



Central District



New Jersey Elks

February 1st 2020

Volume 16, Issue 9

Vice President's Message



Looking back on January, I can definitely say it was another successful month for the Central District. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate PVP Rich Recine, our Central District Hoop Shoot Chair, on a job well done at this year's district hoop shoot at the South Plainfield P.A.L. Very big thanks to PVP Barbara Mueller for all her help as well along with all the volunteers that made the hoop shoot a great success.

The state soccer shoot was held at Manasquan elementary school on Jan 11th. Once again Maureen Chapman, our Central District chair, was front and center. Throughout the day she was always working hard and making sure everything went according to plan. I know we all were happy when it was announced that the Central District came in first in the state with the most overall winners.

February is a busy month for our district with a lot of upcoming events and meetings. The Central District Charity Ball will be held at Woodbridge lodge on February 1st. It's always a great event and I'm looking forward to being there with all of you and showing our ambassador's our continued support. Along with the regular scheduled district meetings, I just want to remind you all the VP clinic will be on February 17th at Piscataway lodge. Hospitality will be at 7:00 PM and the meeting will start at 7:30 PM. The State ritual contest will be held at Long Branch Lodge on February 22nd and 23rd. Let's all try and get out there to show support to Central District's own New Jersey state champions Piscataway lodge #2414. Piscataway- I wish you all the best.

Lastly, I will be getting in touch with the Exalted Rulers about the Vice President accommodation awards. I will give them out at the date of your lodge installation's for the fraternal 2020-2021 year. Central District keep up the great work as usual, I'm always proud to be the VP of the greatest district in our state association. Keep being "The Best of The Best"..May always God bless you all, our veterans and troops, our youth programs, our special children, and of course the Central District.

Fraternally,
Central District VP Dan DeZaio

Inside the District

Calendar link

District Leaders

List of District Chairpersons

Chairpersons Messages

Lodges in the District

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District Deputy Message

District Team

District Leaders

Francis J. Decibus PSDGER

Stephen J. Terrible PSP

Peter D. Smith PSP

District Dignitaries

Dan DeZaio VP

732-887-7752

Jim Kopcho DDGER

732-5012279

Pat McDonnell CDST

732-985-2647

Newsletter Editor

Scott Dunham PER

732-816-2140



Our State Project

District Deputy Message, James A. Kopcho DDGER



As you all know, my Official Visits have been completed. All Lodges were well prepared and now that my team and I are conducting the follow up visits I expect nothing less. My follow up visit gives me the opportunity to report to our State Sponsor, PGER Malcolm J. McPherson Jr, that all lodges follow all Grand Lodge Statutes and continue to perform the great works of the Elks.

Currently our District has 36 candidates awaiting initiation. I urge you all to get these members initiated as soon as you can. Many of the Lodges have invited me to witness their initiatory ritual when they brought in new members and for that I am grateful. There are a couple that have not done so yet, so please try to get them initiated and let me know. We still have delinquent members, I encourage you to reach out, make a call and see if they need help.

Exalted Rulers – It's time for nominations and voting of Officers for the next fraternal year. Your PERs should submit the nominations at the first meeting in February and voting is to take place at the second meeting in February. I have complete confidence that you will select individuals that will lead your Lodge and put in the necessary time required of this position. Exalted Rulers, please let me know the dates of your Installation of Officers. Per Grand Lodge Statute, it is required by the DD to preside at Installations – you must request, in writing, permission to have the Past Exalted Rulers perform the ceremony.

As you know, Piscataway Lodge #2414, will be representing the Central District for the Ritual Contest. The contest will be held in Long Branch on February 22nd and 23th and Piscataway is scheduled for 3pm on Saturday the 22nd so please come out and cheer them on.

The next District Deputy Clinic will be held on Monday April 22nd at Woodbridge Lodge. Hospitality will be at 7pm with meeting to follow at 7:30pm. Attendance is mandatory for all Exalted Rulers, Leading Knights, Secretaries and Chair of the Board of Directors/Trustees. All other Officers wishing to attend may do so also.

May God protect our Troops, First Responders and our members and especially God Bless America.

Fraternally,
James Kopcho, DDGER

District Parades Committee, Doug Pearson PER

Greetings from Paradeville

As of our last meeting held January 20th the state committee has finalized the rules , regulations , and the float theme for the 2020 wildwood parade.

