



MAY 2025 www.brandonelks.org

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510
ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000
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Volume 25 Issue 5

A Message From Your Exalted Ruler, LOU VALENCIA

It has been a month since the change of guard, I would like to thank all of you who have helped me and are continuing to help in bringing order back to OUR lodge.

Let's continue to get back to what we do best, serve our community, in all the ways the Elks have always done. Let's unite in keeping this fantastic lodge a friendly place for members and family to enjoy their time, while making a difference and achieving 'ELKDOM".

Elkdom: Exemplifying charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity, by improving the quality of life for our community and lodge.

Charity: the voluntary giving of help, typically to those in need, in a Generous way.



Fraternally Yours, Lou Valencia, Exalted Ruler

ELK OF THE MONTH

Marionette Garvey, has been my rock this month.

She took over as kitchen manager and organized both the pantry and kitchen.

But more importantly, she has been a great mentor to me, helping me to fulfill the duties of ER!



Thanks "SIS"!

Hello PER's! We had a very nice turn out for the April luncheon, and I hope May is just as good. With the summer months coming I know I'll be missing some of you.

Our PER luncheon is on Thursday May 8th at 11:30 at Old Town Pizza located at 115 W Bloomingdale just a building west of John Moore Rd.

Hope you can attend they have great sandwiches, pasta, pizza for one and that famous strawberry salad.

Hope to see you there.

Brandon Lodge Officers for 2025-2026 Elk Year

Lou Valencia Exalter Ruler 813-376-9863



Robin Rutzke Leading Knight 305-498-5654



Wendy Smith Loyal Knight 813-862-8573



Michael Fultz Lecturing Knight 813-205-5885



C Pr

Christina Puhalla Lodge Esquire 609-217-5782



Kathy Brogli Tiler 813-382-2898



Beverly Laundy Inner Guard 813-446-0150



Mark Fox Lodge Chaplain 813-785-5353



Mary Lou Schreck Secretary 813-458-5872

Member Illness/ Convalescence: Notify Lodge Secretary



Nancy Price Treasurer 813-756-9341



Nickie Wells 2 Year Trustee 813-716-8051



Marionette Garvey 3 Year Trustee 813-956-3776



Ed Ciesla 4 Year Trustee 813-679-7699



Rick Weigand 5 Year Trustee 813-748-2678



Committee Chairs 2025-2026

Accident Prevention - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

Annual Calendar Updates - Mark Vargo 813-376-8855

Bugle Editor - Lara McCleary 203-988-5089

Community Activities – Lou Valencia or Mark Vargo

Drug Awareness - COULD BE YOU!

Grants Coordinator - Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

Fraternal Committee - Fraternal Sub Committees:

Americanism: Nickie Wells 813-716-8056 Flag Day: Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654 Lodge Activities: Mark Vargo 813-376-8855 Orientation: Jerrilyn Pietro 813-493-0425 Elks Memorial Day: Lou Valencia -813-376-9863

ENF: Nickie Wells 813-716-8056

Veterans Services: Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

Hall Rental - Terri Ciesla - 813-679-8007

Hoop Shoot - COULD BE YOU!

House Committee - Rick Weigand - 813-748-2678

Kitchen Manager – Marionette Garvey – 813-956-3776

Lodge Advisors - Henry Poage 813-480-6272 and George Scribner 850-206-0577

Lodge Maintenance - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678 & Lou Valencia 813-376-9863

Lodge Purchasing Food - Stephen Blackman 813-378-1597

Public Relations – Jerrilyn Pietro 813-493-0425 & Lara McCleary 203-988-5089

Youth Activity - Jim Randall - 813-833-7086

Web Master: Ray Bilinski -webmasterbrandonelks@gmail.com

BLOE BITS

Next Meeting is MAY 5TH @ 7:00 PM Hoping to See You There!

I am so excited to be back from my Costa Rica trip and to start working as your president

Thank you, Jane Gilblair, for stepping up and conducting the first meeting of the year for me while I was away. I can see, by such a great turnout at this first meeting, that the ladies are excited for this new year!

We will be initiating new members at our May meeting. We have quite a few so we didn't want to wait till June. I hope you're able to come to this meeting to welcome our new members. Our May meeting will be held on May 5. Our activities this month include Mother's Day breakfast on May 11, movie night on May 14, Bunko on May 19, our Wednesday night dinner on May 21, and a cake auction at the Elks Memorial Day picnic on May 26.

Together we will have a positive, fun, and successful year!

Terri Ciesla President

Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of the year



The title of Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of the Year is a prestigious recognition awarded to an individual who exemplifies her dedication and loyalty through volunteering throughout the year for the betterment of the Brandon Elks Lodge. This lady has made significant contributions working the monthly breakfast, caterings, memorial services and virtually any event or fund raiser that the Brandon Ladies put on. She is always behind the scenes setting, straightening or cleaning a table during a catering, filling coffee cups or replacing table settings at the monthly breakfast or helping set or cleaning up after memorial services. She doesn't limit her help to just the BLOE she is a constant at any event going on at the lodge. She and her husband can be spotted at all events but when you look again, she is up cleaning tables or making sure that everyone is served. She just can't sit still and watch - she must be helping.

She was hostess several years ago when her husband was Exalted Ruler, and she set the bar high for all the ladies that followed.

She recently took on the challenge of keeping the ladies' closet and shed in order. We all know what a great job she is doing with that. The closet and shed are organized everything has a spot and nothing is out of place. She did hours and hours of work to bring our memorial board up-to-date even calling local funeral homes to get dates. She is a force to be reckon with.

