

# THE BUGLE

## Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510

ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000

PHONE 813-685-6469

FAX 813-643-5652



DECEMBER 2021  
www.brandonelks.org  
Volume 21 Issue 12



Elks Care - Elks Share



Jim McCleary  
Exalted Ruler

### MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER

We are ushering out November and heading into the Christmas season! What a November it was! We showed appreciation for our Veterans with our Veterans Day service. What a special day and ceremony that was, and thanks to Robin Rutzke for all her work in coordinating the service, and to everyone who participated. We also welcomed home our Veterans from the Parade of Heroes trip to Washington, D.C. We initiated 16 new members, which is AWESOME! Please help me in welcoming all our new members to our Elk family! We held another quarterly food drive! More about that later in the Bugle, keep reading! We raised over \$3100 for the Harry Anna Trust with Dennis Roberts and I surviving the "One Chip Challenge." As you may already know, the Harry Anna Trust funds our Youth Camp in Umatilla and our Child Therapy program around the State. What a phenomenal result, and if you haven't seen the video, you can do so on the Elks Member Facebook page. Thank you to all who donated and were a part of a special night!

As we go further into the Holiday season, I want to again express my gratitude for our Volunteers. Without you, we couldn't have a Lodge. Your participation as Elks is so critical to our future as an organization and allows us to continue to do good works in our community. I am so thankful for you. And I encourage everyone to do what you can! And show appreciation and kindness to those who give of their time. Gratitude and kindness to those who step up and give does make a difference! Finally, I hope all of you feel blessed and enjoy this Holiday season with your loved ones.

Fraternally,  
Jim McCleary, Exalted Ruler



New Members not in order:

John Wick, Erika Pietrarosso, Stephen Shamblyn, Barrett Higgins, Laura Walker, Ivar Swanson, William Eichhorn, Beverly Lowe, Robert Oliver  
Tracy Hyde, Sue Ann McGuire, Joseph Alberico, Marion Richard, Vincent Esposito, Linda First, Gisela McGinley

### Elk of the Month

The Elk of the Month for November is **Mary Lou Scribner**. Mary Lou is a great example of an Elk! Earlier this year she secured and packaged a bunch of costume jewelry donations. She is constantly helping to promote Brandon Lodge in the Florida Elks Magazine, and she recently escorted our Veterans to Washington, D.C. for the Parade of Heroes trip. Mary Lou also serves as our PER Association Chairperson, providing great leadership. Please congratulate and thank Mary Lou for being our Elk of the Month for November!



### BE A BUGLE BOOSTER !!!

Please help defray the cost of printing and sending out our Bugle. A donation of \$5 will help a great deal.

#### These folks are BUGLE BOOSTERS:

Henry Ebert	Charlene Hart
Julie Ebert	Barbara Myer
Mark Fox	Ken Lamont
Ann Fox	George Scribner
Linda Hancock	Mary Lou Scribner
Bernie Hiskey	Colin Cattley
Pat Hiskey	Angela Sweeney
Diane League	George Thomas
Gerri Mann	Carolyn Thomas
Kim Martinez	Joseph Zebrak

**JOIN THE  
BOOSTER CLUB**



## Brandon Lodge Officers for 2021-2022 Elk Year



Jim McCleary  
Exalted Ruler  
813-763-9019



Marionette Sexton  
Leading Knight  
813-956-3776



Lou Valencia  
Loyal Knight  
813-376-9863



Joe Schreck  
Lecturing Knight  
813-340-8069



Ed Campbell  
Lodge Esquire  
813-245-0827



Robin Rutkze  
Lodge Inner  
Guard  
305-498-5654



Lara McCleary  
Lodge Tiler  
203-988-5089



Carolyn Greeson  
Lodge Chaplain  
813-436-0704



Mary Lou  
Schreck  
Secretary  
813-689-2155



Nancy Price  
Treasurer  
813-477-7676

VACANT  
1 Year Trustee



Delores Westfall  
2 Year Trustee  
813-363-1562



Larry Oliver  
3 Year Trustee  
813-767-0870



Ed Ciesla  
4 Year Trustee  
813-679-7699



Mark Vargo  
5 Year Trustee  
813-376-8855

382

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### LOUNGE HOURS

Sunday: 1pm – 7pm  
Monday - Thursday 4pm – 9pm  
Friday 4pm – 10pm  
Saturday 4pm – 9pm  
MANAGER: GLENN GARVEY

