BROTHERS ALL

Charity ★ Justice
Brotherly Love ★ Fidelity

February 2020

THE MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE MIDDLETOWN B.P.O. ELKS LODGE 2179
251 Church Street • Belford, New Jersey 07718 • (732) 495-2733 • www.middletownelks2179.org

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of U.S.A. A Fraternal Organization

EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Michael Parulis, Jr.
Exalted Ruler

DON'T FORGET SPECIAL CHILDREN'S CHARITY BALL ON MARCH 7 AT THE GRAMERCY AT LAKESIDE MANOR

COMING UP ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT THE LODGE STARTING AT 12:00 PM.

★★★

ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS 2019-2020

EXALTED RULER .... Michael Parulis, Jr., PER 848-218-8308
LEADING KNIGHT ..... Tom Cribbin..... 347-451-7913
LOYAL KNIGHT .....Donald Desfosse, PEOY 732-788-4840
LECTURING KNIGHT ..... Rich Jaeger..... 732-241-3753
LODGE SECRETARY ... Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
LODGE TREASURER .... Mike Trieste, PDD 908-902-3447
TILER..... Isaac Dziadzio 732-337-9306
ESQUIRE ..... Michael Dickie
CHAPLAIN ..... Connor Dickie
INNER GUARD ..... Joe Polkowski

TRUSTEES

ONE YEAR TRUSTEE ... Ronald Steinberger 732-495-6145
TWO YEAR TRUSTEE..... Fred Dollinger
THREE YEAR TRUSTEE .... Joe McGrath 732-221-4696
FOUR YEAR TRUSTEE ....Robert Fairhurst 732-471-8819
FIVE YEAR TRUSTEE .....Kevin Brittain

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Nick Figaro, PVP
Members: Don Anderson, PER
Charlie Diehl,
Don Desfosse, PEOY
Tom Cribbin
Rich Jaeger, Frank Zeekman
Meet the Last Saturday of month at 12:00PM

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ACCIDENT PREVENTION Donald Desfosse, PEOY ..732-788-4840
AMERICANISM .....John Plumacher 732-500-6084
AUDITING .....Rich Miranda 718-930-9084
BAR STEWARD .....Michael Parulis, Sr., PEOY
BLOOD BANK.....John Plumacher 732-500-6084
BULLETIN ..... Kevin McNulty.....732-513-9269
CONVENTION.....Fran Corrdion .....
DRUG AWARENESS.....Albert Smith, PER 732-495-4633
ELKS MEMORIAL DAY.Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-787-1622
FLAG DAY .....Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
GOLF TOURNAMENT.... Francis Corridon .....
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS.. Don Desfosse, PEOY .732-788-4840
HALL BOOKINGS.....Albert Smith, PER 732-495-4633
HOOP SHOOT ..... Charlie Diehl.....732-687-5769
HOUSE..... Nick Figaro, PER, PVP.....732-241-5131
HOUSE & GROUNDS ...Don Desfosse, PEOY 732-788-4840
INDOCTRINATION ....Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
INVESTIGATION..... Rich Jaeger.....732-787-1622
JUSTICE.....Randy Smith 732-787-1941
LAPSATION ..... Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
LODGE ACTIVITIES ...Donald Desfosse, PEOY 732-788-4840
LODGE PHOTOGRAPHER . Al Smith, PER 732-495-4633
MEDIATOR.....Ken Massicotte, PER
MEMBERSHIP ..... Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
MOTORCYCLE.....Andy Howard 908-902-8268
NATIONAL FOUNDATION... Charlie Diehl 732-687-5769
NATIONAL SERVICE..... Rich Jaeger.....732-241-3753
OFFICERS TRAINING..Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
PARADES..... Edward Hahn, PDD 732-671-0463
PUBLIC RELATIONS.... Michael Dickie, PVP.....
RITUAL .....Edward Hahn, DD.....732-671-0463
SATURDAY CLUB.....Richard Bryk 732-546-0820
SCHOLARSHIP..... Richard Niekrash.....732-671-6347
SICKNESS & DISTRESS .....
SOCCER SHOOTOUT..... Tom Cribbin.....347-451-7913
SOCIAL & COMMUNITY WELFARE
SPECIAL CHILDREN ..... Tom Cribbin.....347-451-7913
TRACK DAY .....Nick Figaro, VP 732-241-5131
YOUTH ACTIVITIES ..... Steve Malik 732-620-0647

★★★

2020 CONVENTION SIGN-UP

SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2020

2PM- 4PM

$550 3-DAYS

$500 2-DAYS

$100 DEPOSIT TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM

ORDER PARADE SHIRT AT SIGN-UP

$50 SHIRT AND HAT

CONVENTION DATES: JUNE 4-6

CONTACT: FRAN CORRIDON @ 732-978-0886

A BUS WILL LEAVE FROM THE LODGE ON SATURDAY JUNE 6 FOR THE PARADE AT 8:00 AM.