The theme this year is :

" New Jersey Elks Rockin' Magic Moments " . Have fun with the theme if your lodge plans on rollin a float.

The committee also has a raffle to defray some of the expenses of the parade . Please ask to participate.

To all Exated Rulers and committee chairs, the rules ,regulations as well as the entry forms and plaque sponsorship are available on the state website under parade . Save some time and print them out , complete the forms and and turn them in to me.

Our 1st district meeting is scheduled for Feb 24th at Edison lodge, 7pm hospitality with the meeting t follow.

If you have any questions please let me know dough5161@gmail.com

I excited to be working with all the lodges for another fantastic year.

Happy marching

Doug Pearson PER

Central district Parade committee

Lodges in the District

Carteret #2235

233 Roosevelt Ave, phone 732-541-2880
Meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30pm

Colonia #2282

855 Middlesex Tpke, phone 732-382-2282
Meetings 3rd Thursdays 8pm

East Brunswick #2370

21-B Oakmont Ave, phone 732-821-9527
Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursdays 8pm

Edison #2487,

375 Old Post Rd, phone 732-985-2487
Meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30pm

Metuchen #1914,

87 Middlesex Ave. Rt. 27, phone 732-494-3557
Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30pm

New Brunswick #324

40 Livingston Ave, phone 732-249-3420
Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:30pm

Piscataway #2414

450 River Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854 phone 732-356-9827
Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursdays 8pm

South Amboy #784

601 Washington Ave, phone 732-727-7170
Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 7:30pm

South Plainfield #2298

1254 New Market Rd, phone 908-668-9750
Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursdays 8pm

Watchung Hills #885

1 Elks Trail, phone 908-668-9727
Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursdays 8pm

Woodbridge #2116

665 Rahway Avenue, phone 732-634-2116
Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30pm

District Drug awareness Committee, Dennis Kopik PVP

I want to thank all the lodges in the Central District for sponsoring students to attend the Peer Leadership Conference this month. Without your support the program would not be the success it is today. I will have more details for the next newsletter. Also the district winners of the poster and essay contests will be forwarded to the state for consideration.

Our next meeting will be held on February 24th. Location to be determined.

Dennis Kopik
Central District Drug Awareness Chairperson

District Ritual Committee, Judy Galambos PER

The State Ritual Contest will be held the weekend of February 22-23, 2020 at Long Branch Elks #742.

Details have been finalized and Piscataway Lodge #2414 will be performing the ritual on Saturday, February 22nd at 3pm.

Let's show our support for the defending State Champs!!

Good luck to the Piscataway team!!

Judy Galambos, PER
Central District Ritual Chair

District Chairpersons

Americanism– Mike Green PER, South Amboy, 732-559-7298
Army of Hope– Alexandra Helly PER, Carteret, 732-762-6872
Auditing and Business Practice– Sam Fisher PER, New Brunswick, 732-236-5520.
CLMS-Rita Massimi PDD, Piscataway, 908-966-3242
Convention-Debbie Czech PVP, South Plainfield, 732-491-5310
Drug Awareness– Dennis Kopik PVP, South Amboy, 732-429-5609
Government Relations– Jack Harkins PER, Piscataway, 908-487-3544
Hoop Shoot– Rich Recine PVP, Piscataway, 732-433-6645
Lodge Activities– George Michaels PER, East Brunswick, 609-802-2182
Membership and Membership Retention-Kevin Krasnansky PER, 908-625-2718
National Foundation– Joe Massimi PDD Piscataway, 732-885-1592
National Services Veterans-Jeff Van Woeart PER, Carteret, 908-380-1592
Parades-Doug Pearson, PER, Edison, 732-985-9829
Public Relations– Dan Larsen PER, Watchung Hills, 908-752-0071
Ritual Judy Galambos PER, Woodbridge, 732-319-7481
Scholarship– Christine Sauer PER, South Plainfield, 732-672-9820
Soccer Maureen Chapman, Piscataway, 732-236-7296
Special Children-Harry Newton PDD, Piscataway, 908-722-7236
Training - Betty Bellance DD, Carteret, 908-917-31-66
Youth Activities – Carol Bonura VP, New Brunswick, 732-991-8979
Youth Tournament-Pat McDonnell, PVP, Carteret 732-985-2647
District Author on Internet and Newsletter-Scott Dunham, PER, Edison, 732-816-2140