**Mary Lou Schreck**  
LODGE SECRETARY

#### Office Hours

MONDAY: 3pm – 5pm  
WEDNESDAY: 3pm – 5pm  
Or call for appointment

**Nancy Price**  
LODGE TREASURER

#### Office Hours

MONDAY: 10am – 3pm  
THURSDAY: 10am – 3pm  
Or call for appointment

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT  
**Dinner \* Dancing \* Music**  
OLDIES \* COUNTRY \* POP  
Weekly PER & 50/50 Raffles  
\$500 Club Drawing  
9pm Absent Member Toast  
**Monthly Drink Specials**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	3 ROTC Ball 6pm 11pm - Hall Door: Ed Campbell Music: Good Stuff Friday night dinner see page 4	4 District Deputy Visit –Lake Placid 6pm
5 Annual Lodge Memorial Service 2pm  Social & Sports	6  BLOE Meeting PER Meeting	7 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	8	9  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	10 Door: Carolyn Music: Tony Knight & Friends Friday night dinner see page 4	11 Santa Claus Meet & Greet 11am
12 8:00am - 11:00am BLOE Breakfast – Hall  Social & Sports	13  Lodge Meeting 7PM	14 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	15 BLOE Dinner & Christmas for families 6:30 PM see page 5 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack MTG. - Hall	16	17 Door: Robin Music: Fifth Gear Friday night dinner see page 4	18 Private Party Hall 8pm-1am
19  Social & Sports	20  7pm Governing Board Meeting	21 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	22	23	24 NO Friday night dinner	25 
26  Social & Sports	27	28 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Party	

### Save the Date

December 13<sup>th</sup>, Lodge meeting

December 15<sup>th</sup>, BLOE Dinner

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM  
Brandon Boys

Lodge Meetings Are Open To Members In Good  
Standing and is the Place to Discuss any Lodge  
issues. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month!

Dress code for meetings is long pants and  
collared shirt for men.

Skirt, Dress, or long slacks for women.

PER Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday  
Lodge Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month, 7pm  
Governing Board mtg – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7pm  
BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month at 7pm  
Member Illness / Convalescence: Notify Lodge  
Secretary

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday BLOE Breakfast  
\$7  
Tuesdays 7pm Boy Scouts

Please RSVP for Dinners  
RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com



## DECEMBER MENU ITEMS

TO BE ASSURED OF A MEAL, PLEASE RSVP TO [RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM](mailto:RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM)  
BY 10 A.M. THE DAY BEFORE THE MEAL.

### DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

PAT & JEFF- \$12

ENTRÉE: COUNTRY FRIED STEAK

SIDES: POTATOES & GRAVY, COLE SLAW & VEGGIES

DESSERT

Music: Good Stuff



### DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

PUPPET & NICKIE - \$12 OR \$14

SALAD: TOSSED

ENTRÉE: (PLEASE CHOOSE ONE): STEAK (\$14), SHRIMP OR FISH (\$12)

SIDES: VEGGIES AND BAKED POTATO

Music: Tony Knight & Friends



### DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>

JIM MCCLEARY & JOE SCHRECK \$10

SALAD

ENTRÉE: GLAZED ROAST PORK TENDERLOIN

SIDES: POTATES, VEGGIES

DESSERT

Music: Fifth Gear

### DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

NO DINNER OR MUSIC

### DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

New Year's Eve Party

Menu TBD

Music: Bob Prong

## Kitchen Manager Needed

The Elks Lodge needs a member to manage the Kitchen.

