



**BRIGANTINE LODGE # 2428**

# **ANTLERS NEWSLETTER**

[www.brigantineelks.com](http://www.brigantineelks.com)

**June 2020 Volume 12- No. 6**

### **MONTH EVENTS**

**None scheduled at this time. Please check the Weekly Digest for the latest updates.**

**June 14**

**Flag Day**

**June 21**

**Father's Day.**



**Pat Orchard  
Exalted Ruler**

### **To My Brothers and Sisters,**

I hope this newsletter find you and your loved ones safe and healthy. We know these times are unprecedented with indefinite questions on when and where normality will occur. However, the support of the Community and all our members has been positive, caring, and eager to continue the work of the Brigantine Lodge to the Community and all Elks charities.

The past 2 months appear to have been longer than usual and often lonely with social distancing and stay at home orders. But as our cardinal principles of Brotherly love and charity, the Lodge has been responding to assisting our members and other community residents. Keeping in contact with those who are "shut in", helping to deliver packages in partnership with the True Spirit Coalition, sending funds to both the Community Food Bank and True Spirit Coalition to provide for those less fortunate, and making and delivering masks to many residents in the Community are some of the actions our membership continue to perform. The Board of Directors continue to monitor Lodge finances. The Officers are developing and planning Lodge programs. The House Committee implemented a new "bar system" and acoustics in the lounge. The Committee chairs are re-evaluating their budgets and planned activities for events once the State of New Jersey gives approval for gathering. All these activities are getting the Lodge ready for opening according to the requirements of the State of New Jersey.

We are unsure what the requirements for reopening will involve. There may be a need to utilize volunteers to assist in the Lodge operations. Volunteers to help with signing members into the Lodge (in the event any contact tracing may be required), maintain the many infection prevention best practices (such as wiping down tables after individual use, collecting used glassware after patron use to prevent the bartenders from handling contaminated items, etc.) and reminding members of social distancing will be just a few of the many tasks. We hope we can count of many of you to volunteer some time over the next few months after we receive the approval to open. Our opening times may be restricted, and the number of members allowed into the Lounge many be reduced. This is not a situation the Lodge has ever experienced. However, the safety of our members and the Community are paramount. Please let us know if you are willing to assist in volunteering some time by contacting me or any officer.

By the time you receive this newsletter, I hope the Lodge will be opening or at least have some idea when that opening will happen. All June events are cancelled at this time. Information on July events will be sent out as soon as July regulations are received. Please contact me if you or any member requires assistance during this time.

Keep safe and healthy. I look forward to being together soon.

Fraternally, Pat



**BRIGANTINE ELKS LODGE  
#2428**

400 WEST SHORE DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 44  
BRIGANTINE, NJ 08203  
(609) 266-9826  
(609) 266-7108 FAX  
HFMGIII@MSN.COM

**EXALTED RULER**  
PAT ORCHARD  
exalted\_ruler@  
brigantineelks.com

**SECRETARY**  
JEANNE DI CECCO  
secretary@brigantineelks.  
com

**ANTLERS NEWSLETTER**  
DENNIS REILLY  
JUDY STEBBINS

**WEB MASTER**  
DAVID WEINER  
webadmin@  
brigantineelks.com

**OPERATIONS MANAGER**  
DON MILLER  
DMILL1@YAHOO.COM  
609-266-9826

**Board of Directors**

No update at this time. Pat Orchard—Chair, Board of Directors

**Veterans Services-Joe Kelly-Chair**



Our Lodge Wreath was presented by Jeanne Di-Cecco and Navy Veteran Mike Dooner at the Brigantine Memorial Day Service



**PLANNED EVENTS:** events are contingent on regulations. Stay tuned.

- July 22 Bowling Party at the Vineland Veterans Home
- Aug 5 Picnic at Vineland Veterans Home
- Aug 13 Prep, deliver and serve Dinner at Veterans Haven-South.

**Lodge Events**

**Lounge News Update**

**Need to notify the Lodge Secretary of a change in your email address, home address or phone number??**

You may now submit your changes while in the Lounge. A clear plastic box with paper and pencil has been located next to the guest log book by the entrance. Please try and keep your contact information current so you are knowledgeable about all the upcoming Lodge events and activities.

**ELKS CARE - Mask Distribution**

The Elks' support of mask distribution continues throughout the community. Many citizens are very appreciative to get free masks that can be washed and reused. However, the seamstresses could use more support and materials as the demand continues. If anyone has sewing talents and would like to create some masks, please let me know. If any members have any cotton materials (clean old sheets or other sewing remnants), those can be utilized for masks. We may be using masks for some time to come so please let us know if you or others need masks.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The finance group has filed two applications for assistance through the small business administration (Lodge and 501c3) as well as a payroll protection program application. The finance group has also prepared and presented a source and application of cash schedule so we can better understand our future cash needs and determine what expenditures can be avoided. The finance group is in the process of working with TD Bank to determine if we can move our mortgage payments to later in the year. The finance group is also working with TD Bank to see if we can qualify for a line of credit.

