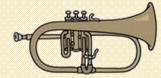


DECEMBER 2022

www.brandonelks.org

Volume 22 Issue 12





# BUGLE



800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510
ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000
PHONE 813-685-6469
FAX 813-643-5652









Marionette Sexton Exalted Ruler

## **MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER**

**Ells** Care - **Ells** Share

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all! We are nearing the end of this year and I have absolutely no idea where the time has gone to. Time flies. But I must say we Brandon Elks do make the best of our time doing great works for our community, and I thank you to all the members who participate in the many functions that our lodge offers.

We held our Veteran's Ceremony November 11th, and a big thank you to Robin Rutzke and her ROTC team for such a great ceremony to honor our Veterans. Thank you to Donald Harrison and his team for the fine Thanksgiving Dinner he cooked and hosted on Thanksgiving. What a great day it was, and I hear food was delicious as always!

I want to thank the team that helped with the annual MacDill Military Dinner that was held on November 17th. This is an event that our lodge has had the privilege to be part of for many years; an opportunity to volunteer our time and talents by cooking, setting up and serving our Military.

We have some great things happening in December. I invite you to come out and participate. If you are not sure about any of the events, just ask me or any Officer and we will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

December 2nd, we have the Members Appreciation Dinner 6:30 – 7:30 pm. A free delicious dinner is offered to our members, and it is a wonderful evening of socializing with members. It's our way to say Thank You for being a member of this wonderful organization and to show our appreciation for all that our members do to support our lodge, Elkdom and our community. Please RSVP for this night.

The Florida State President will be visiting our Southwest Central District December 2nd and 3rd. This weekend event is offered to all members and is a wonderful opportunity to not only meet our State President and wife along with other State Dignitaries, but again, a District function where we can visit other lodges in our District and meet other Elk members. Friday, the 2nd, the function will be at the Plant City Lodge, and Saturday the 3rd the Lakeland lodge will host with a fine dinner. Please go to https://www.floridaelks.org, click on "Read more about District Visits" on the left under Danny Tabor State President to get all the information. This is an opportunity for our District to shine, so we hope to see many of our Brandon members attending. Dinner reservations are required for each night. Saturday there is a free tour offered of "Sun & Fun" at the Lakeland Airport.

On December 4th we will hold our annual members Memorial Service at 2:00 pm. Please come and bring a covered dish to socialize after the service. This memorial service is to remember and honor our Brandon members that have left us. It's a beautiful and meaningful ceremony.

December 14th we will gather in the lounge to have our annual Christmas Wrapping for all the gifts for our adopted families. We do this every year. It is such a jovial evening and really gets you into the Christmas spirit. You won't want to miss this. Come on out. Bring your scissors and join in!

December 19th all the toys that we collected from the Walgreens Toy Drive will be distributed to the many organizations that our lodge supports. Our lodge is extremely lucky to be invited to be part of this for the past 5 years. Next time you stop at Walgreens, just notice the Toy Box up front and you will see all toys collected are for the Florida Elks Organization. Our lodge has 14 local Walgreens that we pick up toys from. In the past 4 years, we have collected and distributed over 5,261 toys! Thank you to the volunteer members who pick up the toys from the stores and sort the toys for distribution. And a thank you to our Past Exalted Ruler Association, and to Mary Lou Scribner who chairs and organizes this event each year. We can support our therapist, Paula Tarver along with many of our local schools, foster organizations, local fire department and many other organizations that depend on others support and generosity. Come on out on the 19th and see what it is all about.

The lodge will be closed December 24th and 25th so our bartenders and our members can be with family and loved ones.

And then don't forget our NEW YEAR'S PARTY!!! This is always a great evening of celebration. The Motown Band has been booked to entertain. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, it's not too late. \$25 a person; party from 8:00 pm to 1:00 am. And after the party, stay to enjoy the delicious homemade breakfast that will be served.

It's been a great year for our lodge and Elkdom and for me personally. Least I forget to mention, I married my best friend on November 19th. What more can you ask for!

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all! Your Exalted Ruler, Marionette Sexton

#### Elk of the Month

It gives me great pleasure to announce Carol DiAddesio as Elk of The Month. Carol has been our kitchen manager this year and has been doing a fantastic job. If something is not in the kitchen Carol will go out and get it. Anytime there is a function or dinner Carol is there to help. She was a real big help with the Casino night along with the rummage sale. So please congratulate Carol DiAddesio as Elk of the Month.



