



Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks

HIGHTSTOWN LODGE #1955



September, 2017 NEWSLETTER

Brothers and Sisters,

Summer is here and it has been hot, pretty hot, and then there was Reno. No day under 90, but no humidity, not too bad.

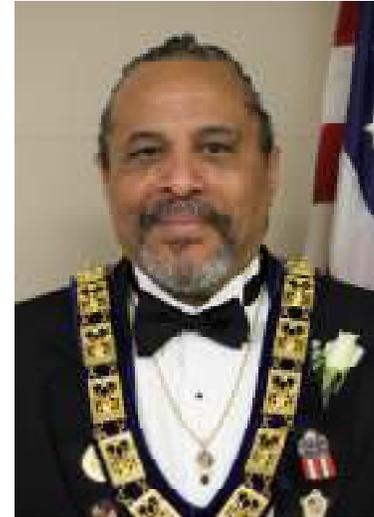
We had a great time and met lots of new faces, got to participate in the celebration of installing our new Grand Exalted Ruler. The New Jersey boy done pretty good, to say the least. As we watched him being installed, some of us felt extremely proud. All in all, the entire trip was very exciting and informative. I will have the newsletters and pamphlets in the lodge for your reading pleasure. It would have been there sooner, except for my move.

On August 11th, we all got together for a farewell party for our members Karen and Lynn. We wish them well on their journey south and for their new life in Florida.

We have a few exciting things coming up that you should come out to participate in. We are hosting a quarter mania on September 22nd to support Ron Mangone who is running for the office of State President. The Army of Hope picnic is on September 10th at Lacey lodge. Tickets are available at the lodge. Whiffle ball and volleyball tournaments are being held run by Mercer county sports club, and let's not forget the lodge game nights. There has been corn hole games, pool shooting, dart throwing, and just plain old fun, hanging at the lodge.

Please, come down and join the party, have a few laughs and partake in the comradery, share a few refreshments with friends, I dare you.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Crispus Huling, Exalted Ruler



Exalted Ruler Crispus Huling

Officers for 2017-2018

Exalted Ruler	Cris Huling
Leading Knight	Lou Gamba, PER
Loyal Knight	Sandee D'Abbraccio
Lecturing Knight	Debbie Obst
Esquire	Anthony D'Abbraccio
Tiler	Meaghan Benci
Inner Guard	Lori Kelty
Chaplain	Stacey Sanchez
Secretary	Pat O'Brien
Treasurer	Bill Lawler
1 Year Trustee	Luella Scott, PER
2 Year Trustee	Donna Vogt, PER
3 Year Trustee	John Sanchez, PER
4 Year Trustee	Rich Bloemeke
5 Year Trustee	Tim Byrne

**110 Hickory Corner Road East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-448-9794**

Regular business meetings are the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8pm (except in July, August & December).
The Board of Directors, the House Committee, and the Lodge Activities Committee meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Committee Chairs for 2017-2018

Audit & Accounting Bob O'Brien

Activities Debbie Obst

Blood Drives Lori Kelty/ Tom McGeachen
 Drug Awareness Wayne Varga
 ENF Bob O'Brien
 Government Relations John Sanchez
 Public Relations Mark Nebbia
 Special Children Steve Drake
 Youth Activities Tim Byrne
 Scholarship Terry Pycior
 Boy Scouts John Nieradka
 Batter Up Tim Byrne
 Hoop Shoot Tim Byrne
 Soccer Shoot Tim Byrne

Fraternal Debbie Obst

Americanism Lori Bernas
 Army of Hope Luella Scott
 Convention Pat O'Brien
 Elks Memorial Service Pat O'Brien
 Flag Day John Nieradka
 Member Indoctrination Pat O'Brien
 Member Investigation Cris Huling / John Sanchez
 Membership Recruitment Sandee D'Abbraccio
 Member Retention Sandee D'Abbraccio
 Nat'l Veterans' Service Jeff Bernas
 Parade Pat O'Brien
 Visiting/Birthdays Bob O'Brien

Board of Directors Cris Huling / Donna Vogt

Accident Prevention Tim Byrne
 Bar Manager Maria MacLean
 Booking Manager Maria MacLean

