021/2022 season
- Largest Fish Fry was 642 meals served
- Total amount of seafood cooked this season 2,270 lbs. of Cod &750 lbs. of shrimp
- 3,000 plus lbs. of French fry's
- Average meals prepared per minute 3 dinners or 20 seconds for each dinner
- It takes 26 Elk volunteers and a total of 187 man-hours for each Fish Fry or over 2,000 volunteer hours in a season

Thank You for your continued support! This year was the busiest and most profitable year for your Lodges Fish Frys ever. Have a great summer and look for info on our upcoming BBQ chicken dinners. Hope to see you there!

Fraternally Yours,

Elks Care - Elks Share

Jeff Click "PER" and Your Fish Fry Crew committee volunteer's









Sorry..... to the Volunteers I Didn't have pictures of, missing a few.















Elks Wild Game Dinner





25th Wild Game Dinner

The 25th Wild Game Dinner was once again a very awesome event. The only disappointment was the attendance was down due to the fear of Covid at large group gatherings. But we still had about 140 people who attended.

But we all know that it could not happen without several Hunters and Fishermen donating the Game and Fish that they trade for Tickets. Now the prep and cooking begins by the Awesome Kitchen Cooking Crew. Almost all of them have been involved from the very beginning, but it's also great to see some new "younger" faces in the Kitchen.

Here is the Menu we served: Venison Chili, Venison Veggie Soup, Venison & Veggie Grind, Venison Kielbasa with Peppers and Onions, Venison Cowboy Beans, Venison Mostaccioli, Venison Stroganoff, Venison Prime Roast, Creamy Rabbit Alfredo, Squirrel Shepherd's Pie, Game Hen Reuban, Sweet and Sour Duck and Goose, Wild Turkey with Stuffing, Fried Walleye and Panfish and BBQ Wild Boar. Venison Sliders were once again served just before the Main Dinner.

Special Thanks goes to all the people it takes to put this Event on. The Set-Up Crew, the Bartenders, the Door Workers, the Raffle Ticket Sellers, the 50-50 Ladies, all the Shopping Crew and anyone else who helped. All the Ladies who helped were dressed in "Camouflage Tops". They looked great! Special Thanks to you even though we could not see you!

"THANK YOU ALL" Bernie Schaller, the Organizer of this Great Event 26 Years Ago!







Elk's Wild Game Kitchen Crew

























Elk's Wild Game Dinner & Prizes





New Flat Rock Elk Members

Welcome to 30 New Members that were initiated into our order of the Flat Rock Elks in the months of February and April:



John Urban, Dale Risden, Casey Hammar, Colin Hammar, Keith Clark, Jeff Pischke, Shirley Maynard, Chris Damic, Christian Cuevas, Cameron Korody, Ryan Gasparovich.



Caryn Janssen, Heather Nisley, Craig Morris, Cam Jesko, Shawn Brewer, Roberta Hamer, Cody Johnson, Pat Irwin, Rick Fitzpatrick, Mark Williams, Dave Fast, Dana Sanders, Karen Baker, Mary Tabor, Terry Tabor, Brian Pitock, Craig Swiercz, Paul Hussey, Dan Maluitz <u>Gle Care</u> - <u>Gle Share</u>



Celebrating Harold's 101st Birthday

The Celebration of Harold Kott's 101st Birthday was on March 29th at the Atria Kinghaven Senior Living Center located in Riverview. Harold may not be able to see, hear or get around well, but he surely remembers his fellow Elk Members. The American Legion Honor Guard presented a Flag Ceremony and sang the National Anthem. With a little help Harold was able to stand, salute the Flag and sing. It was a great day for Harold.





Veteran's Report

The Flat Rock Elks Lodge has made dramatic assistance increases to our Veterans in the past four months which were only made possible by our members support and contributions to our Veterans Events.

