



Freehold Elks Lodge #1454

The Tale

Summer 2023

CHARITY

JUSTICE

BROTHERLY LOVE

FIDELITY

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXALTED RULER

Dear members,

Just a quick note to mention how proud I am of all of the members that participated down in Wildwood this year. Everyone stepped up and helped each other to make this year is special year for our lodge.

As some of you already know, we took third prize best overall for the parade (for a lodge of 200 to 500 members). I want to thank our parade committee chairman Don Wirth for coming to help build the float, and getting other products together for us to wear during the parade.

One of my goals this year is to find people that want to be involved in the lodge that would like to do just one little item biweekly or monthly things like that, if you can think of something that you'd like to do please bring it to myself or one of my officers. We are here to serve you.

Fraternally yours,
George Conley
ER Freehold 1454

PAST EXALTED RULERS ASSOCIATION

On May 22, the PER association held their annual golf outing. The outing took place at Concordia Golf Course in Monroe. The event was a huge success and sold out, with 108 golfers and raised \$8800. After golf was followed by a steak lunch at the lodge. Big hand to Keith Weber and crew, a lot hard work and hours go into putting this event together, also thanks to all who participated.

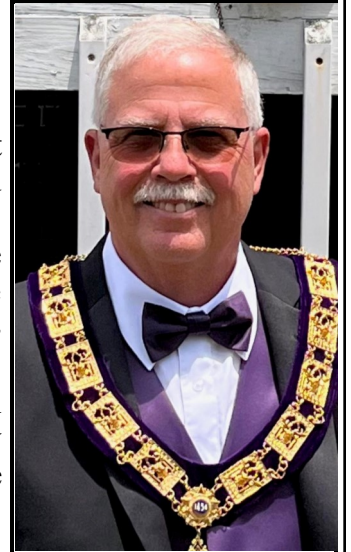
Next PER fundraiser is our annual Steak and lobster dinner, which will be held on the porch on Saturday August 26 at 5 pm dinner is served at 6 pm. The cost of dinner is \$60, dinner includes 1 ¼ lobster, steak, jersey corn, baked potato, salad and dessert. Tickets will be behind the bar for purchase. Enjoy your summer and see you around the lodge.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary McPaul, President of the PER Association

District Committee Meetings

July 18 in Old Bridge, 7:30 p.m. Committees: Auditing, Membership, ENF, Veterans, Scholarship, Special Children, Youth Activities

Sept. 19 in Millstone, 7:30 p.m. Committees: Americanism, Army of Hope, Convention, Drug Awareness, Government Relations, Lodge Activities, Membership, Public Relations, Scholarship, Soccer Shoot, Special Children, Youth Activities



**PLEASE SEE THE
CALENDARS IN-
SIDE FOR JULY-
AUGUST &
SEPTEMBER
FOR UPCOMING
DATES
(SUBJECT TO
CHANGE)**

**Appeal to members,
We are in need of
help selling our Bike
Raffle tickets at
Laurita Winery on
the following dates:**

**July 15, 16
August 5, 6, 19, 20
September 2, 3,
16, 17**

**Email Christine Reese
For further info
Christine.reese03
Gmail.com**

It's for the Lodge!

THE TALE

Official Monthly Publication of FREEHOLD LODGE NO. 1454

73 E. Main St. Freehold, N. J. 07728

Phone 732. 431-8707 732. 780-0335

Email: freeholdelks@gmail.com

Instituted May, 1922

101 Years of Service to Elksdom ELKS CARE — ELKS SHARE

2023-2024 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	George Conley	609 577-7201
Leading Knight	Christine Reese	347-739-6254
Loyal Knight	Jessica Schoener	843-516-3030
Lecturing Knight	Joseph Reese, PER	347-739-5135
Secretary	Patricia Hamilton	732 685-9493
Treasurer	Charles Klein	908 756-4269
Esquire	Ken Pulchlopek, PER	732 492-5684
Inner Guard	Richard Thomas	732-567-0895
Tiler	Thomas Koharski	848-667-5099
Chaplain	Richard Bascue, PER	908-770-7305
5 Year Trustee	Mary McPaul, PER	609-598-5963
4 Year Trustee	Richard Hamilton PDD	732-677-6036
3 Year Trustee	John Kenny	732-598-5337
2 Year Trustee	Joseph Pindilli	908-635-4788
1 Year Trustee	Christopher Mazzotta	732-409-3075
Presiding Justice	Thomas Barkalow, Esq.	732 677-2122

