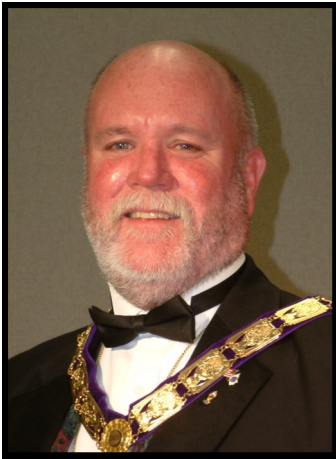


# Antlers

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of USA  
BRIGANTINE LODGE #2428



## Exalted Ruler's Message For March 2009

To my Brothers and Sisters,

It is amazing how as you get older the time flies by, it seems we just started the Lodge year and it's already coming to an end. When I look back and think about all the good things the members of this Lodge have labored to accomplish it gives me a real feeling of pride to be a part of all this. This Lodge was the impetus for the South District to purchase a retaining wall up at Camp Moore, the spring and fall trips up to the Camp were rewarding and really gave a sense of giving to those less fortunate.

Nashville Night, and St. Patty's Day, Wow! I don't think anyone who worked the

Clambake this year will forget it anytime soon. We all had a good time in Wildwood

at the Convention; the summer events did very well culminating with a great Bay fest! The members kept going right thru the fall and into the winter. Thru your efforts this summer there will be Green Head traps on the beaches along with four brand new Beach wheelchairs! We sent kids to Camp Moore, and the Peer Leadership Conference in Long Branch. The kids Christmas parties were fantastic; we had a fishing tournament, a Jazz fest, a Haunted House, a Wing off, a Soup contests, there were dances and parties to raise money for charity; the Veterans Committee is really fulfilling our motto of never to forget the Veterans of our country. The Lodges participation in the programs of the Elks Grand Lodge was very well done. The Officers doing the Ritual does matter. We have a website! Friday Food continues to bring friendship and fellowship, along with providing great food. We are putting our differences aside and working for the good of our Lodge, our Brotherhood, and each other. We donated a lot of money, had tons of fun, worked to improve our facility, and did many good things for our community, in the end isn't this what it's all about. Thank you all for your good works.

Fraternally, Dave PS: The new Lodge year starts April 1<sup>st</sup>.



## ST. Patrick's Day is coming!!



Bring the Family! That's right; the Brigantine Elks will be celebrating the big day on Saturday, March 14. We will kick off the festivities with refreshments at the Lodge starting at 10:00am. By 11:00ish we will be on the bus heading over to the Atlantic City Boardwalk to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Everyone who has walked the boards knows what a great time this is! We have a float and our own "Elks" band playing all the favorites. If you don't feel you can walk the whole parade route there is always room on the float. The bus will bring us back to the Lodge where the party will continue with an Irish Buffet dinner, refreshments, the band playing and a DJ. There is a signup board in the lounge. The cost for all the fun is \$20.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids. Chairwoman Sara Huff is thinking big, so get signed up while you can for a great day for the Irish, and those that wish they were.



# *ANTLERS ANECDOTES*

## **Trustees Report**

-- Congratulations to all the newly elected Lodge Officers. The Trustees are looking forward to the upcoming Lodge year and continuing to work with the members toward achievement of the goals of our lodge. The Trustees recently approved the expenditure of \$1100.00 for the purchase of a projector for the banquet room, which can be interfaced with our computers and video system. This will enhance our abilities to make large screen video presentations for meetings, veteran's visitations, and community events. Trustees Rick Pennestri, Paul Consorte and Nancy Tregnan met with city officials regarding our waterfront development application, which upon approval will permit dredging of our dock area. The entire board is in the process of reviewing this project. A reminder to slip holders - deposits are due March 1st. As always, the Trustees encourage input from our members on all matters within our purview. The next regularly scheduled Trustee meeting is **Thursday March 5th at 7:00 P.M.** All members are welcome. Submitted by: Nancy Tregnan, Trustee Chairperson

## **Americanism Committee Excels!**

Joanne Delaney and her committee had an outstanding year this Lodge year. The essay contest that we sponsor each year at Brigantine North School was very successful with over 115 entries, the special part was the Awards Ceremony held at our Lodge on December 4<sup>th</sup>. The winners read their Essays, the food was great, and there was a little ceremony honoring Dr. Bill Gussie for his years of service to our school. Then in February Joanne and members went to the grade school and handed out Patriotic coloring books and Pledge of Allegiance cards to the younger kids. Thanks to Joanne and her committee!

