



BROTHERS ALL

**Charity ★ Justice
Brotherly Love ★ Fidelity**

January 2024

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

Greetings All,

The holidays are over and I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Last month, our Ladies Auxiliary held their annual Christmas party at the lodge, I would like to thank Madam President Ginger Smith and the Ladies Auxiliary for a great night. I would also like to congratulate our Hoop Shoot Chairmen Ron Steinberger, Charlie Diehl and their committee for holding their annual Hoop Shoot Contest, we had a great turnout. Middletown will be sending a representative for each age group to our District Hoop Shoot Contest. We also had a great turnout for our Social Community and Welfare Committee in conjunction with Middletown Helps it's own as we delivered food baskets and gifts to our neighbors in need. Great job chairmen Jim Lampert and PER Al Smith. Last month, we also had our annual Youth Activities Committee Christmas Party for



Donald Anderson
Exalted Ruler

the kids, nice job by our Youth Activities Chairman John Martinez and his committee. Later that day, we also held our annual Special Children's Committee Christmas Party. Thanks to Chairman PER Tom Cribbin and his committee. We also had a guest appearance from Santa. On January 3rd, please come out and support our Special Children's Committee for their spaghetti dinner at the lodge. Our Ladies Auxiliary are having their last Tailgate Party of the football season on January 21st, please come out and support them for all the hard work they do for us all year. On January 28th, the Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Annual Steal Bingo for more information contact Janet DesFosse.

People will remember your example, not your advice.

Donald M. Anderson, Exalted Ruler





ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS 2023-2024

- EXALTED RULER Donald Anderson, PER. . . . 732-915-2371
- LEADING KNIGHT John Steakin, Sr., PER. . . . 732-492-0118
- LOYAL KNIGHT Donald Desfosse, PER. . . . 732-788-4840
- LECTURING KNIGHT Al Smith, PER 732-804-2712
- LODGE SECRETARY . . . Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- LODGE TREASURER . . . Mike Trieste, PDD 908-902-3447
- TILER Dave Bennett 732-775-8753
- ESQUIRE John Steakin, Jr. 732-492-0322
- CHAPLAIN Jim Lampert. 732-978-3886
- INNER GUARD Brian Phillips 732-670-1987

TRUSTEES

- ONE YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Kevin Brittian, PER 732-371-7513
- TWO YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Michael Anghelone 732-546-7734
- THREE YEAR TRUSTEE . . Ron Steinberger 732-673-8954
- FOUR YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Richard Mirenda 718-930-9084
- FIVE YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Isaac Dziadzio 732-337-9306

HOUSE COMMITTEE

- Chairman: Nick Figaro, PVP
- Members: Al Smith, PER
- Donald Desfosse, PER
- John Steakin Sr., PER
- Charlie Diehl

Meet the Last Saturday of month at 12:00PM

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- ACCIDENT PREVENTION Donald Desfosse, PER . . . 732-788-4840
- AMERICANISM Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- AUDITING Rich Jaeger, PER 732-241-3753
- BAR STEWARD Charlie Diehl. 732-687-5769
- BLOOD BANK. Brian Phillips 732-670-1987
- BULLETIN Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- CONVENTION. Fran Corrdion, PER 732-978-0886
- DRUG AWARENESS. John Steakin, Jr. 732-495-0322
- ELKS MEMORIAL DAY. Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
- FLAG DAY William Nicholl, PER 732-309-5873
- GOLF TOURNAMENT. Charlie Diehl. 732-687-5769
- GOVERNMENT RELATIONS. Donald Desfosse, PER . 732-788-4840
- HALL BOOKINGS Donald Desfosse, PER. 732-788-4840
- HOOP SHOOT Ron Steinberger 732-763-8954
- HOUSE. Nick Figaro, PVP 732-241-5131
- HOUSE & GROUNDS Dennis McInnes 732-546-8255
- INDOCTRINATION Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- INVESTIGATION. Rich Jaeger, PER 732-241-3753
- JUSTICE. W. Randolph Smith, PDD
- LAPSATION Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- LODGE ACTIVITIES . . . Donald Desfosse, PER. 732-788-4840
- LODGE PHOTOGRAHER. . . Al Smith, PER. 732-804-2712
- MEDIATOR. Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
- MEMBERSHIP Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- NATIONAL SERVICE. . . John Steakin Sr., PER 732-492-0118
- OFFICERS TRAINING . . . Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- PARADES. Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- PUBLIC RELATIONS. . . Donald Desfosse, PER. 732-788-4840
- RITUAL Kevin Brittian, PER 732-371-7513
- SCHOLARSHIP. Richard Niekrash 732-671-6347
- SICKNESS & DISTRESS . . Al Smith, PER 732-804-2712
- SOCCER SHOOTOUT . . . Tom Cribbin, PER. 347-451-7913
- SOC. COMM. WELFARE. . . Jim Lampert. 732-978-3886
- SPECIAL CHILDREN . . . Tom Cribbin, PER. 347-451-7913
- YOUTH ACTIVITIES John Martinez. 732-720-1546



ELK OF THE MONTH

JANUARY 2024

My Elk of the Month is
Kevin McKittrick aka Santa Clause.