This position requires coordinating with member cooks to arrange for Friday night dinners and Tuesday and Thursday night snack bars.

Controlling the Kitchen by maintaining the cleanliness of the Kitchen and passing health inspections.





## BLOE BITS

Next Meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Hoping to See You There!

By: Terri Ciesla  
B.L.O.E. President

Another month has come and gone, and cooler weather is here as we get into the Christmas season.

This time of year, I reflect on my blessings and thankfulness. I am thankful for the wonderful family I was lucky to be born into. Thank God for my loving parents who guided me, taught me, and supported me. I am thankful for my loving, caring, husband, lover, partner, and best friend, Ed. He always helps me, supports me, and stands beside me. I am thankful for, and am proud of, my children and the adults they have become. I am thankful to have such kind, beautiful, healthy, and loving grandchildren. And I am blessed and thankful to have such wonderful friends. I am very fortunate.

Our December ladies meeting is our Christmas Party. December 12 is our ladies' breakfast along with a breakfast with Santa event. Kids under 12 eat free, can meet Santa, and participate in various crafts.

December 15 is a ladies' dinner along with the wrapping of gifts for our Christmas families.

That's a wrap for the busy month of December. Be sure to keep looking at the calendar for events and dinners.

"A fool vents all her feelings. A wise woman holds them back." Anonymous

See you at the lodge, Terri

## Brandon Ladies of Elks



### OCTOBER LADY OF DISTINCTION

Our lady this month is a new face at the Brandon Elks. She is a member of the BPOE and a new member of the Brandon Ladies. She was welcomed to our group and immediately volunteered to be in charge of our Halloween Party - "Myths, Legends and Fairytales".

She and the decorating committee turned the hall into a Halloween Wonderland. Her centerpieces were festive and cleverly done. The music and dancing was great, but guests were also able to participate in several games which made the night a fun and overwhelming success.

She is very enthusiastic and a hard worker, we are very lucky to have her as a new member. Please join me in congratulating **Becky Cresswell** our November Lady of Distinction.

## 500 Club Winners

Called not signed up:

Karen Bebnowski, Kevin Merschorf, Mickey Moore, Gene Pike

Names called and signed up:

Don Moon, not present. Mary Lane, present.



### Lady's Events

Dec 11 Breakfast with Santa

Feb 12 Red and Black Ball

Please plan on staying to help wrap  
presents for our families for Christmas



Brandon Ladies of Elks

### Presents

Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021



Chef - Nancy Price

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm Cost \$8

Menu: Salad, Soup & Chili

RSVP: RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com

2552



## Bingo Schedule

2831

Bingo Helpers	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Table 4 6:30	Mary Lane	Grace Weigand	Mary Lane	Grace Weigand	Mary Lane
Table 4 6:30	Barbra	Mary Lane		Mary Lane	Mary Ryan
Table 4 6:30	Trudy Wade	Trudy Wade	Trudy Wade	Trudy Wade	Trudy Wade
Call Bingo 6:30/7:45	Nicky Wells	Mark Vargo	Ron Mathews	Maggie Van.	Ron Mathews
Call Bingo 7:45/9:00	Nancy Price	Mary Lou Scribner	Lourdes	Lourdes	Marionette
Call Bingo 6:30/7:45				Marionette	
Call Bingo 7:45/9:00	Lori Underberg	Sharon H			Lori Underberg

We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with Bingo - Call Carol at 484-678-3926

**Brandon Elks!**  
**Show Support of Our**  
**Armed Forces**  
*By Proudly Wearing*  
***"We Honor Those Who Serve"***  
**Patch**



We Brandon Elks can take pride that wearing this Patch first started in the Brandon Lodge about 4 years ago. Because of its' success it then was adopted as a District Program for Lodge Officers and Members to wear on their Lodge and/or Veteran Red shirts. Now, this year, the Florida State Elks Organization has approved this program at state level for all lodges participation.