**WEBSITES TO VISIT  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT THE ELKS**

www.brigantineelks.com  
www.elks.org  
www.njelks.com

**LOUNGE HOURS**

**CLOSED UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE**

**MEMBERS - PLEASE USE  
YOUR CARD KEY AT THE  
LOUNGE ENTRANCE. YOU  
MUST SIGN-IN ALL  
GUESTS PER NJ STATE  
ALCOHOL BEVERAGE  
COMMISSION.**

**REMEMBER  
"EACH MEMBER OF  
LODGE 2428 MUST CARRY  
HIS**

**PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP  
CARD FOR ADMITTANCE  
TO THE LODGE, AND HE  
SHALL**

**WILLFULLY DISPLAY HIS  
MEMBERSHIP CARD IF  
REQUESTED TO DO SO."**

**VOLUNTEERS****Spotlight for June**

The purpose of our Spotlight program is to recognize and thank those volunteers who have gone above and beyond expectations in their volunteer efforts in support of the Lodge. As everyone knows, thanks to the pandemic the Lodge has been closed to all events and activities. However, capital improvements and other corona virus related activities done under the watchful eye of Dave Biggins and by our volunteer members have continued. Members returning from the lockdown will notice (and appreciate!) new doors and new windows at the main entrance to the Lounge thanks to the hard work and expertise of **Mike and Joanne Dooner**. Significant improvements to our IT capabilities and the wiring to our sound systems and components in the Lounge was accomplished thanks to **Jim Hannan**. **Paul Kabala** has helped in general repairs, painting and power washing. **Dennis O'Connor** helped with painting and general support. **Dave Weiner** has significant IT skills and has been a great help. A new Point of Sale system has been installed in the Lounge and **our bartenders** have taken time to learn how it operates. **Dennis Faherty** is going through the entire facility cleaning and sanitizing all surfaces and walls in preparation for our reopening. **Tom Pantalena** has been involved in successfully moving a fully loaded freezer to a new location. When we finally open our Lodge again- and we will- please thank these fellow members for a job well done. If you would like to spotlight a fellow member, please contact Dennis Reilly [recognition\\_initiatives@comcast.net](mailto:recognition_initiatives@comcast.net).

**Volunteerism at Brigantine Elks Lodge**

As we begin to plan for the reopening of our Lodge, we will need to address changes to the way we interact while at the Lodge. The requirements mandated by the State of New Jersey such as social distancing, cleaning of surfaces and the wearing of masks will need to be adhered to if we are to be in compliance and be allowed to remain open. We will need a significant increase in the number of members who volunteer for these new jobs. Once we know what we are required to do, we will share this information with all our members along with what we feel we will need in terms of volunteers. Volunteerism is as important as ever as we begin the road back to normalcy. Your patience, understanding and support will be important to the success of this effort and is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally, **Pat Orchard**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Dear Members,

Your House Committee has been hard at work during these uncertain times, in anticipation of re-opening our Lodge as soon as we receive approvals. We have made a couple of organizational changes on the House Committee to better serve you. Dave Biggins is joining us as the new Lodge Operations and Lounge Manager. He will be responsible for running the bar, food services, and overall maintenance and upkeep to the Lodge. We welcome Dave and his experience running a facility like this one, and know he will be a great addition to our team. Don Miller will continue to be responsible for managing all of our Banquet engagements with a focus on keeping our banquet room full. I want to thank him for his tremendous work ethic regarding our Elks Lodge.

You will see many changes when we re-open. Our Lodge has been undergoing much needed repairs and painting both inside and out. Our new acoustic ceiling has made a huge difference in noise cancellation in the bar. New concrete is being poured outside to repair much of the old cracked sidewalks, as well as some new concrete pads. A new larger outdoor cooler will be installed near the back door of the Lodge next to the ice freezer. This will replace the old cooler that used to be in the back yard. Inside the Lodge we have updated our sound system to provide better flexibility in how we provide music, both inside and out. A big shout out to Jimmy Hannan for spearheading the effort. A new bar Point of Sale (POS) system has recently been installed in the Lounge. This will replace our dated cash register systems, and will provide for much easier order input, tracking, cash reconciliation, and inventory control. Future features include use of credit cards, and addition of food menus and ordering. Dave Biggins and several other officers have been trained on the system, and our bartenders are now undergoing training as well. We should be ready to serve you once the closure orders have been lifted. New banquet tables are also on order to complete the banquet room refurbishment.