## **Lodge 2428 National Veterans Service Committee**

"SO LONG AS THERE ARE VETERANS, THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS WILL NEVER FORGET THEM" -- The goal of our Lodge National Veterans Service Committee is to help all of our nations Veterans. Last year we hosted Veterans from the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland as well as a number of local Veterans to join us for the Army/Navy Game. We also made a Christmas Trip to Vineland to spread some Christmas cheer.

Our plans for 2009 include: **March 12**-Pre-Saint Patrick's Day Trip to Vineland. We will be taking 10 cases of "O'Doul's" as well as some home made cookies and some Irish Potatoes. **June 14**-FLAG DAY-"DAY at the BAY" We will be hosting the Vineland Veterans as well as Local Veterans for an afternoon of :Sun bathing on the beach, Lounging by the bay or Fishing in the inlet [The Fishfinder]. We will start the event with a FLAG DAY CEREMONY followed by a picnic lunch and dinner. **December 12**-ARMY/NAVY GAME We will be hosting the Vineland Vets and local Vets to watch the Army/Navy Game and enjoy an afternoon of great food, Fun and Friendship. December (TBA) CHRISTMAS TRIP TO VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT VINELAND. Please consider joining our committee. You do not have to be a Veteran; you just need a strong desire to help enrich the lives of our country's Veterans. Contact ER Dave or Joe Kelly for more info.

## **United States Flag Code Rules and Regulations**

In the lounge next to the entrance door there is mounted on the wall, packets of The United States Flag code. If you are interested please take one, they are free. It includes commonly asked questions, and many pointers on displaying the flag.

## **Funeral Services**

A reminder to all members and their families, should a member pass away, the officers will perform the Elks Funeral Service, at the families request. Please contact the ER for arrangements.

## Brigantine Youth Alliance-March Canned Food Drive

If you don't already know this, the Brigantine Youth Alliance is a pooling of all youth groups in town. They meet monthly here at the Elks Lodge to plan ways in which the groups can support one another's efforts. They also discuss ways they can support our community. (They sound like Elks-in-training if you ask me!) Read on to find out what is cooking with the group right now! Your support is needed! The Brigantine Youth Alliance is having a canned food drive to assist the local area needy families by filling the Food Bank. There will be boxes in several locations on the island where you can drop off canned food. One place will be in the Elks Lodge. This will be a month long food drive. Please support the kids' efforts to help our community. Another initiative the kids came up with is what they call, "Bring your "CAN" to work days!" They are hoping that local businesses will support the idea by encouraging staff to bring at least one can of food to work on Fridays in March to support the youth effort. If the business-owner so chooses; he/she can then allow the staff who bring in cans to "dress-down" on those days. Then someone from the business can take the bag/box of cans to one of the drop-off points on the island or can call the Mandes Family to arrange pickup of the donation. We think the youth involved had a wonderful idea which will be a great success! We think they will bring our community together. Anyone interested in being a part of the youth committee, please contact Julie Mandes at 266-4119. Help is needed for future endeavors. Thanks. -Julie Mandes - Elk's Youth Coordinator

### Camp Moore

Make sure you mark your calendars; Brigantine Lodge along with the other Lodges in the South District will be going up to open Camp Moore on the weekend of April 24th, 25th and 26th. The Lodge will provide transportation, and Deerfield Lodge will be cooking and providing meals for all of us. We will leave the Lodge Friday at 10:00am and return Sunday in the mid afternoon. If you can't make Friday's liftoff usually a couple members come up on Friday evening or Saturday morning. We stay in cabins, but make sure you bring work gloves, and a sleeping bag! During the day we do whatever needs to be done to get the camp open. We could be raking leaves, painting, cleaning, or a hundred and one other jobs, make sure you bring gloves. After a good days work we sit around the campfire and share fellowship with our Brother and Sister Elks. When you leave on Sunday you have a great feeling and it stays with you for a few days.

### Stokes Breakfast

Members needed to help on Saturday, March 8th from 7:00am until 1:00pm with the annual breakfast; the event actually starts at 8:00am. We need cooks, servers, and a cleanup crew. The money raised sends The Brigantine North School Sixth Grade away to nature camp. Last year over \$11,000.00 Dollars were raised. What a great cause, giving parents a few days of piece and quiet!

