

A Brief History Of Madison, New Jersey B.P.O. Elks Lodge #1465

Instituted on May 9th, 1923 with 65 charter members, a nucleus of whom had transferred from Summit and Morristown Lodges, Madison Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 1465 has had eighty-five years of growth and progress. During the first year of its existence, the first 18 meetings were held in Brittin Hall, located on Main Street near the center of town, on the third floor over where Woolworth's and more recently a CVS drugstore used to be. But with the influx of new members and the interest shown in the Lodge, it was soon apparent that larger quarters would be essential for the accommodation of the membership. With this in mind various sites in town were surveyed and the property at 192 Main Street, owned by Mr. Edward Cooney of Morristown and at that time called the Rose City Inn, was leased at a monthly rental of one hundred twenty-five dollars with a five year option to buy at twenty-five thousand dollars. Extensive alterations were necessary before the building could be used as an Elks Home, and as this entailed a considerable outlay of money for such a young Lodge, a loan was negotiated with the First National Bank of Madison and guaranteed by the personal endorsement of some of the Charter Members. Alterations were completed early in 1924 and the first meeting was held in our present home on March 11th, 1924. In addition to making the alterations, it was also necessary to furnish our new home and in connection with this, one of our original Trustees, Raymond L. Patterson, personally donated all the kitchen and dining room equipment plus curtains and drapes.

The Lodge continued to prosper, and in 1927 it was decided to exercise the option to buy, and title to the property was passed to the Lodge on March 14th, 1928. Although we were at all times proud of our Home, we lacked a suitable Lodge Room and our Grille Room was not large enough for the number of members using the facilities. Having always operated on a more or less conservative basis, nothing was done to remedy this condition until sufficient funds were on hand to finance the project without recourse to borrowing. In 1933 it was felt that the Lodge finances would permit the construction of an addition to the building, and the beautiful Lodge Room and Grille that we have today testify to the excellent work of the building committee in charge. No major structural changes have been made since that time. However, in 1951 the Grille Room was completely renovated, and beginning in 1988 the latest renovation of the Grille Room and kitchen was begun, and was completed in stages as funds became available. Exterior improvements included new vinyl siding and restoration of the front and side porches. Today, so many years after our institution we can look back with a great deal of pride on our accomplishments.

Until 1971 when vandalism called for its removal, we had the statue of an elk on our front lawn as a reminder to those passing by that this was an Elks Home. It was dedicated on October 10th, 1925, with appropriate ceremony, including a parade of our members and distinguished guests, with dinner following at our club.

Our original property extended approximately two hundred feet on Main Street and also about the same distance on Rosedale Avenue. In 1931, when the rest of the area to the rear of our Home covering the corner of Rosedale Avenue and Highland Avenue became available, it was decided that we needed it to protect our original investment and expended twenty-five hundred dollars for that purpose.

Elks Lodges have always been noted for the extensiveness of their charitable work, and Madison Lodge has not been laggard in that regard. Locally our work with handicapped children, Christmas baskets for the needy, and our generous response to all calls for assistance, have been outstanding. As an example, although having no specific cases within our jurisdiction, Madison Lodge raised and contributed to the fund for the aid of paraplegics a sum in excess of one thousand dollars. In addition, in 1991, as part of our ongoing support of our State project, Elks Camp Moore, Madison Lodge donated the flag poles that stand in front of the Northwest District's Telethon Building. A plaque was placed at the site in memory of Rachel Sabatini, the deceased wife of Lodge Handicapped Children's Committee Chairman John Sabatini, P.E.R. as a way of thanking him for his many years of service and commemorating Madison Lodge's continuing dedication to Camp Moore.

When the Grand Lodge requested each Lodge to donate one thousand dollars for the establishment of an Elks National Foundation to create a fund for charitable work on a national basis, Madison Lodge in 1931 was the fifth lodge in the state to meet its commitment in full. Since that time, the Lodge completed several thousand dollar pledges, as did the Ladies Auxiliary. As of February 2008, the Lodge and its members have donated a cumulative total of over \$100,000.00 to the ENF. While the figures are not available for all of the years of our existence, we do know that our Lodge has more than held its own in the amount of money given to support local and Elks charities. This is an accomplishment to which we can look back with justifiable pride.