Your Elks Officers, Trustees, and House Committee have also been engaged in ensuring your health safety when we re-open. You will see many changes put in place for entrance, sign-in, social distancing, ordering beverages, seating, etc. and other new procedures put in place to protect all of us from the current COVID-19 situation. Although this will be somewhat inconvenient, it is for your safety and must be enforced for us to be able to open the Lodge. We look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Respectfully, Keith Moore—Chairman, House Committee

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Thanks to the members sending their dues. We are up to 1153 paid. If you know of any member not current with their dues, please encourage them to contact me if they need assistance. We are mailing the cards out as soon as the checks come. Also please send any changes of address or email you may have to me as soon as possible. I can be reached at 610-420-4800 or [jjdicecco@comcast.net](mailto:jjdicecco@comcast.net). for any questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS EVENT

July 12th Cape May County Zoo visit (Free and open to the public) contingent on regulations. Stay tuned!

**Donna Fulmer-Special Needs Chair**

*Can't wait to use this fun stuff at the "future" Brigantine Elks Special Needs Committee event!! We are gonna have a great time when we get back out!!!*



Lodge Leader Program-Update

We are pleased to announce the **tentative scheduling** of our first class of the **Lodge Leaders Program, Shift Supervisors-Roles and Responsibilities**. As with all Lodge events, it is contingent on the Lodge being opened for business. The date of the class will be June 27, 2020, 10:00AM -12 Noon at the Lodge. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jeanne DiCecco at 610-420-4200 or [jjdicecco@comcast.net](mailto:jjdicecco@comcast.net).

Additional information updates will be sent through the Weekly Digest.

OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU

**ROSEMARIE BASILE SENDS CARDS TO ANY ELK WHO IS ILL OR IN DISTRESS. IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO COULD USE OUR HELP AND THOUGHTS, PLEASE LET ROSEMARIE BASILE-PH-856-419-3010 (H) KNOW. SHOULD A MEMBER PASS, THE OFFICERS WILL PERFORM AN ELKS FUNERAL SERVICE AT YOUR REQUEST. PLEASE CONTACT THE EXALTED RULER, PAT ORCHARD FOR ARRANGEMENTS@ 856-979-7334.**

**REMEMBERING LIFE MEMBER LENNY KACHUR**

John “Lenny” Kachur, 69, of Atlantic City passed away suddenly on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. Lenny was a Life Member of the Brigantine Elks Lodge exemplifying the spirit of Elks values. He was born in Elizabeth NJ and graduated from Ocean County College majoring in Civil Engineering. He was a commercial diver and a cosmetologist at the Christi Salon. As an Elks member, he entertained children as a balloon magician and he with his wife Terri coordinated the annual Children’s Christmas party at the lodge, where he made his famous balloon house. He was also a sailor, loved to cook, and traveled the world. Donations may be made in his name to our Elks Lodge #2428 Special Needs Committee, PO Box 44, Brigantine, NJ 08203. A memorial mass and Elks Service will be held at a later date.

**OUTDOOR AREA PREPARING TO OPEN!!**

We are pleased to announce that plans to reopen Elk Lodge 2428 are currently underway! Soon, members will be invited to resume activities, comradery, and fun at their favorite bay-front location. Pending the green flag from government officials, our lodge will open for outdoor dining and lounge facilities.

Careful consideration and new guidelines to ensure the safety of our large population of “mature” members will be implemented. Officers and committee members are eager to reopen in a way that invites members to gather while aligning to new state and city safety standards and social distancing recommendations.

**Reopening Safety Guidelines:**

- All members **must present membership card** at the front door to enter. Attendance will be recorded to facilitate new contact-tracing requirements.
- Lodge will open under limited capacity standards. Only members and spouses/significant others can enter to ensure proper social distancing.
- Masks are encouraged but not required.
- Precautions for social contact and the handling of food/drinks/money are being planned.

We miss seeing you! Since most of our notable summer events have been canceled due to the Corona Pandemic, your officers and committee members are diligently working to plan new and exciting but socially safe events. News on these events will follow soon.

**Stay tuned for a definitive reopening date!**



**ELKS CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**



After the COVID 19 shutdown, Elk Lodge 2428 plans to reopen under the new safety standards delineated by the state of NJ and the city of Brigantine. Under the new guidelines, the lodge will require some additional volunteers to assist with the reopening plans.

We are currently seeking to secure at least 25 volunteers to serve 4 hour shifts for our grand reopening, which will be scheduled as soon as Governor Murphy gives approval. Members can once again begin earning their volunteer hours toward next year’s boat slip privileges.

Remember: in order to earn next year’s boat slip privilege, members are required to volunteer a minimum of 25 hours before November of this year.

A variety of volunteer positions are available on various days and times and can be booked through contacting either Pat Orchard 856-979-7334 or Dennis Reilly 610-574-3138. Positions and shifts will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis.

BRIGANTINE LODGE #2428  
Benevolent and Protective  
ORDER OF ELKS  
United States of America  
P.O. Box 44  
Brigantine, NJ 08203



*Elks* Care — *Elks* Share

[www.brigantineelks.com](http://www.brigantineelks.com)