Major Events

Fish Frydays Ken MacLean / Pat O'Brien
 Comedy Night Lori Kelty
 Derby Day Jim Dailey
 Flea Market Anthony & Sandee D'Abbraccio
 Cigar & Swig Bob O'Brien
 Massage & Martini Donna Vogt
 Super Bowl Sunday Pat O'Brien
 Paint & Sip Pat O'Brien
 Murder Mysteries Maria MacLean

Elks Book Club (ENF) Bob O'Brien / Donna Vogt

PER Association Donna Vogt

Webmaster Rodger Lippman
Newsletter Editor Bob O'Brien

September Meetings

Tuesday, Sept. 5th - Lodge Regular Business Meeting
 (Hall 8:00PM)

Monday, Sept. 11th - District Meetings (ENF, SCC)
 (Hightstown Lodge 8:00PM)

Tuesday, Sept. 12th - Lodge Board of Directors Meeting
 (Bar 7:00PM)

Tuesday, Sept. 19th - Lodge Regular Business Meeting
 (Hall 8:00PM)

Tuesday, Sept. 26th - Elks Book Club
 (Better Beginnings 5:30PM)

All Lodge Meetings are in this color.
 All Special Events are in this color.
 All District Meetings are in this color.



Hey Members! Check out our
 Lodge website at www.elks1955.org

Webmaster—Rodger Lippman



We're on Twitter

Keep up with the latest happenings at
 Hightstown Lodge by following [@elks1955](https://twitter.com/elks1955).



We are on Facebook! Look up Hightstown Elks
 Lodge #1955 and join us as we find more ways to
 let you know what's going on in our Lodge

REMINDER!!!

Every Lodge event must be approved by the
 Lodge Activities Committee and the House
 Committee prior to scheduling. Make sure you
 allow enough time to come before the
 Committees. If you'll need a Cash Advance,
 remember it must be voted on at a business meeting
 before the event!



WE'RE BACK!!!

After a brief (year-long?!) hiccup, you can
 expect monthly newsletters once more—but we
 need you to make it worthwhile. All submissions
 are due no later than the 25th of each month,
 please email them to
hightstownelks@gmail.com.



A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler Hon. Malcolm J. McPherson, Jr.

With summer winding down and your Lodge meetings and fall programs starting up again, there's no better time to focus on an important aspect of Elkdom: membership. We cannot sustain our organization without installing new Members, and by focusing on membership growth at

your Local Lodge, you are investing in the future of the Order.

Membership is key to my theme of "Strengthening Elkdom Through Community Awareness," since there can be no community without Members. At the local level, I encourage all Lodges to actively promote new Member recruitment at your upcoming fall events, and I call on officers and committees to lead the charge in creating programming and opportunities to involve new faces.

When your existing Members are engaged and excited to lend a hand, it generates interest in joining the Order, as well as shines a positive light on your Lodge within your greater community, county and state. A Lodge that successfully recruits and retains will be better poised to respond to helping those in need.

There are many ways to practice the three R's. Recruit new Members from your circle of friends and family, invite non-members to Elks events, and further promote the Elks organization at all events by setting up a membership and public relations information table.

Retain your current membership by working with officers and Members to keep your Lodge active in the community with monthly charitable and social events, and enlist the help of each and every Member to help run these functions. Teamwork boosts morale and keeps Members happy to be part of the group.

With these practices in place, your Lodge will be set up for success, as we have in the past 150 years, to respond to the needs of your community and ultimately fulfill your organization's goals.



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

The new Elks year is in full swing, and some of you have already started doing your part by supporting ENF.

Our goals for the 2017-2018 are...

- **Meet the GER and State President per-capita goals**
- **A Lodge-Wide Giving Goal of \$2500**
- **A Member Participation Rate of 20%**

To date, our Lodge-wide giving amounts to **\$518** (a per-capita amount of **\$3.03**). This amount has been cumulatively donated by a mere **8.8%** of our membership.

One of the best ways to contribute is to commit to a pledge of **\$10 a year for 10 years**. That's all it takes — less than 3 cents per day. You pay more in sales tax on your morning cup of coffee. You can go to enf.elks.org/donate and enter your pledge online. Have your membership card handy, and be sure to enter your Lodge and Member number so ENF can properly credit your participation to the Lodge. Or, if you prefer, you can send your donation to the Lodge (mark "attn ENF Chair") and we'll post it and ensure you are properly credited with ENF.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



2017-2018 DUES ARE DUE!