On our membership rolls at the present time, in July 2010, we have two hundred and fifty-five, the majority currently or originally from Madison, but with the surrounding localities – Green Village, Chatham, Florham Park, Hanover, Livingston, Whippany and Morristown – being represented. Since our institution there have been one thousand eight hundred and seven initiated into Madison Lodge with the highest number on our rolls at any one time being about four hundred in 1929. That our membership committee has always been careful in its approval of applications suitable for members and our progress, even in hard times, is a complement to the type of members we now possess.

During World War II we had forty-six members in service who contributed their share to the hard-won victory that was ours. A suitable memorial has been erected in our Home so that their names will never be forgotten by future generations.

In 1951 we were honored by having Grand Exalted Ruler H.R. Davis pay an official visit. A delegation of members met him at the Pennsylvania Station in Newark, and under police escort he was conducted to the home of Mrs. Geraldine Dodge, courtesy of Brother Ray Patterson, where he was entertained at a cocktail party. That evening a dinner was held in his honor and he was presented with a suitable gift as a remembrance of the occasion.

Our last active Charter Member, John R. Mitchell, Jr., P.E.R., passed away in 1993 at the age of 92. Jack was the original author of this history, which he wrote for our twenty-fifth anniversary in 1948 and updated for our fiftieth anniversary in 1973. It is thanks to him that we have the early part of this history.

A major change occurred at the Grand Lodge Convention in 1995. The Constitution was changed to allow women as members in our Order. We are proud of the fact that in March 1996 Madison was the first Lodge in the New Jersey Northwest District to initiate women as members. Many have become active members and officers, and in 1998 we installed our first of several female Exalted Rulers.

Looking back on the years of our history, there are some of our members who should be recognized for their service to the Northwest District, which currently stretches across portions of four counties.

District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers:

Andrew F. Polite, P.E.R.	1939-1940
William S. Evans, P.E.R.	1951-1952
Herbert O. Metzger, P.E.R.	1962-1963
James J. McCloskey, P.E.R.	1993-1994
John C. Anzul, P.E.R.	2001-2002
Julie Ann Woods, P.E.R.	2009-2010

State Vice-Presidents:

Patrick V. Doran, P.E.R.	1947-1948
Herbert O. Metzger, P.E.R.	1960-1961
Howard Kriner, P.E.R.	1976-1977
James J. McCloskey, P.E.R.	1988-1989
Edward Du Boyce, P.E.R.	2002-2003
Julie Ann Woods, P.E.R.	2006-2007

State Trustees:

John C. Anzul, P.E.R.	2004-2007
Julie Ann Woods, P.E.R.	2007-2009

It would be remiss to conclude this history without expressing our appreciation to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Madison Lodge of Elks. Formed in 1925, two years after our institution, with Mrs. Louise Scott as its first president, they have been a loyal and cooperative part of our organization and have given unfailing support to all our programs. Much of the redecorating and refurbishing over the years has been supervised by them and they have also assumed a large part of the cost. Of especial note is the bronze memorial to our departed members which is located just outside our Lodge Room. This was presented to us by the ladies and without doubt is one of the most beautiful in any Lodge in New Jersey. Until recently, when it became impractical to continue, the name of each departed brother was inscribed on a bronze bar and attached to the memorial as a gift from the Auxiliary.

After a brief absence from 1988 to 1991, the Auxiliary re-organized and again assumed a major role in the activities of the Lodge. They ran numerous social functions, raising funds and making many donations towards improvements to the Lodge. The members of the Auxiliary also gave generously of their time in order to make Lodge functions a success. Madison Lodge would like to thank all of their officers and members who worked so hard for the good of Madison Lodge, before the Auxiliary folded for the last time in 1998.

Viewed in retrospect, these many years of growth represent a great achievement. While we take justifiable pride in the results of past efforts, we look constantly forward to the years ahead with firm determination to constantly improve our contributions to the Madison community, to the State of New Jersey, to the Nation, and to Elkdom.