## Officer of the Quarter

The officer of the third quarter is **Lou Valencia**. Lou has been working with Rick for the past couple of years, helping out with fixing anything that is broken in our lodge. Even when not asked and he sees something broken he just fixes it with no questions asked. Lou has become Ricks right had man. He has been helping out with every steak night dinner along with taking on dinners for a Friday night event. Lou was there several days when lan hit our lodge fixing the electrical work or even helping picking up the parking lot from debris, So please congratulate Lou Valenica as Officer of the Quarter.



# Brandon Lodge Officers for 2022-2023 Elk Year



Marionette Sexton Exalted Ruler 813-956-3776



Art Yanni Leading Knight 813-917-2554



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



Kelly Doyle Tiler 941-681-1781



Mark Fox Lodge Chaplain 813-785-5353



Mary Lou Schreck Secretary 813-689-2155



Nancy Price Treasurer 813-756-9341



Delores Westfall 1 Year Trustee 813-363-1562



Larry Oliver 2 Year Trustee 813-767-0870



Ed Ciesla 3 Year Trustee 813-679-7699



Mark Vargo 4 Year Trustee 813-376-8855



Jim McCleary 5 Year Trustee 813-763-

2066

## Committee Chairs 2022-2023

Accident Prevention Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

- C

Youth Activity Don Harrison 813-935-9040

Hall Rental Kelly Doyle 941-681-1781

Hoop Shoot Don Harrison 813-935-9040

Veterans Services Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

Public Relations Jeffrey Carter 813-477-1410

Drug Awareness Lori Underberg 813-655-3806

Lodge Advisor Henry Poage 813-480-6272

Flag Day Kirk Pennywitt 678-524-0646

Lodge Maintenance Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

Kitchen Manager Carol DiAddezio 484-678-3926

Lodge Purchasing Food Stephen Blackman 813-655-4251

Americanism Nickie Wells 813-716-8056

Membership Jerrilyn Pietro 813-493-0428

Lodge Activities Mark Vargo 813-376-8855

ENF Marionette Sexton. 813-956-3776

Grants Coordinator Sharon Hammersla 813-323-1992

Community Activities Marionette Sexton 813-956-3776

House Committee Chair Delores Westfall 813-685-7312

Bugle Editor - Lara McCleary- 203-988-5089

#### **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: 12pm – 3pm THURSDAY: 12pm – 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

0 1						0
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				IN THE LOUNGE 6:30pm SNACK BAR	State President's Music: Mike Albright Door: Ed Campbell Member Appreciation Dinner 6:30PM-7:30PM	3 Visit- Lakeland Lodg Hall Rental 6PM – 11PM
4 Member Memorial Service 2PM Social & Sports	BLOE Meeting 6:30PM	5:30pm -7:00pm Queen Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	7 Spaghetti Dinner Hall 6:30PM \$8	BINGO IN THE LOUNGE 6:30pm SNACK BAR	9 Nativity Outreach Lounge 10:30AM – 3PM Music: Tommy Patrick Door: Marionette Friday night dinner see page 4	
11 Social & Sports 8AM - 11AM BLOE Breakfast - Hall Santa Visit 10AM	Lodge Meeting 7PM	5:30pm -7:00pm Queen Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	14 BLOE Dinner - Hall 6:30PM 6PM Christmas Present Wrapping	15	Music: Fifth Gear Door: Art Friday night dinner see page 4	Lounge Rental 4PM - 9PM Brandon HS ROTC Ball - Hall 6PM – 11PM
Foster Kids Christmas Party 2PM-6PM Hall Social & Sports	Walgreens Toy Drive Toy Distribution 5PM 7pm Governing Board Meeting	5:30pm -7:00pm Queen Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	Member Orientation 6:30PM	BING 0 IN THE LOUNGE 6:30pm SNACK BAR	23  No dinner or music	24 LODGE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
25 LODGE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	26	5:30pm -7:00pm Queen **  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	28	BINGO IN THE LOUNGE 6:30pm SNACK BAR	30  No dinner or music	31 New Year's Eve Party 8PM – 1AM MUSIC: Motwon

# Please RSVP for Dinners

# RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com

Save the Date
DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, Lodge
Meeting

BLOE Meeting DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> · 6:00 PM Brandon Boys

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** 

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday BLOE Breakfast \$10 Tuesdays 7pm Boy Scouts 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!

