



## **BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

BROTHERS ALL,

These months are really flying by and our Lodge is keeping busy. The Special Children's Committees Spaghetti Dinners are doing wonderful, thank you to everyone who helps, donates, or comes out every first Wednesday of the month. If you haven't been to one yet I would highly recommend you try it. This month's dinner will be on February 5th. The Boss, 107.1 radio station invited PER Tom Cribbin, PDD Mike Dickie and myself down to their studio for a tour, we had a blast! We really want to thank Valerie, and Robby and Rochelle for their hospitality and we look forward to them joining us at this year's Charity Ball, on March 8th at the Gramercy. If you haven't received your tickets for the Charity Ball yet, please see Tom Cribbin or Mike Dickie.

We had a nice contingent of friends attend the District Elk of the Year Dinner in Jamesburg, in Honor of The Duke of Belford, Charlie Diehl. Congratulations Charlie!

PDD Mike Dickie and myself attended the District Hoop Shoot at Old Sandburg School. Congratulations to all the winners!

The District Chili Contest was held in Keyport/Matawan Lodge this year and was very well attended and the chili was awesome! The State Chili Contest will be held on 2-16-25 in Woodbridge Lodge.

The Social Community and Welfare Committee held a pulled pork dinner. Thank you to our Esquire Jimmy Lampert, and Chairman of the Trustees Rich Mirenda, and our waitress Debbie Gerardi and to all who attended. Very tasty, nice job!

Jamesburg Lodge held their Annual Charity Ball. They had a great turnout and raised a lot of money for their Special Children's Committee. Congratulations Anthony! Thanks to Tommy Cribbin, Jimmy Lampert, Brian Phillips, and John Martinez for joining me there.

On 1-26-25 The Ladies Auxiliary sponsored our last Tailgate Party of the year. The food was plentiful and so was the fun! Thank you Ladies!

On February 2nd the SCC will host a Valentines Party! February 4th, Freehold Lodge will host a "Meet the Candidates Night" for VPs and State Presidents that are running for office.

On Super Bowl Weekend we have Cheeseburgers in Paradise on Friday, hosted by the PERs then Karaoke to follow. Sunday, come on down and watch The Big Game!

Saturday night there is a PDD Testimonial in Old Bridge for PDD Frank Tevis, we still have a few seats left on the van.

On 2-15-25 Kearny Lodge is running a bus trip and will be stopping by our Lodge, come down and say hi!

On 2-23-25 Middletown Elks 2179 will travel to Long Branch Lodge to defend our Title for the State Ritual Contest! It's early, we perform at 9am. All members are welcome to come and cheer us on!

Don't forget to get you Charity Ball Tickets for March 8th, and first sign up for Convention is 2-15-25. We only have 24 rooms so first come first served.

Last but not least. Our Youth Activities Chairman John Martinez is putting together an event he is calling, THE PERs ROAST. He is still working out the details and will announce the date soon!

*"A Fraternal Organization"*