### Nashville Country Music Night April 4th !!!!

A reminder that next month is the fifth annual Brigantine Elks Nashville Country Music Night. This year's event will be on Saturday, April 4th, from 8pm to midnight. It is \$25 and includes a buffet, beverages and dance lessons. Music will be provided by the 4 Wheel Drive Country Band -- a five-piece band with pedal steel guitar (see [www.4-wheeldriveband.com](http://www.4-wheeldriveband.com)). Tickets are available at the Lodge, or you can call 266-9826 or visit [www.brigantineelks.com](http://www.brigantineelks.com) for more information. The event benefits Special Needs Children's programs.



**Lodge Installs Members**  
Brigantine Lodge 2428 installed 16 new members on Saturday, Feb. 21. (pictured left). Congratulations!



**Pinewood Derby**  
Brigantine Lodge 2428 hosted its annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby on Jan.31. Pictured are scout leaders John Livesey and Gregory Mowen.

## Elks National Foundation

Brigantine Lodge received a letter this week congratulating us on meeting The Grand Exalted Rulers per capita goal of \$4.50 for the 2008/2009 Lodge year. Since it takes a little while for the Grand Lodge to catch up, when they do they will realize we have donated over \$9.21 per member to the ENF. Thanks to the membership, the donations our Lodge has made will be used to further Grand Lodge programs, Scholarships, Special Needs Children, Veterans, and the Youth of our country. Because the foundation only uses the interest earned on the endowment, every year the gift grows larger. For each Dollar the Lodges of New Jersey give to the National Foundation One Dollar and Twenty Five Cents is returned to the people of New Jersey through all ENF programs.

**Thanks!!! To all the hardworking members that made the Valentines Dinner a great Friday night.** The prime rib was perfect, and there was so much food that while there were a lot of doggie bags taken home, I don't think the dogs got too many of the leftovers. There were over 100 hundred dinners served in about two hours all prepared and served by John Hand and his crew of members along with two waitress volunteers. Nancy Muncer and all of her Friday Night Food volunteers deserve so much credit for taking on and seeing through such an undertaking. If you are interested in helping, stop in on a Friday night or call Nancy and let her know you are interested.

**Super Bowl** — Thanks to Barb Grube and all her helpers for making the Super Bowl Party such a good time. Karl Stock was high bidder for the t-shirt and hat autographed by the Philadelphia Eagles. Thanks to everyone who came out for the fun.

***Elk of the Year 2007/08 -- Rick Jacobs -- Thanks, You did another great job in 2008/09!***

**Hoop Shoot!** — **Hats off to Bucky Amend** for going up to Woodbridge High School, on Sunday Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> to compete against some of the best Free throw shooters in the state. After the first 10 shots Bucky was tied for first with a perfect 10 for 10. In the second round of 15 shots Bucky had a little bad luck in the middle and ended up 19 for 25 for the day. Still it was a great experience, and Bucky, his Parents, and Grandparents enjoyed themselves. Member Bill Amend, Bucky's dad was beaming after the contest. Even though Bucky didn't win he tried his best, and was a real ambassador for our island community. Congratulations and Thanks to Bucky Amend.

**The next time you stop in the Lodge as you are walking through the lounge vestibule take a breath, it will take a second to remember where you are. Don Miller and Kathy Joyce did a paint and fix up that makes you wonder where you are. It's beautiful, what a great job they did! Next up is the Game Room, everything's off the walls and it's ready to be started.**

**Sickness and Distress** (mid-January to mid-February 2009; Brother, **John Peacock** Passed away. He will be missed, but not forgotten!; **Beth Heenan**, had surgery, doing ok.; **Phyllis Glomb**, had surgery, George reports she is doing well; **Scott Harris** contracted pneumonia, is home and feeling better; **Bob Danenhower's Mom** passed away; **Bill & Christine Glose** – Best Wishes for “Mom” Glose entering a nursing home; **Terry Kachur's Mom** fell and broke her hip. She is in a Rehabilitation facility.

**Sickness and Distress:** Allyson Arnold is handling the sending of care packages, flowers, fruit baskets, etc. to any Elk who is sick or in distress. Please let her know as soon as possible if you know of someone who is in need of our help. Reach her at home at 266-1940, and feel free to leave a message. Her work number at the Beach Cab is 266-TAXI (8294).