Thank you for all
your hard work.

#getyourelkon



ASK A FRIEND to JOIN

Special Children's Committee



Middletown Elks Welcomes You To Join Us
For Our Monthly Spaghetti Dinners!

January 3rd, 2024

Special: Lasagna

February 7th, 2024

Special: Buffalo Chicken Penne

March 6th, 2024

Special: Stuffed Cabbage

April 3rd, 2024

Special: Penne Vodka

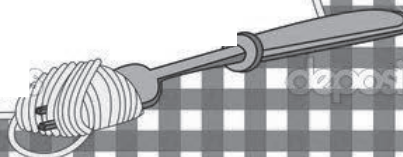
Menu:

\$10 Spaghetti with Meatballs or Sausage

\$12 Monthly Special

All meals come with Salad, Bread, and Dessert

Specials will be published in bulletin and in the lodge monthly



MIDDLETOWN ELKS #2179 AMBASSADOR - CAMERON FIORELLO MARCH 2, 2024



Our beautiful baby boy Cameron was born on March 10, 2021. Sadly, while pregnant I suffered from migraines and our OBGYN prescribed medication considered to be “pregnancy safe.” The afternoon after he was born, life came to a stop when the doctor informed us Cameron was born addicted to Barbiturates, which was an ingredient in the migraine medication I took. While Cameron’s case was considered mild, as he did not need medical intervention, we still had to leave the hospital without him. When he came home after five days, our family was ready to put it all behind us and start life as a family of 4.

We assumed he was advanced when he started rolling over at a week old, instead of recognizing the red flag that it was. After additional symptoms appeared, Cameron was sent for his first MRI at 4 months old to rule out Cerebral Palsy. The scan returned normal and we were relieved. We were grateful and ready to put this behind us and move forward. Cameron seemed to be a “normal” baby in many ways, but in other ways he was still struggling.

He would arch his back away instead of cuddling, he couldn’t tolerate solid foods, he had Hypotonia, which is weak muscle tone, and he had a head lag long past the normal age. We were encouraged to start Physical and Occupational therapy, so we began services through Early Intervention along with feeding therapy to work through our concerns.

At 11 months, Cameron began to struggle with tremors which culminated in a 24-hour EEG, which again returned normal. When he was 18 months, he was referred to Children’s Specialized Hospital and started private therapies to address additional emerging issues. At this point Cameron was a professional knee walker. He wouldn’t plant his feet or walk like an average child but he could outrun anyone on his knees. It seemed painful to everyone but him, and although it was funny to watch, it was frustrating that he wouldn’t try to walk or stand.

Even with multiple therapy sessions a week, Cameron wasn’t progressing as he should. Every additional genetic test, blood panel and even a repeat MRI returned normal results. We regularly heard that this could all be a lingering side effect of his birth history, so all we could do was wait. We continued to seek out additional specialists, tests and treatments through Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, with no further answers. At age 2, Cameron was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum, like his older brother, which enabled additional services and the ability to start school early.

Receiving a walker from the Middletown Elks was a turning point for Cameron and his progress. He gained so much confidence from being able to walk independently, that he started climbing and standing. As time went on, Cameron actually started to walk on his own, without the help of the walker or holding onto someone or something. Our older son Emmett told Cameron “You have to walk by 3,” and here we are! He may still be weak and is not able to run or jump, but we are so happy with how he is improving.

Cameron is so lucky to have some of the best therapists and doctors there are. They have been such a blessing and we do not know where he would be if it wasn’t for them. He also has the best extended family and friends who have always rooted him on. They say raising a child takes a village and we couldn’t love ours more.

We may never have an answer to why Cameron is delayed and we’ll always wonder if it was from the medication I was prescribed while pregnant. So, our main takeaway from this story for anyone is to always trust your gut and ask additional questions. While our path hasn’t been easy, we wouldn’t change it. With his infectious laugh and a smile that can light up every room, Cameron is a blessing in our life and we are so grateful God gave him to us. As a family we will continue to do whatever we can to help him live his best life. We cannot wait to see what the future has for him! I hope the world is ready because he’s going to do great things.



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 17, 2024



Name: _____

Address: _____

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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)





**Ladies Auxiliary Steal Bingo
Middletown Elks Lodge #2179
251 Church St. Belford**

Sunday, January 28th 2024

Doors open @12:00 \$10pp

Bring a wrapped gift (Value: \$10.00 min.)
and your own snacks, Mardi Gras Masks
and beads for your table!

Beverages available on site

For Tickets & Info Contact:

Janet Desfosse -732-788-4839

Ginger Smith – 908-513-4406

TRUSTEE’S MEETING

3rd Thursday of the month @ 6:30 PM

**Please have vouchers and all other business
for our review submitted to the Trustee’s mailbox
prior to this time.**





Spotlight Lady

My Spotlight Lady for January is **Lisa Lowe.**

Lisa is a quiet woman (most of the time) lol. But if I ask her to help she jumps right in. Thank you for everything you do. I appreciate it.