<u>Dress code for meetings is long pants</u> <u>and collared shirt for men.</u> Skirt, Dress, or long slacks for women.

PER Meeting – 1st Monday

Lodge Meeting 2nd Monday of month, 7pm

Governing Board mtg – 3rd Monday at 7pm

BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1st Monday of month

at 6:30pm

Member Illness / Convalescence: Notify
Lodge Secretary



## **DECEMBER MENU ITEMS**

TO BE ASSURED OF A MEAL, PLEASE RSVP TO RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM BY 12 PM THURSDAY

#### DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>

DON HARRISON & CREW FREE FOR MEMBERS \$13 GUESTS

ENTRÉE: PORK LOIN

SIDES: HONEY GLAZED CARROTS, GARLIC MASED POTATOES, APPLE SAUCE

DESSERT: PEANUT BUTTER BARS AND DUMP CAKE

MUSIC: MIKE ALBRIGHT

#### DECEMBER 7TH

**GLENN & CREW \$8** 

ENTRÉE: SPAGHETTI WITH MEATBALLS

**DESSERT** 

#### DECEMBER 9TH

MARIONETTE & CREW \$13

ENTRÉE: ITALIAN SAUSAGE W GREEN PEPPERS & ONIONS

SIDES: COLESLAW, STEAK FRIES & DESSERT

MUSIC: TOMMY PATRICK

#### DECEMBER 16TH

MARIONETTE & FRIENDS

SALAD: TOSSED

ENTRÉE: (PLEASE CHOOSE ONE): STEAK (\$15), SHRIMP (\$13)

GRILLED CHICKEN (\$12) OR FISH (\$13) SIDES: VEGGIES AND BAKED POTATO

MUSIC: FIFTH GEAR







PLEASE READ: When using anything in the kitchen it is your responsibility to put everything back. Please do not leave your clean dishes in the dish drainer. ANY food placed in the freezer or refrigerator needs to be labeled with the date and

what is in the bag,

1842

## TO THE RV GUESTS

Just a few words to Welcome you back to our RV Park

OUR RATES ARE:

- ▶ \$25 per night; 7<sup>th</sup> night FREE
- ▶ RV Storage is \$50 per month THANKS FOR STAYING IN OUR PARK

Frank Craft 813-245-6238



#### **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:

Diane League Gerri Mann Kim Martinez Jeff & Pat Lavoie Frank & Lynda Craft David & Kathleen Zilka Terry & Nina Rickett Julie & Hank Ebert

Mary & Larry Lane

Barbara Myer George & Carolyn Thomas

Joseph Zebrak Kenneth League Richard Clark Karen McArthur

Bernie & Pat Hiskey

Donna & Michael Fultz

# **BLOE BITS**

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



By: Ann Fox B.L.O.E. President

November 16<sup>th</sup> Ladies dinner was fabulous. Thank you, Mary Lou Scribner and friends for the wonderful dinner.

December 14th, come have dinner with Nancy Price and friends.

Breakfast was wonderful! Thank you everyone for helping with all the prepping, cooking, serving, and cleaning up for a wonderful start of the day for many. Please come out and enjoy breakfast, it is all you can for just \$10.00 each. Next one is on December 11th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Remember Santa will be here for visits and crafts for the children.

Our Lady of Distinction for November was Diane League. She does a wonderful job with information of years past and making the beautiful baskets for our auctions. She is always there when we need sprucing up with the office, closets, shed and baskets.

Remember our next meeting is December 5th, come join and if you want bring in a gift to participate for the gift exchange. Secret pals will bring in a gift for their picked friend.

Thank you to all the ladies for helping out with the catering, baking and all the things no one sees us do.

Ann Fox

## 500 Club Winners

NOT SIGNED UP: Emilio Gelfenstein, Mike Hancock David Buschman, Gail Dixon, Elizabeth Wilkerson and Angela Galine WINNER: signed up and present – Jack Kramer



After Hurricane Ian tried to deconstruct the BLOE shed, some of the ladies got to work to spiff it up. Thank you: Annie Fox, Diane League, Grace Weigand and Carolyn Thomas for all your hard work!



# Brandon Ladies of Elks November Lady of Distinction



This month's lady of distinction is the perfect example of what a Brandon Lady of Elk should be. Her baking expertise is unmatchable. She knows more about Elkdom than anyone I know. All the rules, dates, protocols and history she can explain on the spot.