LODGE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Americanism	Christine Reese	347-739-6254
Army of Hope	Richard Hamilton Sr	732 577-9536
Auditing	Dominick Petrosino	917-446-4407
Breakfast	Barbara LaForge	732 462-4254
Convention	George Conley	609 577-7201
Drug Awareness	Jennifer DeLucia	609-306-3695
Government Relations	Patricia Hamilton	732 685-9493
Hoop Shoot	Matt Gorham	732 406-8947
House Chairman	Keith Weber	908-337-3501
Lodge Activities	Marge Conley	609-731-5415
	Lia Thomas	732-567-0825
Membership	Joseph Reese	347 739-5135
Motorcycle	Joseph Pindilli	908 635-4788
National Foundation	Richard Thomas	732-567-0895
National Vets Service	Michael Barnick	732-890-4292
Parades	Donald Wirth	732-735-3179
Public Relations	Coleen Weber	908 670-6878
Scholarship	Keith Weber	908 337-3501
Shuffleboard	Barbara LaForge	732 462-4254
Special Children	Jessica Schoener	843-516-3030
Youth Activities	Deborah Gorham	732-406-2315
	Matthew Gorham	732-406-8947
PER Association Pres.	Mary McPaul	609-598-5963

GRAND LODGE & STATE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Christopher J. Reycraft, PER, PDD
Richard T. Hamilton, Sr. PER, PVP, PDD
Robert E. Trilby, PDD, PER, PVP, PST
Thomas Sparacio, PER, PVP
Keith E. Weber, PER, PVP

TALE STAFF

Patricia Hamilton 732-685-9493
Coleen Weber 908-670-6878

KEEP IN TOUCH

Lodge freeholdelks@gmail.com

Web freeholdelks.org

Secretary (732) 685-9493

Bar (732) 431-8707 Office (732) 780-0335

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Members all,

Here we are in July, already three months in to the current Elk year which began April 1st. Our Committees are hard at work planning fundraisers and events for all of the great causes we support. Kids we sponsor are attending Elks Camp Moore, Veterans are being assisted in many ways, and we are funding some great activities for the youth in our community. We have celebrated Flag Day which was well attended and Independence Day with our MC escorting the Declaration of Independence to the Borough ceremony. So much wonderful work is being done at the lodge and the bottom line is we cannot do it without our members.

Presently we have 60 members who have not yet paid their dues. Even if you are not able to be active, your dues helps us fund all of this great work. We need all of you! Check your membership cards and if yours doesn't say 'paid to 4/1/2024' you are delinquent. Please send your payment in ASAP and I will get your new card out to you. Reach out to me or our membership chair Joe Reese (jareese@gmail.com) if you have any issues.

Check out the calendars here in the TALE for all of the great events planned for this summer season and do check your weekly emails from freeholdelks@gmail.com. If you are not receiving emails contact me.

I hope everyone has a great summer and do come down and join us for great fun events, food and friends.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Patricia Hamilton, Secretary



*The clock of his day has stopped
and across it's dial
The motionless shadows
marks the hour of eleven"
A door swings briefly open
and a loved one slips away
Where earthly griefs are over
and when pain shall come no more
To preach past understanding~
God has opened wide the door*

To Our Absent Members

*Danny N. Vnenchakj
4-28-23*

*Nicholas Stephen Tyrpak
7-6-23*

VETERANS COMMITTEE

The Veterans Committee continues to grow in membership and in fundraising. We now have over 25 members many of which are very active.

The committee hosted it's annual Armed Forces Day Pork Dinner in May and raised over \$700.00. That and the \$500.00 Wawa gift card Raffle, that is going on now, are setting the pace for a record breaking year. Make sure you see a committee member to support our vets and take a chance to win. \$500.00 will buy a lot of coffee or a couple tanks of gas.