Ladies Auxiliary Officers 2023-2024

- PresidentGinger Smith 732-495-4693
 - 1st V.P.Michelle Fairhurst.
 - TreasurerTara Mirenda 347-512-8724
 - Recording Secretary.Debby Gerardi 201-978-7223
 - Corresponding Sec.Janet Desfosse. 732-788-4839
 - Chaplain.Lauren Eckleberry
- Executive Board
- Kathy Corridon.732-673-4756
 - Tisa Dziadzio732-693-5678
 - Lisa Hahn.732-757-2981

LADIES AUXILIARY UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 21st Tailgate Party
- January 28th Steal Bingo
- January 31st Ladies Auxiliary Meeting



Sunday, January 21st at 1pm
\$10.00pp

**Taco bar, Chilli bar plus some
yummy home cooked food from the
Ladies Auxiliary.**

Last play off games of the season

Madame President's Message

Happy new year,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas. I hope the new year brings us all good health and we all get rich. Lol. December 3rd, we honored our sister Linda at the Elks Memorial Service along with Elks that have past this year. May they all rest in peace. The ladies hosted the Lodge Christmas party. What a fun night great way to start the holidays. Great band Shameless. Loved seeing the Elks full of people laughing and reminiscing about old times. Lisa Hahn, great job as always putting everything together. The next day was the kids Christmas party. Two fulfilled partys, Santa was busy that day. Presents for everyone great job Tom Cribbin and John Martinez. Thank you ladies for all the cupcakes. We have a football play off tailgate coming January 21st, \$10pp at 1pm. Come out support the Ladies Auxiliary, eat some yummy food and watch football. We are having a chili bar and taco bar with all the fixings. January 28th, STEAL BINGO, get your tables it will be a fun day. Janet Desfosse always goes above and beyond to show everyone a great time. Get your tickets. January 31st is our meeting. 7:15pm officers and 7:30pm regular meeting. It's our nomination meeting, ladies please let me know if you want to take on a board position. Now is the time to step up. February is the vote meeting. Please let me know if you are interested. I will answers any and all questions you have. We have some Elks and Ladies Auxiliary not feeling so good. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. Stay warm spring is coming lol. Hope to see everyone at the upcoming events.

**ALWAYS BE KIND YOU MIGHT JUST MAKE
SOMEONE'S DAY**

Ginger Smith, President



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 Adrienne 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 _____

JANUARY LADIES BIRTHDAY

1ST PEARL LYNCH

5TH CATHY TRIEST

6TH CAROLINE JOHNSON

13TH KRISSEY VOORHEES

16TH MELISSA VANDERZEE

19TH CAROL GOODBODY

19TH LISA HAHN

25TH GINGER ROONEY

30TH STACY HANNON

ENJOY YOUR BIRTHDAY!

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Please remit your dues for 2022-2023. \$20.00 If you have any questions, please feel free to call Janet Desfosse 732.788.4839 Corresponding Secretary

SUNSHINE CHAIRLADY MESSAGE

Any Member Ill...or in the Hospital... Please contact Debby Gerardi at 201-978-7223 to receive flowers or get well message.

HALL RENTALS

Contact Don Desfosse

732-788-4840

for Information



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Visit us at www.Pflegerfuneralhome.com / e-mail: info@pflegerfuneralhome.com
**Tradition & Trust is a Pre-Need Trademark - it is not a Trust Fund.*



Alicia Kedz Sarin
OWNER / SENIOR DIRECTOR
N.J. lic. # 4062

153 CHURCH STREET BELFORD N.J. 07718

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Susan Montanti

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SRES, Senior Real Estate Specialist

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Hazlet, NJ 07730
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Cell: (732) 895-5923
Fax: (732) 203-1293
Email: smontanti@remax.net



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3-C's Backhoe Service Middletown, NJ

Charlie Diehl
Owner

Cell: 908-890-5893
Fax/Office: 732-495-3119
ThreeCsBackhoe@Aol.com



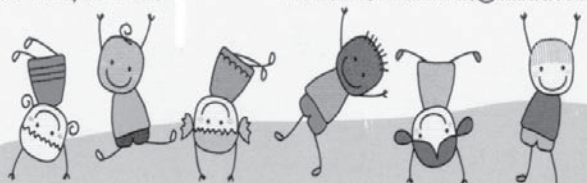
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 Belford, New Jersey 07718

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or Current Resident

Calendar Events For January 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 CORNHOLE	3 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	4	5	6
7	8	9 CORNHOLE	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 CORNHOLE	17	18 REGULAR MEETING	19	20
21 TAILGATE PARTY	22	23 CORNHOLE	24	25	26	27
28 STEAL BINGOP	29	30 CORNHOLE	31 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING			

Calendar Events For February 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1	2	3
4	5	6 CORNHOLE	7 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	8	9	10
11	12	13 CORNHOLE	14	15 REGULAR MEETING	16	17
18	19	20 CORNHOLE	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 CORNHOLE	28 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	29		
