



*A Fraternal Order*

## April - Bristol County Lodge # 1860 Vol. 18 #4

*Exalted Ruler - Michael J Bugarra- [mjbugara@hotmail.com](mailto:mjbugara@hotmail.com)*

*Leading Knight.....Cathy Keighley  
Loyal Knight.....Brian Joinson  
Lecturing Knight.....Mark Felag  
Secretary.....Jeff Brackett, PER  
Esquire.....Tina Mauck*

*Tiler.....Kenneth Soares  
Inner Guard.....Adela Felag  
Chaplain.....Patty Rodriguez  
Treasurer.....Bill Mitchell, PER  
Vocalist.....Peter Fucito, PER, PDD*

**Lodge Committees 23-24 Chairmen**  
Trustees Rick Baccus, PDD, PSP,  
Chairman [rickbaccus@cox.net](mailto:rickbaccus@cox.net)  
Ken Soares, Trustee, David Cioe,  
PDD, PSP, GLC, Trustee Patti Baccus  
PDD, PER., Trustee Dick Devault,  
PER, Trustee

Accident Prevention Chairman  
Dick Devault, PER [dickdev@aol.com](mailto:dickdev@aol.com)

Americanism Chairman  
Nina Murphy [ninamillriver@gmail.com](mailto:ninamillriver@gmail.com)

Auditing Chairman  
Nick Puniello [nick@cpapd.com](mailto:nick@cpapd.com)

By-Laws Chairman  
Peter Fucito [pete.fucito@gmail.com](mailto:pete.fucito@gmail.com)

Community Activities Chairman  
VACANT

Drug Awareness Program  
Leanne Craven [leanneecraven@gmail.com](mailto:leanneecraven@gmail.com)

East Bay Cares Chairman  
David Cioe, PDD, PSP, GLC  
[info@dcind.com](mailto:info@dcind.com)

Elks National Foundation (ENF)  
Rick Baccus, PDD, PSP  
[rickbaccus@cox.net](mailto:rickbaccus@cox.net)

Golf Chairman - Bud Luther  
[bud@lutherswelding.com](mailto:bud@lutherswelding.com)

Government Relations Chairman  
Antonio Texeira  
[mrtonytexeira@gmail.com](mailto:mrtonytexeira@gmail.com)

Hoop Shoot  
Mark Tucker [mjtucker4@yahoo.com](mailto:mjtucker4@yahoo.com)

Investigation Chair. - Al Thorton  
[outnumbered\\_6to1@yahoo.com](mailto:outnumbered_6to1@yahoo.com)

Public Relations - Karen Marsh  
[kjmarsh1010@gmail.com](mailto:kjmarsh1010@gmail.com)

Scholarship, Dick Devault, PER  
[dickdev@aol.com](mailto:dickdev@aol.com)

Special Needs Chairman - Brian  
Joinson [joinsonb@yahoo.com](mailto:joinsonb@yahoo.com)

Technology Chairman Peter  
Fucito [pete.fucito@gmail.com](mailto:pete.fucito@gmail.com)

Youth Activities Chairman  
Michelle Medeiros  
[michmich.medeiros@gmail.com](mailto:michmich.medeiros@gmail.com)

Veterans Chairman  
Ginny Hanson [fghanson@aol.com](mailto:fghanson@aol.com)

Soccer Chairman  
Ken Soares [KMS625@cox.net](mailto:KMS625@cox.net)

Past E.R. Association David Cioe  
PDD, PSP, GLC [info@dcind.com](mailto:info@dcind.com)

*This will be my first opportunity to welcome you all as your new Exalted ruler for Bristol county Elks Lodge # 1860. I truly want to thank Dick Devault for his dedication to our great lodge this past year.*

*It has had its challenges coming out of the last 2 years with the COVID issues and restarting the Lodge back to opening full time again. The House committee has exceeded the expectations of past years in reopening to our members. The teamwork was above expectations and the sales have exceeded those of past years. Well Done! This was accomplished by the Bristol Elks Lodge #1860 members working together to draft new ideas, work to implement them, and continue to expand upon what has been accomplished so far.*

*Thanks to Cathy Keighley for her efforts in the Community Activities for the backpack and hat/ mittens drive for the community. We will need a replacement for her this year as she is stepping up on the state level and will be our Leading Knight. Even though Cathy is stepping away from chairing the Community Activities Committee she will continue with a project that was started earlier this year. The lodge will be hosting a free prom dress event for 3 area high school seniors. Work on this project will start this coming September. More info to follow.*