**You too can display support of our Veterans and Military by purchasing the  
*"We Honor Those Who Serve"* patch and wearing it proudly.**

See Brandon Veteran Chair Robin Rutzke ([rutzke@gmail.com](mailto:rutzke@gmail.com) / 305-498-5654) to purchase your patch. Robin will be happy to address any questions.

Patches are sold for \$6.00. All profits are donated to support our Veterans with "Parade of Heroes" and our Military with "Army of Hope".



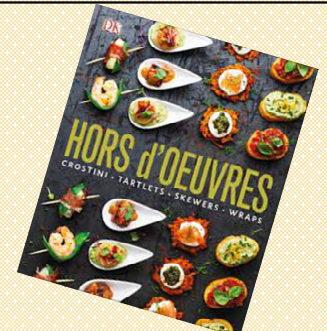
**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Get your tickets early

\$50 each – comes with 2 drinks and Hors d'oeuvres

WIN up to **\$2,500**

See Marionette Sexton to purchase tickets



**Annual Calendar**

The annual calendar will be updated to reflect any dinners or events that will take place in the Lodge. You should also check the Brandon Elks Facebook page and Brandonelks.org for events. Please RSVP for Dinners

["rsvpbrandonelks@yahoo.com"](mailto:rsvpbrandonelks@yahoo.com)





The Brandon Lodge #2383, spearheaded by their Veteran Chair Robin Rutzke, continues to support their Veterans.

On October 13<sup>th</sup> Veteran Chair Robin Rutzke representing the Brandon lodge, presented \$725 worth of art supplies and \$75 in Wal-Mart gift cards to the recreation therapy services of the James A. Haley Hospital. The donation was presented to Kim Peatee Felt, recreation therapist who works in Short Stay Rehabilitation and Whole Health at James A. Haley, and to Marina Leander, recreation therapist, who works in the Spinal Cord Injury Center. These gifts were made possible by donations by Brandon members as well as member fundraisers for Veteran causes. The gifts will be shared by all of recreation therapy at James A. Haley.

With the monetary donations, Robin purchased acrylic paints, premium paint brushes, paint markers, watercolor essentials kits, canvas panels, colored pencils, sketch books. The gift cards will supplement any additional items needed.

In addition, Brandon member Ken Muzyk and Robin Rutzke donated puzzles and karaoke CD's. Brandon lodge members donated loads of magazines. Robin also reached out to the Elks National Veterans Service Commission "Playing Cards for Veterans" program, requesting playing cards for the recreation therapy and POC Tom Jamison personally responded to Robin and within a week 75 decks of playing cards arrived which Robin donated to James A. Haley.

Robin works very closely with her contacts at James A. Haley to ensure the items donated meet their needs.

The Brandon lodge has a long-standing partnership with James A. Haley. Veteran Chair Robin Rutzke continues to build on this relationship especially throughout the COVID pandemic to ensure our Veterans are not forgotten!



Brandon Elks #2383 Proud!!!! Sharon dropped off 808 pounds of donated food from the Saturday Food Drive at the Nativity Food Bank. This food will be used at the Nativity Food Pantry and several other distribution points in the Brandon/Valrico/Seffner/Dover Area. Thank you, Brandon Elks!