Madison Lodge B.P.O.E. No. 1465 - Instituted May 9, 1923

CHARTER MEMBERS

Adolph J. Hoffmann.....	Exalted Ruler
Henry M. Barnard.....	Esteemed Leading Knight
George A. Hughes.....	Esteemed Loyal Knight
Harry J. Hall.....	Esteemed Lecturing Knight
Frank H. Buck.....	Secretary
W. Heyward Burnet.....	Treasurer
John G. Wick.....	Tiler
Raymond L. Patterson.....	Trustee for 3 years
Joseph F. Corbett.....	Trustee for 2 years
Samuel A. Gruver.....	Trustee for 1 year
Fred J. Van Wagner.....	Esquire
Calvin S. Denman.....	Chaplin
Orrin H. Atchison.....	Inner Guard

James C. Bellingham
Charles Benjamin
George E. Blazier
Julius F. Borchert
Charles B. Brannick
Frank V. Burnett
Daniel F. Burns
John E. Clarey, Jr.
Robert P. Cosgrove
James D. Coleman
Maurice B. Early
Edward F. Frenz
Aickin Greer
H. Parks Greer
Norman J. Griffiths
Rudolph J. Grossenbacher
Arthur R. Irwin
Joseph V. Keating
Arthur D. Keef
Harry C. Keef
Joseph F. Kelly
Edward Koplitz
Ferd T. MacCracken
Findlay MacKenzie
Kenneth R. MacKenzie
Walter Mason

Frank McEwan
Carroll B. Merritt
John H. R. Meyers
Elwood H. Mitchell
John R. Mitchell, Jr.
Walter C. Neis
William J. O'Donnell
Harold S. Parker
Maurice J. Patterson
David T. Pierson
S. Hahnes Plum, 2nd
Elford J. Rathbun, Jr.
Alfred J. Roehrs
Francis J. Ryan
Theodore A. Schoonmaker
George E. Scott
John J. Smith
Leo J. Sullivan
Joseph Thomas
Michael Tracy
Irving W. Tunis
Preston A. Van Voorhis
Lewis A. Waters
Lewis A. Waters, Jr.
John Wick
Isaac R. Wilson

PAST EXALTED RULERS

Adolph J. Hoffmann	1923-24
Henry M. Barnard	1924-25
Harry J. Hall	1925-26
Harry R. Miller	1926-27
Maurice B. Early	1927-28
John R. Mitchell, Jr.	1928-29
Alfred J. Roehrs	1929-30
Edward H. Behre, Jr.	1930-31
Thomas A. Dunne	1931-32
H. Parks Greer	1932-33
Andrew F. Polite	1933-34
S. Bergeron Flanagan	1934-35
Louis S. Hinds	1935-36
H. Parks Greer	1936-37
Theodore E. Hinds	1937-38
Andrew F. Polite	1938-39
George R. Vibbert	1939-40
Everett G. Van Arnam	1940-41
William S. Codd	1941-42
Edward G. Eskesen	1942-43
Patrick V. Doran	1943-44
Herbert F. West	1944-45
Theodore F. Schraft	1945-46
Joseph P. Finnegan	1946-47
W. Alistair MacDonald	1947-48
William V. Evans	1948-49
John J. Laden	1949-50
Leslie B. Veader	1950-51
Joseph P. Finnegan	1951-52
Edward W. Harris	1952-53
Carl E. Rohner	1953-54
Clarence Crumn	1954-55
Frank N. Eskesen	1955-56
Clarence Crumn	1956-57
Seymour Young	1957-58
Elmer H. Totten	1958-59
Herbert O. Metzger	1959-60
Edward J. Curran, Jr.	1960-61
Thomas A. Bosica	1961-62
Richard H. Kelley	1962-63
Edward J. Curran, Jr.	1963-64
Edmund A.F. O'Connor	1964-65
Henry V. Adamczyk	1965-66
Charles G. Davis	1966-67
Joseph P. Marcantonio	1967-68
Edward J. Curran, Jr.	1968-69
Edward G. Eskesen	1969-70
Howard Kriner	1970-71
Edward G. Eskesen	1971-72

PAST PRESIDENTS LADIES' AUXILIARY

Louise Scott
Mae Ryan
"
Rosalie Eckel
"
Edna Barnard
"
Louise Buck
Helen Patterson
Florence Cavanaugh
Florence Gruver
Christine Eckel
Nettie Kuver
Irene McGovern
Emily Allen
Margaret Fitzgerald
Harriet Veader
Agusta Timmins
Margaret Mulholland
Irene McGovern
Helen Patterson
Dorothy Bertrand (Stiner)
Jennie Williams
Louise Decker
Katherine Frech
Katherine Milne
Doris Cobb
Florence Rohner
Katherine Pruden
Catherine Eskesen
Eleanor Livesey
Emily Lance
Ethel Edwards
Beatrice Farley
Catherine Sayres
Ruth Kent
Myrtle Young
Dorothy Curran
"
Gertrude Emmitt
Lorraine Elliott
Ruth Kent
Marlene O'Connor
Audrey Adamczyk
Elaine Tyrone
Mary Cary
Kay Flynn