Annual dues, including per-capita assessments, for the current Elk Year are \$73.00. If you haven't paid yet, please do so ASAP!!!

For your convenience, regular members can pay via PayPal on our Lodge Website at www.elks1955.org. (A nominal processing fee of \$2.45 is added for PayPal transactions. (We're sorry that we can't handle Life Members via PayPal at this time.)

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you have not yet received your Dues Statement, please contact me at lightstownelks@gmail.com. I keep regular office hours every Tuesday evening from 8pm to 11pm. If you have lost your membership card or need information, please come see me. If you need membership applications, they are available at the Lodge and in the office. Initiation fee is \$60.00 and the annual dues are \$73.00.

Yours in Elkdom,
Pat O'Brien, Lodge Secretary

Special Notice **Regarding** **A Loan to Cover** **Roof Repairs**

At the Regular Business Meeting on **Tuesday, September 5th, 2017**, the Board of Directors will introduce a Resolution authorizing the Lodge to enter into a Loan Agreement in order to secure funds needed to replace the roof of the Lodge building.

After it is introduced, the Resolution will be published to the entire membership no later than September 9th. If you receive your newsletter via email, you will receive the Resolution via email from the Lodge Secretary. If you receive your newsletter via regular postal mail, a copy of the resolution has been included.

We anticipate that a VOTE on the Resolution will be held at the Regular Business Meeting on **Tuesday, September 19th, 2017**.

If you wish to participate in discussion and/or vote, please make sure you are at one or both of these meetings.

Special Notice **Regarding** **Changes to By-** **Laws and House** **Rules**

At the Regular Business Meeting on **Tuesday, September 5th, 2017**, the By-Law Committee will introduce a Resolution authorizing the Lodge to amend By-Laws and House Rules.

After it is introduced, the Resolution will be published to the entire membership no later than September 9th. If you receive your newsletter via email, you will receive the Resolution via email from the Lodge Secretary. If you receive your newsletter via regular postal mail, a copy of the resolution has been included.

We anticipate that a VOTE on the Resolution will be held at the Regular Business Meeting on **Tuesday, September 19th, 2017**.

If you wish to participate in discussion and/or vote, please make sure you are at one or both of these meetings.



Results of BLOOD DRIVE #24

Thank You to all that helped and/or donated blood at the August 19 2017 Red Cross blood drive: Charlie Stecher, Helen Bagnall, Luella Scott, Bill Lawler, Mark Nebbia, Margie Nebbia, Anthony D'Abbraccio, Lynda Valluzzo, Jeff Bernas, Julie Ely, & Matt Palmere.

We passed our goal of 42 donors with a total of 45 donors.

The next Elks Blood Drive will in late Jan 2018 or early Feb 2018. In our 24 blood drives during the last twelve years we have help save 3,450 persons with the total of 1,150 blood donations. During this past 12 years we have averaged ~ 50 donors per blood drive, not too bad!

Also Wayne Vargas has agreed to be a co-coordinator with me for the Elks Lodge 1955 blood drives. This way there are two of members just in case something happens to one coordinator.

Thanks

Tom McGeachen (co-coordinator & 16-gallon donor)

"It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

Be a part of your Lodge and come to these events!!

SENSELESS KNOWLEDGE - TRIVIA NITE

Friday, September 15th at 8:00PM

Challenge your ability to recall all that fun, but generally useless knowledge that you've acquired over the years. Come down and find out if you're up to the challenge! \$3 per person to play.

SPECIAL CHILDRENS COMMITTEE ROAST

Saturday, September 16th Doors open at 6PM / Dinner at 6:30 / Roast at 7

Make sure you're on hand to hear all of the "tributes" that our own Lou Gamba will be receiving from the trail of Elk acquaintances he's made in all his past lodges and during all his district and state office tenures. See attached flyer for details.

QUARTER-MANIA PADDLE AUCTION

Friday, September 22nd. Doors open at 6PM; Event starts at 7PM

Hightstown Lodge will be hosting a District-wide event to help raise funds to support Ron Mangone's run for State President. See attached flyer for details.