*Our Queen of Hearts Raffle will be starting up again soon with a new automated ticket machine to be located in the lounge area. This way you can purchase your tickets for the Queen of Hearts anytime and then place your ticket halves into the provided container nearby for the drawings. We have many upcoming events to look forward to. Our raffles to help organizations like East Bay cares, meat raffles, the gas card raffle, Brody the comfort dog, the Caribbean Party, and July 4<sup>th</sup>. All wonderful events that help make this Lodge the envy of other lodges in the area.*

*I must also thank all of our officers, our secretary, and the treasurer who make this lodge run smoothly for you. Any ideas for an event or project you might like to see the Lodge undertake for the community please let me or any of your lodge officers know. I do need your help in moving these projects forward. With over 2000 members I'm sure we can find some volunteers.*

*Please continue to support our Veterans and Chairwoman Ginny Hanson and the great work she has done this past year. With your help and support and a little volunteering this year you will keep the Bristol County Elks Lodge the best one in our area and hopefully in the country.*

*I'm looking forward to being your exalted ruler this coming year so please feel free to contact me by email to: [mjbugara@hotmail.com](mailto:mjbugara@hotmail.com). Put Elks #1860 in the subject line so it does not go to my Spam folder.*

*Please attend our monthly meeting so your stay informed and have a say in running your lodge.*

*Remember to show your card to your bartenders for service and sign ANY guest you bring into the Lodge. Vic's Harborside is waiting for you to sample some of his new creations. Come enjoy your Lodge!*

*Mike Bugara ER.*

# Secretary's Message – April

*Fellow Elks,*

*The new fraternal Elks year is under way and the response to the dues billing has been very successful. Thank you to the members who have generously donated to the optional funds along with your membership dues. Over 1,600 of our members are already paid. If you are not in possession of an Elks membership card with a "RED" key card you are delinquent in your dues and are not entitled to enter the lounge even as a guest. REMINDER DUES ARE NOW \$110.*

*With many, many membership cards to process, an occasional human error may occur. If you did not receive your membership card within 2 weeks of submitting your dues, please contact the secretary's office. If you have not received your dues notice please contact us. We ran out of "East Bay Cares" stickers and have placed an order for more. They will be placed behind the bar when they arrive.*

*We also finally received the candidate American Flags, so if you did not receive one at your Initiation, please plan to attend a future meeting and it will be presented to you. My personal thanks to all who volunteered their time and assisted with the processing of the membership cards.*

*Fraternally,  
Jeff Brackett, PER  
Lodge Secretary*

## **Proposition for LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

*Having met all the necessary qualifications and having submitted a request, Joseph Perry #950, Dennis Barnes #1814 and Ray Castigliero #1538 are hereby proposed for LIFE MEMBERSHIP. To be balloted upon by the membership at the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting*

## **Ballotting on Candidates**

*The following applications for membership will be referred to the Investigating Committee and will be balloted upon by the Lodge at the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting*

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Occupation</b></u>	<u><b>Sponsor</b></u>
Jane Viscolisi	Yoga Teacher	Larry Viscolisi
Mark Aiksnoras	Electrical Engineer	John McMahon
Frank Andrews	IT Director	Patti Ryone
Julie Chalue	Realtor	Jose Couto
Raymond Murray	Pharmacist	Patti Ryone
Erin Kopecky	Registered Nurse	Mary Ellen Kee
Marc Proto	Senior Manager	Andrew Robinson
Jeffrey Smith	retired	Martin Boarder
Steven Cipolla	Real Estate	Michael Clancey

## **Applications on Hand**

*Applications have been received from the following and their names have been added to the waiting list*

117. Ellen Bao	121. Charles Connolly, II
118. Anne Speroni	122. Michelle Travassos
119. Joan Alfano	123. Albano Travassos
120. Nick Guercia (Reinstatement)	

## **IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

*As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, the membership of Bristol County Lodge #1860 exceeds the 2,000 members mark meaning we must observe the cap in membership for another 12 months. We have however, learned of a provision in the Grand Lodge Statutes that does allow for the addition of 9 new members (if they are available) even in Lodges that maintain a membership cap. We will bring in the first 9 applicants on the waiting list as new members in the month of May.*



## HOUSE HAPPENINGS

**SHE'S BACK!**



**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

RAFFLE

STARTING APRIL 4TH

**TUESDAY NIGHT  
DRAWINGS  
AT 7 PM**

THE BRISTOL ELKS LODGE

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**Sunday Funday**

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Sunday April 2nd - 3 to 6 pm