William P. Schott	1972-73	Sarah Wagner
Edward F. Wisniewski	1973-74	Midge Moody
John W. Flynn	1974-75	Bea Kelley
Richard A. Fisher	1975-76	Veronica Jones
Alfred Z. Swick	1976-77	Marlene O'Connor
William H. Ferenbacher	1977-78	Ruth Kent
Alfred Z. Swick	1978-79	Ann Marie Herbert
Edward G. Eskesen	1979-80	MaryAnn Bosley
John Chaney	1980-81	JoAnn Kellogg
Alfred Z. Swick	1981-82	Ruth Kent
John M. Sabatini	1982-83	
Edward G. Eskesen	1983-	MaryAnn Bosley-Heater
Gregory Westbrook	-84	
Raymond Browne	1984-85	JoAnn Carey-Herrington
Harold H. Anderson	1985-86	Peg Carey
James J. McCloskey	1986-87	Alice Baver
Carl Will	1987-88	"
Warren W. Petko	1988-89	
John C. Anzul	1989-90	
Jacob Lambling	1990-91	Kay Flynn (Acting) '91
Joseph A. Verderber	1991-92	Joan Blazier
John Pecca	1992-93	"
Andrew Robinson	1993-94	Barbara Pavidis
Paul J. Burke, Jr.	1994-95	Barbara Meehan
Edward DuBoyce	1995-96	"
Paul J. Burke, Jr.	1996-97	Catherine Tracy
Edward DuBoyce	1997-98	"
Barbara Meehan	1998-99	
Julie Ann Taylor-Woods	1999-2000	
James Kuligowski	2000-01	
Nicholas Kulyk	2001-02	
Julie Ann Taylor-Woods	2002-03	
Paul Weir	2003-04	
Paul Weir	2004-05	
Michael A. Massaro	2005-06	
Tracy Ortwein	2006-07	
Stanley Kravitz	2007-08	
Arthur Cutolo	2008-09	
Paul A. Allocco Jr.	2009-10	
Paul A. Allocco Jr.	2010-11	

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Madison Elks Club Corporation

* = President

H. Parks Greer*	1936 - 1937
Andrew F. Polite*	1936 - 1948 & 1953 - 1966
Louis S. Hinds	1936 - 1950
Howard F. Barrett*	1936 - 1943
Charles Hauser	1936 - 1941
Francis J. Ryan	1938 - 1939
G. Vibbert	1939 - 1941
John R. Mitchell	1942 - 1945
Herman A. Weinrich	1942 - 1947
Jack Burton	1944 - 1948
Herbert F. West	1945 - 1948
Joseph P. Finnegan*	1948 - 1950
W. Alistair MacDonald	1948 - 1951
Haller Lewis	1948 - 1950
John A. Milne	1949 - 1954
Vincent McCoy*	1950 - 1951
John J. Laden*	1950 - 1957
Theodore F. Schraft	1950 - 1965
Theodore Hinds	1951 - 1952 & 1965 - 1972
Ferdinand T. MacCracken	1951 - 1953
William Evans	1952 - 1956
Richard Kelly*	1954 - 1985
Clarence Crumn	1956 - 1959
William Wagner	1957 - 1962
Seymour Young	1959 - 1960
Edwin J. Sayres	1960 - 1964 & 1966 - 1983
Leslie B. Veader*	1960 - 1974 & Emeritus 1974 - 1983
William Schmitz	1963 - 1983
John Apgar	1971 - 1981
George Jones Jr.	1974 - 1989
John Chaney*	1981 - 1996
Henry Adamczyk	1983 - 1985
George Elliott	1983 - 1988
Thomas Bosica	1985 - 1997
Joseph Morzenti	1985 - 1990
James McCloskey*	1988 - 2000
Raymond Cole	1989 - 1992
Warren Petko	1990 - 2002
John C. Anzul*	1992 -
Raymond Browne	1996 - 2001
John Artigliere	1997 - 2002
Paul Burke	2001 -
James Kuligowski	2001 -
Barbara Meehan	2002 - 2005
Joseph Nally	2002 -
Julie Ann Woods	2005 -