We attended the Jim Hall Memorial Benefit for Homeless Vets at Brick, and the committee donated \$3000.00. Our members had a huge show of support at the event.

We are also collecting Items for the Menlo Park Veterans Home. Things that are on the list that we can use are, electric toothbrushes, alarm clocks, Crocs, sun hats or baseball hats with military branch, Military branch t-shirts, sweatpants (M,L,XL) or woman's sport bras (M,L,XL & 2XL). If anyone would like to donate see any committee member for details.

Some of our group members are actively involved with the SCD Delivery Team. This team brings furniture and home kits to veterans that are moving into a new place. These kits include household Items such as towels, silverware, cleaning products, a coffee maker and more. Ann Marie Widmer puts the personal touch on the delivery by giving our vet special items, including a card signed by the team.

The Veteran's Committee will be setting up at Old Freehold Day (8/5) to sell Wawa raffle tickets and teach the public about what we, as Elks, do to help our Veterans. Right after that, Saturday, August 12th is our Third Annual Summer Festival, 1 to 6PM. A great party to raise money for a great cause! Save the date for a fun time with live music, great food, raffles, plus we will be drawing our winner for the Wawa Gift card.

All are invited to be a part of making a difference and helping our heroes. The Veteran's Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month, 7:30 PM at the lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

Mikey Bones, Veterans Committee

**“So long as there are veterans,
The Benevolent and Protective Order
of Elks will never forget them.”**

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

In April, the Americanism Committee hosted a very successful Artie Hoffman Medium night. The Americanism committee just celebrated Flag day and held our annual Flag Day ceremony on June 17. It was a great event.

Looking forward to the Fall we will be participating in the District Flag Retirement Ceremony in October at a date and time to be determined. Please bring any old flags that you have and deposit them in the flag mailbox outside of the lodge. Hope to see you there at this event.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Reese

SPEAKEASY GRILL

Don't miss hanging with us every Thursday & Friday at our Speakeasy!! Each week we feature a different special! Check out our Freehold Elks Facebook page or your email to see the current week's special!!

Enjoy a great meal with great friends while playing pool, darts & shuffleboard. Hope to see you there! We open at 4 p.m. and food is served from 6 to 9:00 p.m and welcome our members and their guests.

Come on down and see what all the hype is about!

Respectfully submitted,

PER Joe Reese & The Speakeasy Crew!!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Members all,

Last year was a great year for membership and we hope to continue this year as well. Freehold is always looking for new members, so if you know anyone who is looking to join our lodge please reach out to me or have them go to join.elks.org.

Fraternally,

PER Joe Reese, Membership Chair

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Members and Ladies,

I am excited to take on the Chairperson roll for the ENF committee during the 2023 – 2024 Elk Year. While we currently do not have any scheduled events at this time, know that we are working on fundraising events for the year, including a 50/50 at Laurita in the Fall. Keep an eye out for that date!

Fraternally,

Tex Kenny, ENF Chair

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Members and Ladies –

The special Children's Committees for both the lodge, our district and the State have been hard at work since the last Tale. It is Raffle Calendar season! \$20 each. Numbers are drawn daily Monday thru Friday, and if your number is picked you win the amount listed on that day. Calendars support the NJSEA Special Children's Committee.

Please call me at (843) 516-3030 or email at jess.schoener@gmail.com for more info or to get yours. We had several winners at our lodge on the last batch, get in on the winning!

After our first attempt was rained out, we had our 2023 Challenger Batter Up State Championship; Saturday July 1st, at the Old North Wall Little League Complex. What an amazing day. This event gives our special needs kids the opportunity to compete in an inclusive atmosphere. Thank you to Asbury Park Wall #128 for hosting awards and refreshments! If you did not attend, this is definitely an event to keep on your radar for next year. I can guarantee it will put a smile on your face!

Camp Moore's first session started on June 25th. I am SO excited for the campers to see all the amazing changes that have been made in the off season. There are areas that are almost unrecognizable. We are currently planning our Annual South Central District trip to Camp Moore. This year, we are scheduled to greet the incoming campers on Sunday, August 20th. Unfortunately we are working with a limited number of spaces for visitors due to ongoing COVID restrictions so, at this time there are not spots available to join, but watch for an email about openings once I get final counts from the other lodges in our district. Because of the limit on visitors we will be hosting a Pizza and Dance party. Mike Penchenski, PDD has graciously offered to volunteer his time for us again this year!