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CELEBRATION

Friday May 5th - Noon to Close

Mexican Drinks and Food Specials **ALL DAY!**



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**Saturday April 8th at 7:30 pm**

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### **BRISTOL COUNTY ELKS EAST BAY CARES PROGRAM NEWS**

Our Lodge recently applied for one of the Community Outreach Grants offered through St. Michael's Episcopal Church. These Grants are targeted to provide services to the disadvantaged populations in Bristol and surrounding communities. Our application was approved and accepted and we have been awarded \$3,000.00 towards our Lodge's East Bay Cares Program! Our program is the longest running ENF Impact Grant program in the entire country and it is depended on to help alleviate food insecurity in our communities. We will be able to well-use this Grant to purchase more food items for distribution through our program.



Our sincere thanks to Rev. Canon Michael J. Horvath, Parish Administrator Loretta Francis and their Committee for their consideration and acceptance of our application. We are most grateful for your help, support and award. Together, we will continue our mission to help alleviate food insecurity in our communities, showing once again that Elks Care, Elks Share!

David Cioe, PSP, PGLC

East Bay Cares Chairman

### **April Meetings**

***Monday, April 10 @7pm,  
Business Meeting***

***Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> @11am,  
Investigation***

***Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm,  
Business Meeting***

### **May Meetings**

***Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @7pm,  
Business Meeting***

***Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> @7pm.  
Orientation***

***Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7pm,  
Business Meeting - Initiation***

**The next Elks Veterans Committee meeting is Tuesday 18 April, 7pm downstairs in the lodge. We will like your impute and ideas on the coming events. We thank all of you for making the raffle fund raiser a success.**

**Ginny Hanson, Chair & Mike Rodrigues, Vice Chair**

### ***Sickness and Distress***

***Our Sympathies to the families of Arthur Levesque, Vincent Dennino and William Bothelo.***

***Sometimes we fail to mention someone who is in the hospital or sick. To keep all of our members updated, please all me at 401-935-5966 or email me at [ahozempa@gmail.com](mailto:ahozempa@gmail.com)***

***Thank you!  
-Aggie Hozempa***

### ***YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS***



***The Board of Directors next meeting is scheduled to be on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm. The meeting will be in person at the Lodge. The PER Association will also meet at 6:30 pm.***

***Rick Baccus, [rickbaccus@cox.net](mailto:rickbaccus@cox.net) cell 401.413.6281***



## **Meat Raffles Raise \$4,000 for ENF**

*Thank you to all the members who support the Bristol Meat Raffles in January, February, and March. We raised over \$4,000 for the Elks National Foundation. These were so successful that we are planning to host them again in May and June. Please participate and if you want to have your ticket sales count as a contribution to the Foundation, make sure to see me to sign up!*

*For more information please contact me at [rickbaccus@cox.net](mailto:rickbaccus@cox.net). Rick Baccus, ENF Chair*



## **MEAT RAFFLE AT THE ELKS LODGE**

THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION WILL BE HOSTING THE RAFFLE IN **2023** ON:

**SATURDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>**

## **LAST CHANCE TO WIN BEFORE THE SUMMER BREAK**

**2:00 TO 5:00 PM**

**DISCOUNT TICKET SPECIAL IS AVAILABLE UNTIL 2:30 (\$25 OF TICKETS FOR \$20).**

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It was a warm spring day in late March when more than more two dozen tuxedo-clad men and women, their chests gleaming with the gold and silver jewels of office, gathered at Elks Lodge 1860 in Bristol, RI, to witness the installation of the lodge's newly elected Exalted Ruler, Mike Bugara.

Bugara, a Navy veteran and longtime resident of Little Compton, RI, rose through three ranks of knights to earn the lodge's highest office — and the coveted parking space that comes with it.

He inherits the office from Dick Devault, under whose leadership the lodge expanded its membership, set fund-raising records and boosted the lodge's food programs, veteran's activities and community affairs.

"Dick Devault left some big footprints for me to follow," says Bugara. "I'd be lucky to get half as much done as he has this past year."

"'Exhalted Ruler Mike,' how does that sound?" Bugara was asked after receiving the lodge's Gavel of Power. "It sounds funny," he said. "But not as funny 'The Great Poobah,' which is what my wife calls me now."

Below: Devault and Bugara. (Photo credit: Phil Elmer)





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