District Public Relations Committee, Danny Larson PER

February, the shortest Month of the year even with the quadrennial leap Day included. Many Lodges are preparing to host a **Valentine Dinner, Super Bowl Party, Nascar Party and a St. Patrick's Day Dinner** – so how do we let our Communities, neighbors and members know about our Events ? well there's posters in the lodge, the local Paper, there's an invitation on our Web Site, there's flyers included with Dues Notices and put up at local business's, possibly a local TV or Radio station might mention the event – Truth be told it is all of these plus many more, Public Relations is a network of Community communications informing encouraging and enticing our neighbors about our Activities and Events.

No waiting for a table on Valentine's Day is a BIG Deal, so let the Public know, network and spread the happy news - they won't show if they don't know!

Remember Public Relations Matter

Danny Larsen

Central District Public Relations Chairman

District CLMS Committee, Rita Massimi PDD

Secretaries, it's that time of year when you should be printing and mailing your annual dues notices. Don't forget to include donation info in the notice since many members donate to our various committees with their dues. If you've already done so, thank you for your diligence.

In February, you need to contact lapsed members to advise them that they could be dropped from the rolls if dues aren't paid before end of March. See GL Statute 14.160 for full details.

As always, please contact me for any issues and/or questions.

Fraternally,

Rita Massimi, PDD

District and State CLMS Coordinator

District ENF Committee, Joe Massimi PDD



As of January 12, 2020, Lodges of the Central District have donated \$19,775.50 for a combined per capita of \$7.30. Watchung Hills Lodge #885 remains in first place in the District with donations totaling \$3,134.00 for a per capita of \$12.59.

Central District Lodges have been approved for 32 Community Investment Program Grants and have been awarded \$72,500 to promote our charitable works. East Brunswick Lodge #2370 leads our District with five grants awarded for a total of \$11,000. A close second with four grants valued at \$9,500 is South Amboy Lodge #784. Excellent Job One and All.

The NJSEA ENF Committee will be hosting a Cocktail Party at Union Lodge #1583 on Sunday, March 8, 2020 from 2pm to 6pm. Cost of tickets are \$20 which includes food and live entertainment. Tricky tray tickets and beverages will be available for purchase. Please contact me joedd2010@yahoo.com for tickets.

Lodge	Members	Donations	Per Capita
1. Watchung Hills #885	249	\$3,134	\$12.59
2. South Plainfield #2298	289	\$3,085	\$10.67
3. Woodbridge #2116	310	\$3,156	\$10.18
4. East Brunswick #2370	192	\$1,816	\$ 9.46
5. Piscataway #2414	178	\$1,313.50	\$ 7.38
6. Metuchen #1914	213	\$1,433.50	\$ 6.73
7. Edison #2487	303	\$1,808.50	\$ 5.97
8. New Brunswick #324	310	\$1,720	\$ 5.55
9. South Amboy #784	249	\$ 954	\$ 3.83
10. Carteret #2235	336	\$1,275	\$ 3.79
11.Colonia #2282	74	\$ 80	\$ 1.00

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph L. Massimi, PDD
Central District ENF Chair

District Scholarship Committee, Christine Sauer PER

2020 MVS Contest

District Scoring of applicants from our District has been completed. Students now advance to the next step, State Judging. The following are the 12 Boys and 12 Girls advancing: Boys Advancing to State in Rank Order- Motwani Chirag- Edison, Laudani Anthony-South Plainfield, Marmolejos Aaron- Watchung, Tajes Daniel - Woodbridge, Kuchnicki Patrick-Piscataway, Golden Joseph- Woodbridge, Figueiras Daniel-Watchung, Bartnick Bryan-Watchung, Chen Nicholas-Piscataway, Shockley David-Woodbridge, Anesh Harrison-South Plainfield, Anesh Joseph-South Plainfield Girls Advancing to State in Rank Order-Cao Rebecca-Edison, Patel Shikha-South Plainfield, Taylor Camryn-Woodbridge, Mauro Gianna-East Brunswick, Ryan Jillian-East Brunswick, Zhang Stacey-Edison, Lovett Jordan-South Plainfield, Devarajan Aishwarya-Edison, Resta Haley- Woodbridge, Payano Nashari-South Amboy, Haq Charlotte-Metuchen, Markert Amanda- Metuchen. State Scoring will be from February 6, 2020 through the 24th. Notification to National Semi-Finalists goes out March 2, 2020. Good luck to all the above district students.