★★★

MIDDLETOWN ELKS #2179
SPECIAL CHILD - CHARLOTTE ANNE WALDRON
MARCH 7, 2020

Charlotte Anne Waldron was born on January 17, 2010 after a healthy pregnancy and unscheduled cesarean section delivery. She was a very healthy baby and was just like a little doll. Little did I know at the time that her sweet, easy going disposition was actually the very first sign of her autism. She was always happy and content, and still carries that same disposition at ten years old today. She hit all of her milestones on time in her first year. Charlotte was very engaged with mom and dad, was very loving and affectionate, playful, inquisitive, and was really just an absolute joy.

It was around her second birthday that things didn't seem to be progressing typically. I always knew she was a little quirky and saw the world differently. However, I never thought it was autism. She was nothing like I thought an autistic toddler to be. I pictured a child who was completely disengaged, unloving, emotionally detached, and rocking in a corner. She was none of those things. She spoke her first words on time, but her first word was "Dora", not mommy or daddy. And all of her words were labeling, identifying, numbers and letters, or repeating phrases from songs or tv shows. She wasn't putting two words together. When in a group of peers, she would retreat and withdraw from them, clinging to familiar adults instead. At the encouragement of family members, Charlotte was taken to a neurodevelopmental pediatrician, where she was immediately diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. She began early intervention therapies followed by preschool disabled program with very, very slow progress. She then began ABA therapy at home, again with little noticeable progress. Today, she is almost nonverbal, but speaks with more purpose when she does speak. And she sometimes comes out in full sentences, and when she does, she says things that are a much needed reminder that she's got it all in there. She knows and feels everything that is going on. I describe it as a radio with bad reception. There are moments in between the static that you can hear the beautiful song, and then it's gone again.

The last year and a half Charlotte has made an amazing breakthrough and began to read. I personally believe she's been able to do it for a long time and just could not show us. At the age of 18 months, she could tell you all the letters of the alphabet, both upper and lower cases, in and out of order. She was obsessed with reading letters off of everything, everywhere we went. I remember thinking "she is so smart". I was not wrong. She just sees the world through a different filter. And that filter is filled with static and sensory overload. I am so incredibly proud of her progress in reading, and it gives me hope that she will one day be able to communicate through typing her thoughts.

Today Charlotte is maturing into a sweet, angelic, happy little girl. She has discovered her love for the theatre, horseback riding, the ocean, swimming, and being surrounded by other special needs children. She lights up when she sees a room full of people who are like her and accept her. Thankfully, the Middletown Elks have been able to provide that for her and we are so grateful.

Charlotte seems to have a sense for other special needs children and their parents, often choosing adults who have a special needs child and greeting them with one of her special hugs. Often times it is a stranger, and there is no way she could have known that he/she is a special needs parent. This always shocks me. I recall one special needs event we attended, there was a little blind girl who was trying to talk to her. At the end of the event, she reached over and touched her hand and held it. Then gave her a hug. She must have known the little girl could not see her, so she touched her. She often surprises me with what she seems to just know. Sometimes she will chose someone at random to hug. And very often it turns out to be someone who really needed it.

When I tell people that I have a child with autism, I often hear things like "I'm sorry". I am not sorry, nor am I sad. When I decided to be a mother, I knew that I wanted a child to love and that I would not be able to choose what child I was given. I was given the purest, most gentle and innocent soul. Even with the frustrations that come with Charlotte's autism, she has never lashed out or tried to hurt anyone else. She gives the most amazing hugs. She hugs with her whole body and squeezes so tight, that it's like for that moment, any trouble you have melts away. She is a constant reminder for us all to appreciate the little things in life. She feels everything ten fold due to her sensory processing overload. This can be a beautiful thing, like looking through the world with a magnifying glass. Every color, light, sound, and feeling can be more beautiful to her than anyone else and it can be uplifting to watch. She has made everyone in her life more kind, more open, and more accepting of others, and introduced me to a beautiful world of wonderful people. I'm glad I was chosen to be her mother. While I wouldn't cure her autism because it would take away who she is, I do wish she was able to communicate more with me and everyone else so we can understand what's locked up inside that beautiful mind of hers. I'm hopeful that someday she will be able to tell us, but until then my goal is to make sure that she lives her life to the fullest in this world that is wired so differently than her, and also to show the world how to understand my daughter.

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Please complete and send with check to
Middletown Elks #2179
SCC Charity Ball Souvenir Program
251 Church St
Belford, New Jersey 07718
DUE BY: February 14, 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cover pages will be reserved on a first come first served basis. Please select the size advertisement you wish and attach a check.