The Flat Rock Elks Lodge has purchased Google Certified training that provided two veterans with a fully paid training course which resulted in them obtaining an industry recognized certification as a Google IT Support Professional. This training enabled the veterans to pursue a career in Information Technology which provides a solid career path for these veterans.

The Flat Rock Elks Lodge are now in the process of providing two veterans with the final step in obtaining home ownership through a contribution of up to \$2,000 for each veteran to assist them in closing costs to obtain their home. This program is a huge step in saying welcome to your home to these veterans and thanking them for their service to our country.

On behalf of the four veterans, the Flat Rock Elks Lodge thanks you all for your caring, kindness and support of our Veterans and our Veteran Events. Your support and efforts have made a very large impact on each of these veteran's lives for both them and their families.

Mike Moffitt

Elks Care - Elks Share



Flat Rock Elks - Rummage Sale

Three Days: Wednesday - Thursday – Friday April 27th – 28th – 29th

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 2023.



Open 10 am to 4 pm

Volunteers needed to help set-up Sunday thru Tuesday April 25th & 26th Call Jill Cousino for more info at 734-782-1847

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





Flat Rock Elks

ony even Due to low registration this event was cancelled. Due to low registration with the lowest score.

Tournan

Saturda-

P-

Elks Care - Elks Share





Includes 2 Paddles, Add Paddles \$3 each Doors open at 6:00pm Bidding Starts at 7:00pm Fun for all, bring your Family & Friends

Basket Raffles & 50/50's

Many Vendors to choose from and Bidding starts as low at just 1-Quarter Depending on Retail Value.

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Flat Rock Elks 365

Annual Golf Outing

Saturday June 11, 2022 Proceeds to benefit Children with Disabilities Wesburn Golf Course

5617 South Huron River Drive – South Rockwood Mi 48179
 Sign up at Flat Rock Elks Lodge by: Wednesday – June 3rd
 Payments due at sign up - Cut off date of – June 3rd
 Registration in Wesburn Clubhouse 7:00am –
 Shotgun Start 7:30am 4 – Person Scramble

\$85 Per Person Includes:



Coffee and Donuts - 18 holes of Golf with Cart - 3 Drink Tickets Hot Dog and Soft Drink at the turn Closest to Pin - Longest Drive - Skins available - 50/50 Raffle

And other games on course.

Dinner will be at Wesburn - Catered by Arnoldo's Catering If you need further information, please contact Tony or Ed at: Tony Schembri (734) 740-0559 or Ed Nuttmann {313} 402-5933

Elks Care - Elks Share



Are you interested in a Walleye Tournament?

We are looking for anyone that may be interested in a Walleye Fishing Tournament on June 18, 2022.

The cost to enter the Tournament will be :

\$25 - Entry fee per boat (Donated to 365 Special Needs)
\$10 - Per person will go towards prize money.
(4 Persons per boat Maximum - Age 14 and under free)
Weigh-In will be at 4:00 pm at the Flat Rock Elks

Cash Payout would be for Heaviest Walleye and Total Heaviest weight of 6 Walleyes from one boat.

(Heaviest Walleye cannot be included in 6 fish weight-in.)

Each boat entered must have at least one Elk Member on board.

After the Tournament we will come back to the Elks and have a little fish fry.

Anyone interested please sign up at the lodge.

Contacts for additional information: Steve Przybylo (734-558-2665) or John Pawlukewicz (734-347-6183)



⁷ Elks Walleye Tournament June 18th - Entry Form

The cost to enter the Tournament will be :

\$25 - Entry Fee Per Boat

(Donated to 365 Special Needs Children)

\$10 – Per Fisher Person

(Will go towards prize money)

(4 Persons per boat Maximum – Age 14 and under free)

Name Of Your Team:_____

#1	Captain	Phone #

#2 _	 	 	 -
#3_	 	 	
#4			

Make Checks Payable to: Flat Rock Elks #1731 Entry Deadline - June 16 – Return this form to Elks Bar Contacts for additional information: Steve Przybylo (734-558-2665) or John Pawlukewicz (734-347-6183)