Legacy Awards

This Scholarship's deadline was January 31, 2020. I hope the lodge chairs were able to promote this scholarship at their lodge meetings. There is a possibility of 10 awards available in NJ. Good luck to all those who applied.

NJ State Elks Assoc. Vocational Scholarship

Applications available March 1, 2020 and are due by May 15, 2020, at NJElks.org. There will be two, one male and one female award of \$1,000 in each of the twelve districts. It is for students within one year of obtaining a G.E.D or High School diploma who are pursuing a certificate or credential in a vocational, technical school or at a 2 year community college. All applicants must be a citizen of the US and a resident of NJ on the date the application is submitted. For further information please visit NJElks.org.

NJ Elks Special Children Committee Scholarship

Two awards of \$2,500 per year for four years are offered. One graduating male and female senior are eligible. In early November the applications were available and are open till mid-April. For more information please visit NJElks.org.

Fraternally,

Christine Sauer PER

Central District Scholarship Chair

District Soccer shoot Committee, Maureen Chapman

The NJ State Soccer Shoot was held on January 11th at Manasquan Elementary School. I'm happy to report that we have U10 Boy Hunter Ferreira & U14 Boy Kevin Lorenc from the Central District going on to compete at the Mid Atlantic Regional Soccer Shoot in York, PA on March 13-15, 2020. They are both from Woodbridge Lodge. Also, the Central District took home the trophy once again for the highest scoring district in the state with a score of 342. I'd like to thank everyone who helped to make it a successful event. We had a lot of representation from the Central District.

Below is the list of the NJ State Soccer Shoot winners & the 1st place winners will be representing our state in the Mid Atlantic Regional Soccer Shoot.

U8 Girls

1st Place Abby Belthoff (Northeast)

2nd Place Aisha (Carteret)

3rd Place Allie Fasanella (Southeast)

U8 Boys

Leonardo Olivera (Northwest)

Eric Szaro (Woodbridge)

Andrew Goodman (Northeast)

U10 Girls

1st Place Isabella Binetti (East)

2nd Place Meagan Martineau (Piscataway)

3rd Place Lucy Smith (North)

U10 Boys

Hunter Ferreira (Woodbridge)

Matt Szary (Southeast)

Nicholas Bieltz (East)

U12 Girls

1st Place Nadia Otuyela (East)

2nd Place Makayla Zacchia (Northeast)

3rd Place Alyson Reynolds (Southeast)

U12 Boys

Tyler Puenta (Northeast)

Nate Holden (Northwest)

Evan Gibb (Woodbridge)

U14 Girls

1st Place Kaitlyn Hankins (Southeast)

2nd Place Denise Cosme (Piscataway)

3rd Place Kaitlyn Veltrie (North)

U14 Boys

Anthony Amato (Northeast)

Cristian Ramirez (South Central)

Ricardy Prophete (East Central)

U16 Girls

1st Place Lauren Beltran (Northeast)

2nd Place Marissa Almazi (North)

3rd Place Saira Lomeli-Roman (Woodbridge)

U16 Boys

Kevin Lorenc (Woodbridge)

Jacob Hernandez (East)

Jonathan Remache (Northeast)

High score U8 Girl was Abby Belthoff & high score U8 Boy was Leonardo Olivera. Hunter Ferreira from Woodbridge took home the high score trophy for the U10-U16 Boy & Isabella Binetti took home the trophy for the high score U10-U16 Girl.

Please consider submitting an ad for the Mid Atlantic Regional Ad Journal if you haven't already. The ads are due by Feb 2nd. Please contact me & I can provide any information you may need. I hope everyone will help to support our kids.

Maureen Chapman

Central District Soccer Shoot Chairperson

District Youth Activities Committee, Carol Bonura PVP

The next State Youth Activities Committee meeting will be held on Feb. 18, 2020. On the agenda will be discussions on both the "Batter-Up" and "Tee It Up" Competitions that is fast approaching. It is not too early for lodges to start planning their "Batter-Up Competitions". The next District Youth Activities Committee meeting will be in early March and an email will be sent out to all Exalted Rulers and lodge chairs. I will be handing out all the information regarding the "Batter-Up" and "Tee It Up" Competitions at this meeting.