**Congratulations!** Ralph Laltrella from The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6964 called me and asked about giving Joe Kelly an award for citizenship and the work he has done for the Vet's. I told Ralph a few of the things Joe has done and Ralph enthusiastically endorsed Joe for the award. Of course Ralph then asked if I could write something for Joe, this is what I gave Ralph for the VFW Citizenship award presentation.

Joe is a stalwart worker and doer at the Brigantine Elks Lodge, He donates his time for the betterment of those less fortunate. Joe became Chairman of the Elks National Veterans Commission almost a year ago, and in that time he has revitalized it. Under his direction Brigantine Lodge hosted members from the Vineland Veterans home to watch the Army/Navy game, cooked lunch and dinner, and made sure the Vet's not only had a good time, but had a goody bag to take back with them. He went to the Vet's Vineland home to find out what they needed and what they wanted in the goody bag, even to the point of getting gift cards from the gift shop so the Vet's could get a specific kind of "bomber" jacket they all like. Anyone who was at that gathering could feel the love and appreciation swirling throughout the room. He also led one of the larger groups of members ever to go to the Vineland home before Christmas for their annual visit. Joe took the time and looked into the home's needs and found out they always need TV's so the Elks have and will continue to collect and donate portable TV's to the home.

In the planning stage is a summer outing to bring the Vet's to the Beach and Bay for the day, and maybe get in a little fishing. Joe has energized and led the members of the Brigantine Elks to do more and more for the Veterans of this great country. With people like Joe, the Elks motto of : "So long as there are Veterans, We will never forget them", is in good hands.

Reading this in hindsight I realize I have done Joe a disservice, because I concentrated on only the things Joe has done for the Vet's, but think about it, he's been in the kitchen or behind a grill at almost every event we have had in the last couple years. He is the Secretary of the House Committee, and for a while handled all the Special Event and Raffle Permits for the Lodge. Two years ago he was recognized with the high honor of Pig of the Year. This Lodge is very lucky to have a good man like Joe.

On Friday night January 23, 2009 over a dozen Brigantine Elks members visited VFW Post #6964 to see Joe accept the Citizen of the Year Award. It was an award well deserved by Joe and you could tell how proud Eileen was to be there to see Joe receive it. Ralph was, as always the good host, and he went out of his way to compliment the Lodge for all the good things that our members do for Veterans. With Joe's leadership, our Veteran's Committee will continue the good work already started.. If you want to help or join the Veterans Committee see Joe or ER Dave. ----  
David Biggins, Exalted Ruler

**Help!** -- On this Sunday March 1st we will have a dumpster at the Lodge. If you could, come by at 9:00am to lend a hand. We need to clean out the bingo room and the attic. We will have a couple of Volunteers from Stockton State College helping us out. This is also a good day to give the Bay front a cleanup. It will make it that much easier in the spring to maintain. Thanks

**The Check is in the mail!!** Thanks to you, the check to purchase the Handicap Beach Wheelchairs has been mailed. The membership will be notified when they arrive at the Lodge.

### **Lodge Scholarship Applications**

Our in house scholarship applications are now available. Please ask for them in the lounge. The program consists of Three (3) \$4000.00 Dollar scholarships for general secondary Four (4) year educational programs, and Two (2) \$1,500.00 scholarships for Vocational/ associate education. The applicant must be a Child/Step Child or Grandchild/Step Grandchild of a member in good standing of the Brigantine Elks Lodge #2428. Who has been a member for Two (2) full years and is current for the year 2008/2009. The Child must be a senior, Twelfth (12) grade student approaching graduation. All applications must be postmarked no later than July 15, 2009. This is a benefit to our members is separate from the Elks National or State Association sponsored scholarship contests.

Brigantine Lodge's monthly meetings are the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:30pm. All members are encouraged to attend. Lodge E-mail address [HFMI12428GEG@verizon.net](mailto:HFMI12428GEG@verizon.net)

Phone number (609) 266-9826 Fax number (609) 266-7108

Lodge mailing address Brigantine Elks Lodge #2428, PO Box 44, Brigantine NJ. 08203

Lodge location 400 West Shore Drive Brigantine New Jersey

(The corner of West Shore Drive and Bayshore Ave) Website address [www.brigantineelks.com](http://www.brigantineelks.com) Contact

[www.exaltedruler@brigantineelks.com](mailto:www.exaltedruler@brigantineelks.com)