COUNTRY LINE DANCING

To Be Determined

We've had a few people express interest in a Country Line Dancing event at the Lodge — an opportunity for some folks to strut their stuff, and for others to learn how! If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please drop a line to us at hightstownelks@gmail.com. If enough people are interested, we'll make it happen!

**Just because we don't have a lot of "events" going on doesn't mean we're not around!
Come down to the Lodge any Friday night for some friendship and company!**

For up-to-date info, check our Lodge website at <http://www.elks1955.org>
Or sign up as fan on Facebook on Hightstown Elks BPOE #1955!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!



Here's our August list of birthday celebrations:

George Epp
Fred Setneska
Joseph Underwood
Jeff Jerry
Thomas Reilly

Sgt. Justin McNulty
Alan Setneska
Ben Nicholas
Vince Elorza

Robert Peterla
Lou Gamba
Jim Dailey
Barney Jones

And here's our September birthday folks:

Bret Kardos
Dave Chmielewski
Lori Kelty
Rich Janni
Craig Lippman

Missy Iacobelli
Eric Marozine
Santee D'Abbraccio
Leo Meisberger

Lynn Van Ost
Frank Caravella
John Donnelly
Amy Pickett

Look for your birthday card—and a gift from the Lodge—in the mail soon.

HIGHTSTOWN LODGE 1955 SCC COMMITTEE PRESENTS

THE ROAST OF THE YEAR!



COME OUT AND HELP US ROAST
LOU "THE WEASEL" GAMBA

PASTA DINNER HA HA!

CASH BAR

LOTS OF LAUGHTER



SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

HIGHTSTOWN LODGE

DOORS OPEN 6PM

FOOD AT 6:30PM

ROAST BEGINS 7PM

\$15 PER PERSON

FOR TICKETS CONTACT

LOU GAMBA

609-638-8966

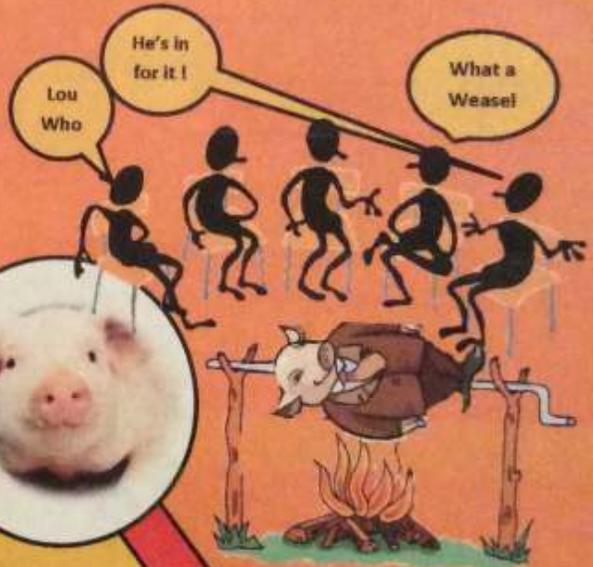
ANYONE WISHING TO BE A

ROASTER PLEASE CONTACT

ELLEN WECKENBROCK AT

609-775-7574

ALL ARE WELCOME



Hightstown Lodge #1955
is hosting a **QUARTER MANIA AUCTION**
to help offset the cost of Ron Mangone's Campaign Fund



Mark your calendar and start saving your quarters. We will be auctioning off gifts using quarters. Your \$10 Entrance Fee entitles you to a numbered paddle. A ping pong ball with your matching paddle number will be placed in the drawing bucket. Additional paddles will be available for sale. An item will be announced along with the number of quarters you will need to put in the pot in order to be in the drawing for the prize. A ball will be selected and if the corresponding paddle is in the air, you win the prize. If the paddle is not in the air another number will be drawn.



FOOD WILL BE SOLD



50/50

No outside food or drinks may be brought in.

Prizes are being collected now to be used at this event.

If you would like to donate a gift, please contact Hightstown Lodge.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND START SAVING YOUR QUARTERS!

Come join us for food, laughs, and play to win a prize!

Friday, September 22, 2017

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Event starts at 7 p.m.



HIGHTSTOWN ELKS LODGE #1955

110 Hickory Corner Road; Hightstown, NJ 08520

To reserve a table or for more information contact:

Donna Vogt 917 754 0422