Besides all those talents, she has held every office and chair position that is available. She kept our office and our closet in tip top shape for many years and she made herself available to overlook the cleaning of the ladies' shed after the hurricane.

Her time and talents are still being used to display our fundraising baskets, she can take a cabbage and make it look like lettuce. She has a flair for displaying gifts in a unique and eye-catching manner. No one can resist buying a ticket when she displays her decorative talents.

She is finally on the road to recovery and we love seeing her back at the meetings and at special functions. Please join me in congratulating **Diane League** our November Lady of Distinction.

## **Brandon Ladies of Elks**

Presents
Wednesday DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2022



Chef - Nancy Price

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm Cost \$10

Menu: Meatloaf, Side, Salad & Dessert

RSVP: RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com

10510 Riverview Drive (813) 671-3121



Riverview, Florida 33578 (813) 671-3730 Fax

2869

Kevin Talbert Director / Owner Linda Hinkle Office Manager

Mark C. Vargo, Sr. Director / Owner

#### THE BUGLE • DECEMBER 2022 • Page 6

**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.











Brandon Veteran's Participate in 2022 "Parade of Heroes"

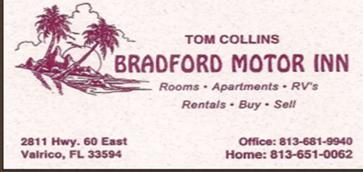
Three of our very own Brandon Veterans were honored participants of this years "Parade of Heroes". PER Jim McCleary, members Larry Lane and Mark Fox all were honored guest for the weekend trip to Washington, D.C.

"Parade of Heroes" Chaired by PSP Rudy Masi, is funded by the Florida State Elks Association along with donations and money from lodge fund raising. Each year Elk members who are Military Veterans are taken on an all-expense paid 3-day trip to Washington, D.C. This trip is to honor our Veterans and thank them for their service and let them know that they are not forgotten. The weekend started with a dinner at P.F. Changs at the Tampa International airport and an overnight stay at the Marriott Hotel at the airport. Friday morning the trip began as they were escorted to the American Airlines plane to fly them to Washington. There were 55 Elk Military Veterans from Florida. In Washington the group was joined by 28 Elk Military Veterans from Virginia State Elks; there were 2 bus loads of Elks. They enjoyed a dinner hosted by the Arlington, VA lodge.

Friday and Saturday they visited many of the Memorials and participated in a parade that was put on just for them! There were school bands and choirs and guest speakers. They paraded from the Lincoln Memorial all the way down to the World War II Memorial, handing out American flags along the way. What our veterans experience was a genuine thank you no matter where they went. Applause as they were escorted to and from their planes. A water salute when they landed in Washington DC. People stopping to shake their hand and to thank them for their service. And when they returned to the Tampa airport, a large group of Elks were there to greet our veteran's home. Channel 8 was there to send them off and to welcome them home.

Preparation for the 2023 Parade Of Heroes has begun. If you are a veteran and have not gone on this trip, we encourage you to go on the Florida Elks website and fill out the form. If you have any questions about the trip, feel free to reach out to any of our Brandon veterans who have taken this trip and they will be more than happy to share their experiences; PER George Thomas, Rick Weigand, Jim McCleary, PDDGER George Scribner and members Larry Lane, Mark Fox, Don Cornett, Mark Sims, Ken Wells, Charlene Hart to name a few. Written by PER Mary Lou Scribner







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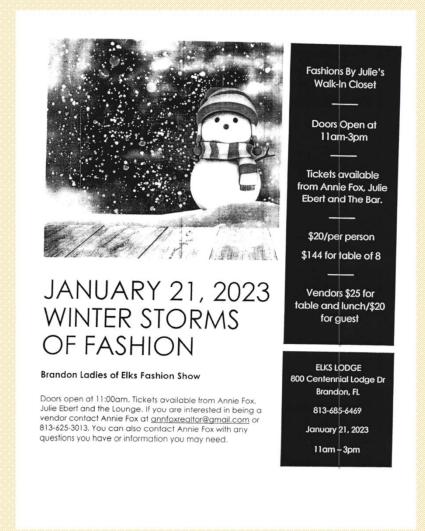
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# **TICKETS ON SALE**

# **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

MUSIC: MOTOWN BAND

\$25.00 EACH

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