The month of November for bags of brotherly love has been a busy one thus far with assembling the bags and distributing them as well. By November 12th, 65 bags were distributed and over 100 bags have been assembled and ready for the next outreach. The next homeless outreach event will be conducted at Sacred Heart Church in Tampa on January 11th, 2022. We will continue to assemble the bags in anticipation of receiving approximately 250 homeless at the event. If anyone would like to help volunteer their services for the day on January 11th, please contact Bob at the below number. Unfortunately, we do not have a flyer yet as the meetings are ongoing to prepare for the outreach. We anticipate a flyer by December and should have it in January's bugle. Again, we thank all our members for their continued contributions of clothing and hygiene items that continue to be utilized by the homeless. Through the partnership that Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office has with Frito Lay, we were given 25 boxes of assorted chips and snacks to be put into the bags of brotherly love. We continue to also work with the Homeless Initiative to ensure safety protocols are in place for the upcoming outreach and get monthly reports of the current Covid issues within the county. We appreciate our members continued support of this worthy project that demonstrates Elks Care, Elks Share within the homeless communities. Bringing dignity back to the lives of those less fortunate is a constant reminder of how the bags of brotherly love help in these trying times and especially at the holiday season. Generosity of our members time and donations for this endeavor are appreciated by all the partners we serve as they continue to find housing, provide medical assistance, and help homeless, many of them being veterans. We are proud that Brandon lodge Elk members help to ensure that continues. May everyone have a blessed holiday season. Hope to see you at the lodge.

Bags of Brotherly Love  
Bob and Elisa Blair  
813-758-8894



### Guidelines for Brandon Elks Social Media

No vulgarity, profanity, politics, or meanness are permitted on our Open page or Private group.

#### **Brandon Elks Members** Private group (viewable by group members only)

This group is for posting information, news, updates, flyers, and photos of Brandon Elk and BLOE events and members.

The group a closed one, with only Brandon Elks, spouses, prospective Elks, other lodge's members, Elk campers, and special lodge friends as members. Members may ONLY invite Elks and prospective Elks into this private group. You can invite from the group's main page. Invitees are permitted into the group once verified. Any member can post in this group. Anything posted here is only viewable by the members of this group.

Photos of our events always welcome.

#### **Brandon Elks Lodge 2383** FB Public Page (viewable to anyone on FB)

Public Page - This is where we can advertise events that are open to the public (i.e., Sunday Breakfasts, Bingo, Vets Night, etc.) This also is where we can brag to the world about the many accomplishments of our organizations. It is not used to publicize private events like member parties and Friday night dinners.

You may post directly to Brandon Elks Lodge 2383, but until reviewed and shared by a page administrator it will not show to the public. The Page administrators will include at least one Governing Board member. Facebook notifies page admins when a post is made to the public page. A review and public share of the post will be made as soon as possible if deemed appropriate by page administrators. Appropriateness of posts is to be determined by the page administrators. Only the Governing Board can over-ride the page admin's decisions.

Any 'Open to Public' events at the lodge will need prior approval by the Governing Board to be advertised on the open page. Approval needs to be communicated to page admins prior to post.

These are some of the thing's admins will use to determine appropriateness of a post to the open FB page, Brandon Elks Lodge 2383.

Is this post promoting the Elks or lodge facilities?

Is this post something people will understand?

Is this post how I want my lodge represented to the world?

Does this post make me proud of the Brandon Elks?

Is this post excessive?

Who, exactly, do I want my audience going to be? Is this the right audience?

Do I have permission to post photos of those pictured? There may be legal issues if not.





**VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Committee Chair  
Robin Rutzke**

**BPOE Inner Guard  
USAF (ret)  
305-498-5654**



Any questions or concerns about the Veterans, the Elks Lodge serves or note worthy Veteran events, please address them with Robin.

God Bless our Veterans.



## Veteran's Appreciation Service & Luncheon



Thank you to all our Elks that participated in our ceremony to recognize our Veterans and all those who received one of our donated raffles!



10510 Riverview Drive  
(813) 671-3121

**Kevin Talbert  
Director / Owner**



**Linda Hinkle  
Office Manager**

Riverview, Florida 33578  
813) 671-3730 Fax

**Mark C. Vargo, Sr.  
Director / Owner**



## Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

800 Centennial Lodge Drive  
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**\*\*Change Service Requested**



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Frank Craft 813-245-6238



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## OPEN TO PUBLIC

Every Thursday Night at 6:30pm  
**Brandon Elks Lodge**



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**SNACK BAR FOOD & DRINKS**