☐ ¼ Page $25.00

☐ ½ Page $50.00

☐ Full Page $100.00

☐ Booster $5.00
(Name only in Ad Journal)

Please attach advertisement or requested wording. (PLEASE PRINT)

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2019 ELKS Hoop Shoot Contest

I would like to say Thank You to those who helped

with 2019 Hoop Shoot Contest.

On January 11th we had the District Hoop Shoot

Contest and Middletown is sending 2 champions to the States !

Charlie Diehl , Hoop Shoot Chairman

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DISTRICT WINNERS

10 & 11 years old boys – James Hankowski

12 & 13 year old girls – Amanda Foster

James and Amanda will be competing Sunday February 9th

For the State Hoop Shoot Championship to he held at South

Plainfield High School at 9 AM.

STEAL BINGO THANK YOU

A BIG THANK YOU to all that came out to support our Ladies Auxiliary Steal Bingo, it was a huge success. I would like to thank all that helped set up the room, my husband Richard, Cathy and Al Grabau, and Linda and Dave Bennett. Thank you to everyone for donating all the wonderful desserts, Nancy Brandine for her cookies, Linda Bennett for her cupcakes, and my sister Susan for her yummy crumb cake. Thank you to Tisa Dziadzio, Cathy Grabau and Linda Bennett for working the door – and ALL that helped throughout the day. A BIG HUGE Thank You to Cathy Grabau for donating a quilt to be raffled. Without the help this day would not have ran so smoothly. Thank you all again, hope to see everyone at the next one!!!

Thank you, Mary Bryk

Middletown Elks Lodge Introduces….

Karaoke Night

Every THIRD Friday
Of the month!!
Beginning 11/15/19
From 8-11pm

January 16th, 2019
Meatloaf Dinner starting at 6pm
February 20th, 2019
Reuben Dinner starting at 6pm

★★★

Ladies Auxiliary Officers 2019-2020

President	Tara Mirenda	347-512-8724
1st V.P.	Nancy Brandine	732-492-3896
2nd V.P.	Linda Bennett	732-778-8152
Treasurer	Mary Bryk	732-280-9071
Recording Secretary	Debby Gerardi	201-978-7223
Corresponding Sec.	Lisa Lowe	330-268-2103
Chaplain	Carolyn Johnson	732-618-3114

Executive Board

Ginger Smith	732-495-4693
Kathy Corridon	732-495-3689
Melissa Vanderzee	732-322-7369
Lisa Hahn	732-757-2981
Tisa Dziadzio	732-471-1594

COMMITTEE CHAIRLADIES

Auditor/Budget	Liz Revill	732-671-1704
Book	Cathy Grabau	732-739-2933
Bylaws	Chris Marchetti	732-872-1189
Christmas Party	Nancy Brandine	732-492-3896
Christmas Party	Liz Revill	732-671-1704
Christmas Tree	Betty Angehlone	732-787-0291
Christmas Tree	Tisa Dziadzio	732-471-1594
Convention Shirts	Kathy Corridon	732-495-3689
Dances	Betty Angehlone	732-787-0291
Gift Auction	Linda Bennett	732-778-8152
Membership	Ginger Smith	732-495-4693
Past President's Dinner	Tara Mirenda	347-512-8724
Phone Committee	Cathy Grabau	732-739-2933
Phone Committee	Dottie Nesfield	732-787-7732
Pins	Cathy Grabau	732-739-2933
Plaques	Cathy Grabau	732-739-2933
Pocketbook Bingo	Mary Bryk	732-280-9071
Steal Bingo	Mary Bryk	732-280-9071
Sunshine	Cathy Grabau	732-739-2933
Tailgates/Fri Dinner	Ginger Smith	732-495-4693
Tailgates/Fri Dinner	Kathy Corridon	732-495-3689
Wednesday Winners	Tisa Dziadzio	732-471-1594

Madame President's Message

Hello Ladies,

A huge THANK YOU to Mary Bryk for running Steal Bingo, much fun was had by all. I hope everyone went home happy – I know I did!

Our Gift Auction is coming!!!! February 7, is the date… did you get your tickets? Contact Liz Revill or Betty Anghelone for tickets.

Convention sign-up announcements are hanging up at the lodge. I went to my first convention last year…. There was so much to do and see. You should check it out. Superbowl Sunday, the game will be on and there's FOOD! The District Chili Cook-off is being held at our lodge on 2/8 from 2to 6, look for flyers at the lodge. Come support Adam Fairhurst's benefit on February 15. The hall is being painted – you have to see it!

I had the pleasure of meeting our special children's ambassador recently. Charlotte and her mom, Michelle, are lovely people. I look forward to getting to know them on the road to the Charity Ball on March 7. Get your tickets now.

LADIES – Auxiliary elections are at the next meeting - February 26, 2020.