Fraternally,

Carol Bonura, PVP

District Youth Activities Chair

District Lodge Activities Committee, George Michaels PER

By now you should have submitted your Memorial service Contest, Lodge Bulletin/Newsletter Contest, and Community Image and Service Brochure to the District Deputy. If you are one of the few lodges who have not, please do so immediately. Also, be sure to submit your All American Lodge Award form to the District Deputy, no later than March 15th. Please do it right now to make sure delivery.

If you have not sent for your Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Citizen of the Year awards do so as soon as possible, as it can take four to six weeks to receive the award.

As always, if you have any questions or concern, or need any forms or guidance, please email me at geomichaels@aol.com, or text/call me at (609) 802-2182.

George Michaels PER

District Chairman

District Veterans committee, Jeff Van Woert PER

Hello all, I hope everyone had a blessed and healthy holiday, The district is busy as usual , Our next bingo at Menlo Park Veterans home will be January 28th at 7 PM come on out and enjoy an hour with our veterans. Our next meeting will be in East Brunswick at 7:30 all are welcome.

Our previous meeting in Piscataway was attended by DD Jim Kopcho, VP Dan Dezaio and our VAVS rep for Lyons PDD George Yusko, Thanks so much for your support we always appreciate you being there. East Brunswick #2370 donated \$2,000 in clothing to 5 units at Lyons Hospital, as of the meeting they were still selling ornaments from their freedom tree and will holding a fundraiser (A Salute to our Veterans) January 25th The proceeds will help with the training for dogs K-9 Metro ,k-9 Elk and K-9 Arson who will be given to a fire fighter. Woodbridge #2116 raised \$1,745 at their wine and paint night and still have funds coming in from their Freedom tree

They also work closely with Rebuilding Warriors and will be presenting a K-9 to a veteran at the Headliner in Neptune on May 3rd. Metuchen #1914 will be having veterans for lunch and handing out gifts, Piscataway #2414 currently has a member in the Army serving overseas and they are sending care packages. anyone interested in sending a letter or package contact ER Jack Harkins. They also serve lunches at the Alzheimer's unit in Menlo.

South Amboy #2298 will be holding a diner in honer of our veterans February 23rd and hosting the Vets from Menlo Park .Come out and show your support and have diner with them they also donated \$500 in clothing to Menlo Park veterans home. Carteret #2235 will be raising Veteran funds with a Sadie Hawkins dance February 29th, an Atlantic City bus trip March 8th and will be hold a Blues night February 15th to support the campaign for the Pearl Harbor Memorial.. Edison #2487 will be having vets for breakfast. The committee would also like to thank our VAVS Menlo rep PVP Carol Bonura for handing out 50 commissary books at our holiday bingo.

Fraternally yours

Central District Veteran Chairman

Jeff Van Woert PER

District Army of Hope Committee, Sandy Helly PER

Wow what a way to start the New Year! East Brunswick Lodge #2370 rocked the house with a TREMENDOUS turnout with REBUILDING WARRIORS on January 25th. My understanding at this writing, that over \$4,000.00 was raised for service dog Metro. The band was fantastic as well as the food and quite frankly it was a great day at the “lodge on the lake”.

South Amboy Lodge #784 will be hosting a Veteran’s Dinner & Tricky Tray Sunday, February 23, from 5-8:PM. Tickets are \$15.00 in advance and \$17.00 at the door call 732-727-7170 for more information.

In other news, Central District will once again be hosting our 3rd Annual Fox & Hound Fundraiser at Menlo Park Mall March 31, 2020. This year we will be serving select appetizers to each table 1st come 1st serve. Other menu specials and adult beverages are also available, so get your tickets today! Tickets are \$15.00 per person in advance see your committee chairperson.

Our next State meeting will be Wednesday, February 19th at Carteret Lodge #2235. Hospitality at 6:30 with the meeting at 7:30.

God Bless our Troops and their Families.

God Bless America.

Sandy Helly, PER

CDAOH Chair

District Newsletter & Calendar, Scott Dunham PER

Hi All

Just a reminder please sendi your messages om time and check grammar, spelling and do not send it in CABS. Also lets get all District events on our calendar, this will keep our District informed.

As always thanks for your help

Scott

District Calendar link

<http://www.localendar.com/public/njelkscentral>