I am excited about some upcoming community events that our Membership Chair Joe Reese, PER and I have teamed up on. We have spaces at both Freehold Township Day on July 8th, and Olde Freehold Day on August 5th. I am also looking into some other opportunities in our immediate area. It is so important to get the word out there and let people know what we offer. That being said, I am looking for new campers to add to our roster. If you know of anyone please pass along my info. I am always happy to share whatever information I can with Parents and Guardians.

I want to end by saying THANK YOU. This past year as the District Chair for the Special Children's Committee, I have had the really amazing opportunity to be involved in the events and inner workings of other

lodges both in and out of our district. I had a great time attending all the galas, events and dances. While I always believe in forward motion and room for improvement, I can honestly say that Freehold is really a shining star. We do a great job and it shows when I go to state meetings with 100% sales on calendars, pins, shirts, etc., reports of events, donations, and fundraising. I genuinely appreciate all of the support, and let's keep kicking butt!

Faternally, Jessica Schoener, SCC Chair

MOTORCYCLE COMMITTEE

Members and Ladies,

Summer is finally here. For months now, the Freehold Elks Motorcycle Committee has been hard at work selling Raffle tickets. This years bike is a 2023 Harley Davidson Street Glide. Last year was another great year for us and we hope to do the same this year.

A Great portion of our Proceeds go to our Veterans and Special Needs Childrens Charities. With that said, if you've attended any of the lodge meetings, you're aware that most of the cost of lodge improvements and maintenance would not be possible without financial support provided through the efforts of our Motorcycle Committee

We work extremely hard with our limited staff throughout the year. We welcome any of our Non MC Freehold Elks members to join us. Come down to Laurita Winery when we're there. You get in for free. You can help sell tickets for a little while and enjoy the rest of your day. Relax enjoy the bands, food trucks, fire pits and Saturday night fireworks. All while helping your lodge support our Charities and keeping the Doors open.

Have a Great Summer!

Joe Pindilli

Freehold Elks Motorcycle Committee President

DRUG AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Hello Members and Ladies,

May was a very busy month for Drug Awareness. The Sneakers went up and the Walk out on Drugs was a success and held in Keyport on May 7 th . There were more participants than there have been in quite some time. The committee supported Freehold Lodge during the Freehold Porch Fest and sold food as a fundraiser on the 21st.

The summer months are quiet for DA, but we pick back up again in the fall, matching the school year, with Essay, poster and media contests for scholarships and leadership training. More details to follow on those.

Respectfully,

Jenn DeLucia, Drug Awareness Chair

Come down and support
THE FREEHOLD ELKS #1454
VETERANS COMMITTEE
 Is raffling off chances for a...

ID #160-6-0800

License #19-23

\$500 Wawa Gift Card



Chances are \$5.00 each

We will pull the winning ticket at our...

All-American Summer Festival

Saturday, August 12th, approx. 5:00 PM

Freehold Elks Lodge #1454 - 73 East Main Street Freehold, NJ

*Winner need not be present to win.

Win a
Smokeless Fire Pit
 Including.....

A Bundle of
 Seasoned Hardwood
 Marshmallows
 Chocolate Bars
 Graham Crackers
 Lighter and
 Kindling, etc.



Bring it home and start
 making s'mores !!

Tickets are only \$5

Drawing at the Steak and Lobster Dinner -
 August 26

Womens Auxiliary Freehold Elks 1454

Coming Soon!
Super 50/50

\$10,000 drawing

November 4th

Supporting Elk Charities

**Limited number of tickets
 to be sold so get yours early**

Details to follow

Donation \$100

Tickets will be available soon

Wishing our Members a Very Happy Birthday

July

- 3 Arlene Grippen
- Brett Peterson
- Charles Rossi
- Thomas Sparacio
- 5 DonnaMaria Scarillo
- 9 Andria Vold
- 12 Jaclyn Koharski
- Stephen J. Mount
- Michael Scotto
- 13 Erik Larys
- 14 Lawrence Sphatt
- 15 Mark McCool
- 16 Tara Pazinski
- 17 Kathy Badamo
- 18 Jeffrey Friedman
- 19 Lia Longo-Thomas
- 22 Shelley Bure
- 22 Daniel Heulitt
- 23 Meghan Lewis
- 24 Kim Trzanowski
- 25 Jeffrey McNally, LM
- Joseph R. Russell
- 26 Danny A. Scharago, LM
- Marjorie A. Tuff
- 28 John F. Alliano
- Gary Von der Fecht