The Installation is March 28 at the lodge. Ladies Installation will be at 6pm, followed by the men at 7. Invitations will be mailed soon.

Special welcome to our newest member, Natalie Mirenda, my daughter.

So many events packed into the next few months!

Snapple Fact#1012 - The King of Hearts is the only king without a mustache.

I'll be seeing you around.
Tara Mirenda
Ladies Auxiliary President

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BULLETIN BOOSTERS

Each booster helps to offset printing and mailing costs of this monthly newsletter. Boosters are for one year, and payable in advance. Please note your name, and when it is due. Thank you.
ANY OVER DUE HAVE BEEN DROPPED FROM LIST

January
Tom & Flo Gormley
February
Tom McColgan
April
In Memory of Gene Ruck
Mary Ruck
Ed and Frann Glenney
In Memory of Lou & Kay Dandorph
Bill and Joan Burger
Edna Bryk
In Memory of Ray Bryk
May
Joan McTigue
Jim and Pat Waked
Mary and Richard Bryk
Nicholas and Donna DiGrigorio
June
In Memory of
Dan Marchetti
Dan and Carol Maloney
In Memory of Robert J. Brant
July
Chris Marchetti
Red, White, & Blue
Mike and Nancy Brandine, Jr.
August
In Memory of Jack Spann
Joe and Rosemary Keeney
John and Kathy Steakin
Ed and Lynn O'Kane
September
In Memory of Mary Brant
Frank and Dianne Zechman
October
In Memory of PER John McTigue
In Memory of
Kathleen L. McCartan
Dan McCartan
Al and Cathy Grabau
Bob and Alice Eckert
In Memory of Bob Brant
Kathleen Brant
November
In Memory of Willy Fix
Chuck and Adrianne Bolin
Cathy Grabau
December
In Memory of Ken Thompson
Jane Thompson
"God's Little Miracles"
Coach Saige

Please check to see if your payment is due - those more than two months in arrears will be dropped. Thank you for your support.

Please support your Bulletin Committee expenses of printing and mailing with a Booster.
$10.00 per person for a year • $15.00 per couple
Complete this coupon and send your check to:
Middletown Elks #2179
ATTN: Lodge Secretary
251 Church St., Belford, NJ 07718

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

IF YOU HAVE A WHEELCHAIR AND DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE. PLEASE RETURN.

Spotlight Lady

My Spotlight Lady for February is Mary Bryk.

FEBRUARY LADIES BIRTHDAYS

JO FIX
10TH, LINDA BRAYZAYCKUS

LADIES... ENJOY YOUR BIRTHDAYS!

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Please remit your dues for 2019-2020. $15.00 If you have questions, please feel free to call me. 330-268-2103. Thank you, Lisa Lowe, Corresponding Secretary

SUNSHINE CHAIRLADY MESSAGE

Any Member Ill....or in the Hospital....Please contact Cathy Grabau at 732-739-2933 to receive flowers or get well message...Thanks Cathy

HALL RENTALS

Contact Al Smith
732-804-2712
for Information

★★★

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ThreeCsBackhoe@Aol.com

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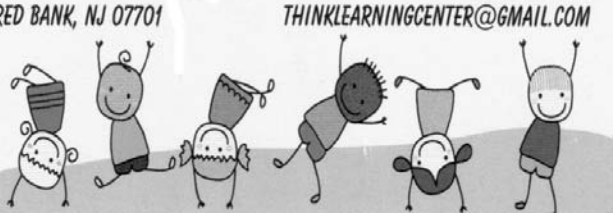

★★★

Middletown Elks B.P.O.E. #2179
251 Church Street
Belford, New Jersey 07718

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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or Current Resident

Calendar Events For February 2020

Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*	*Saturday*
						1
2	3 DARTS	4 CORNHOLE	5 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	6 REGULAR MEETING	7	8 FIRST CONVENTION SIGN-UP
9	10 DARTS	11 CORNHOLE	12	13	14	15 BENEFIT FOR ADAM FAIRHURST
16	17 DARTS	18 CORNHOLE	19	20 REGULAR MEETING	21	22
23	24 DARTS	25 CORNHOLE	26 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	27	28	29

Calendar Events For March 2020

Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*	*Saturday*
1 RENTAL	2 DARTS	3 CORNHOLE	4 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	5	6	7 RENTAL
8	9 DARTS	10 CORNHOLE	11	12 REGULAR MEETING	13 CORNHOLE	14 RENTAL
15	16 DARTS	17 CORNHOLE	18 OFFICERS DINNER	19	20 KARAOKE	21
22 RENTAL	23 DARTS	24 CORNHOLE	25 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	26 REGULAR MEETING	27	28 INSTALLATION
29	30 DARTS	31 CORNHOLE				

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