August

- 2 Jeffrey W. Conover
- 3 Michelle Salva
- 6 Terry Ann Tosh
- 7 Bruce P. Applegate
- Stephen Shinnors
- 8 Arthur J. Stinton
- 11 Gabrielle Dowling
- 13 Jonathan R. Biggs
- Joyce Turback
- 21 Keith Bailey
- Anne Marie McCool
- 22 Jacqueline McPaul
- William Odom
- Karolynn Sparacio
- Kevin Sullivan
- 24 George W. Beck, LM
- 25 Robert Kenny
- 27 Donna Brown
- Frederick Trotter, LM
- 28 Robert Forman
- John Gierlowski, LM

September

- 2 Joseph P. Noble
- 4 Maryanne Hayes
- 5 Glen Trahan
- 6 Melissa Iverson
- Paul Travia, LM
- 9 Richard A. Giunco
- Edwinna Howell
- 10 John Kenny
- Tamara L. Miller
- 12 Gary R Corliss, LM
- Andy Harris
- 13 Wilmer C. Bahr, LM
- 14 Diedre Berry
- Johnny Calabro
- Chris Dowling
- 17 Edward McDonald
- James F. Quinn, LM
- 19 David Bocock
- Glen Davis
- Ryan J. Nugent
- Mark Rothman
- 21 Robert Driscoll
- Richard Thomas
- 22 Joseph A. Ribas
- 23 Steven W. Kliewe
- Christopher Mazzotta
- 24 Robert E. Trilby, LM
- 27 Karen Burst

FREEHOLD ELKS #1454 STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT

SATURDAY, 8/26

6 PM



**STEAK, LOBSTER, SALAD,
CORN ON THE COB, BAKED POTATO
MUSIC & DANCING, DRAFT BEER**

**\$60 PER PERSON
TICKETS/INFO
(732) 685-9493**

**73 EAST MAIN STREET
FREEHOLD, NJ 07728**



Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Americanism, Motorcycle & Veteran's Committee will be making baskets for the families of the deployed from the USO. Each month we will be collecting different items for this basket. We need 40 of each item. Please see the list of items we are collecting below:

July	Canned Corn
July	Canned Cranberry sauce
August	Canned String beans
August	Apple sauce
September	Brown gravy
September	Canned Yams
October	Boxed stuffing
October	Boxed mashed potatoes
November	Canned Cream of mushroom soup
November	Boxed Corn Muffin Mix



Please leave items in the box located at the lodge



FREEHOLD ELKS #1454 VETERANS COMMITTEE PRESENTS

AN ALL - AMERICAN Summer Afternoon Festival



Hot dogs, Hamburgers,
Corn on the Cob, Macaroni salad,
Potato salad, Watermelon and Desserts
plus 2 tickets for select beverages.

All proceeds go to help
our heroes, military service
men and women who selflessly served
(Homeless Veterans, PTSD)

Saturday, August 12th, 2023 - 1 to 6 PM

**A great afternoon
of music, fun, food, great people and all for
a tremendous cause!**

Live music, prizes, vendors, Fun & Games

We will be drawing the winner of our \$500.00 Wawa gift card.
Tickets will be available at the event.

All for just \$20.00

Freehold Elks Lodge #1454 - 73 East Main Street Freehold, NJ
Questions or inquiries contact Dorcas (732) 404-7723 or Mikey (732) 890-4292
We reserve the right to refuse anyone admission.

**Support our
Committee Fundraisers!**

Freehold Elks #1454 Motorcycle Raffle



1st prize- 2023 Street Glide

2nd prize- \$500.00 Visa Gift Card

3rd prize- \$100.00 Visa Gift Card

Donation- \$20.00

Each ticket includes special offers from our sponsors
ID# 160-06-6860 Permit #10-23. ALL taxes, MV, freight, prep, storage fees paid by the
winner. Raffle Drawing on October 7th, 2023 at the Freehold Elks Lodge. Winner need not
be present to win. Approximate retail value \$27,074.00
NO substitution of the offered prize may be made and NO cash will be given in lieu of the
prize.

The Drawing is at our

Bike Raffle Drawing Party

Saturday, October 7th

Raffle prize drawing, food, drinks

Live music by Junkyard Dawgs

1:00pm to 6:00pm- drawing at approx. 4:30pm

73 East Main Street, Downtown Freehold

Event runs rain or shine!

We reserve the right to refuse admission

Admission \$20

LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Members and Ladies,

Lodge Activities continues to plan fun events for it's Freehold lodge members, their guests, and the local community. The month of May began with the celebration of Cinco de Mayo at our Speak Easy Grill. A fun night, which included a special menu, music and photo ops was had by all who attended. We ended May with a Country Line dancing night. Many came out to show off their dance moves to and mingle with friends. BTK Entertainment did an outstanding job by providing great music as well as teaching and leading the dances.

With warmer weather, we kicked off the summer with our annual Luau Porch Party. Another great evening of fun was had by all. A special Hawaii menu was available through the Speak Easy Grill, while the live acoustic sounds of Alex Chernick entertained everyone out on the porch.

As always, many thanks to our fellow members for their help and support. The success of our events could not be possible without you. Stayed tuned for more information regarding new activities, currently in the planning stages for the fall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lia, Margie and Lynn

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

BATTERS UP AT FREEHOLD BORO LITTLE LEAGUE WAS A WET BUT SUCCESSFUL EVENT!!!!!! Batters up Contest was a success at Freehold Boro Little League field on SUNDAY 6/25/23. District batters up to take place in late July.

Respectfully submitted,
Matt & Debbie Gorham, Co-chairs

ARMY OF HOPE COMMITTEE

Members and Ladies,

Our State committee is continuing the mission to financially support our Gold Star Families and the Seriously wounded or ill Warriors. Now in addition to the injuries we can see, we help those with PTSD and burn pit cancers in great need.

Come for a fantastic day of Remembrance & Patriotism. The Army of Hope picnic on Sunday, September 10th at beautiful Lacey Lodge from 12 to 5 p.m. Come meet the families and see our Motorcycle and Veterans Committees donate generously to this great cause. See me for tickets, they're only \$25 and includes great food and beverages.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Rich Hamilton, Sr. PDD, Chairman

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 MC Committee	6	7	8
9	10 Board Meeting	11 Vets Committee	12 Art Society 7 pm	13	14	15 Rental / Laurita Winery
16 Laurita Winery	17	18	19	20	21	22 Canning at the Point 9-1
23	24	25	26 Lodge Meeting	27	28 Balloonfest	29 Balloonfest
30 Balloonfest Miracle Run at New Egypt	31					

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Jr ROTC Parents Meeting	2 MC Committee Corvette Club	3	4	5 Olde Freehold Day at the Pond Laurita Winery
6 Laurita Winery	7 Marines	8	9	10	11	12 Veterans Summer Festival 1-6
13	14	15	16 Art Society I I am	17	18	19 Laurita Winery
20 Laurita Winery Camp Moore	21	22	23 Lodge Meeting	24 Fill the Lodge	25	26 Steak & Lobster Night
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Lodge Closed Laurita Winery
3 Lodge Closed Laurita Winery	4 Labor Day Lodge Closed	5 Vets Committee	6 MC Committee Corvette Club	7	8	9 Rental
10 Army of Hope Picnic at Lacey	11 Marines	12 DD Pre-Visit	13 Lodge meeting	14	15	16 Laurita Winery
17 Breakfast Laurita Winery	18 Auxiliary Marines	19 Scouts	20 IBEW Postmen	21	22	23 Rental
24	25 DAV	26 Scouts	27 Lodge meeting	28	29	30 Rental