I have just touched the surface with all the great work she does. Please join me in congratulating Carolyn Thomas 2024-2025 Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of the Year

Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of Distinction APRIL



There are some women who have been members for many years and every event, Sunday Breakfast, Memorial Service or catering just show up work tirelessly without fanfare and leave. They are the individuals that get it done. Our Lady of Distinction for April is one of these women. She is a very hard worker and goes unnoticed because she does the job without complaining or letting everybody who wilt listen about how hard she works. She knows the routine at the Sunday Breakfast and arrives when the sun isn't up and starts by frying peppers and onions for the buffet. She is also our lodge egg expert. She can cook an egg anyway you like it. When you talk about eggs for breakfast anywhere in Hillsborough County her name will come up as the best. Her reputation stems from her long history of preparing eggs at the BLOE Sunday Breakfast she is a legend. She is just a hard worker and one of the most dependable members we have. Please join me in congratulating Geri Mann -April 2025 Lady of Distinction



10510 Riverview Drive (813) 671-3121



Linda Hinkle Office Manager Riverview, Florida 33578 (813) 671-3730 Fax

Mark C. Vargo, Sr. Director

Kevin Talbert Director / Owner 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

MAY

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT Dinner * Dancing * Music

Weekly 50/50 Raffles \$500 Club Drawing

To All Lodge Members:

To clarify an apparent misunderstanding regarding our lounge being reserved by one of our members. Our lounge is always open to our members, and their guests, during normal operating hours. If there is a private event also happening during those hours,

members/guests are not allowed to freely partake of any food and/or beverages supplied by the member that reserved the use of our lounge unless you were invited to the event, or the member grants you permission to partake of their food/beverage.

of their food/beverage. Brandon Lodge

Lodge Veterans please come out every 4th Wednesday of the month to enjoy free dinner and visit with other local Vets!

Prepared by Nancy and friends.

supports our Veterans

BLOE BREAKFAST

ALL YOU CAN EAT \$12 CHILDREN \$6 2nd Sunday OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lounge Rental

Lounge usage will be restricted to members, spouses or widows/widowers for their own specific purpose, and they must be always present during the rental

Lodge Meetings Are Open To Members In Good Standing and is the Place to Discuss any Lodge issues. 2nd Monday of each month, May-January! February-April 2nd and 4th Mondays of the 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, 7pm
Lodge Meeting 2nd Monday of month, 7pm
Governing Board mtg – 3rd Monday at 7pm
BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1st Monday of
month at 6:30pm

SUN MON WED THU FRI SAT TUE 1 2 3 FRIDAY BINGO STATE CONVENTION - ORLANDO **NIGHT** 6PM-10PM HALL RENTAL DINNER IN THE HALL SEE PAGE 5 5/22-5/24 6:30pm FOR DETAILS 5 7 8 10 6 9 SOCIAL & 6:30PM 5PM - 7PM **FRIDAY** SPORTS LOUNGE 4PM -9PM LOUNGE RENTAL BLOE CARDS **NIGHT** BINGO 6:30PM DINNER **MEETING -PASTA** SEE PAGE 5 1PM IN THE HALL HALL DINNER FOR DETAILS 6:30nm PER LOUNGE MEETING **7PM** ANTE ROOM 14 15 17 12 13 16 8AM -11AM **FRIDAY** BINGO 6PM - 10PM **BLOE NIGHT** 5PM - 7PM 6PM -LOUNGE DINNER **BREAKFAS CARDS** 9:30PM IN THE HALL SEE PAGE 5 RENTAL MOVIE NIGHT 6:30pm FOR DETAILS HALL LOUNGE 6:30pm 6PM - 11PM **SOCIAL & BRANDON MEETING** HALL SPORTS ROYS **7PM** RENTAL LOUNGE LOUNGE 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 7 PM BOARD **SOCIAL &** MEETING 5PM - 7PM 6:30PM **SPORTS** BINGO HALL **FRIDAY** CARDS BLOE LOUNGE **NIGHT** DINNER 6PM - 9:30PM DINNER IN THE HALL 1PM HALL BUNCO SEE PAGE 5 LOUNGE FOR DETAILS

28

6:30PM

VETERAN'S

DINNER

HALL

29

BINGO

IN THE HALL

Save the Date

26

11AM - 1PM

MEMORIAL

DAY PICNIC

SOCIAL &

SPORTS

LOUNGE

1PM

27

5PM - 7PM

CARDS

BLOE MEETING, MAY 5TH
PER MEETING, MAY 5TH
LODGE MEETING, MAY 12TH
BOARD MEETING, MAY 19TH

LOUNGE HOURS

Sunday: 1pm - 7pm Monday - Thursday 4pm - 9pm Friday 4pm - 10pm Saturday 4pm - 9pm Memorial, 4th of July and Labor Day 11AM -6PM

Manager: GLENN GARVEY

30

FRIDAY

NIGHT

DINNER

SEE PAGE 5

FOR DETAILS

31

12PM - 4PN

LODGE

OLYMPICS LOUNGE THE BUGLE • MAY 2025 • Page 5

MAY MENU ITEMS

THE ONLY WAY TO BE ASSURED OF A MEAL IS TO RSVP RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM

BY THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BEFORE FOR FRIDAY NIGHT MEALS!

THIS HELPS US MAXIMIZE RESOURCES AND MINIMIZE WASTE TEXTING OR CALLING THE LODGE IS NOT CONSIDERED AN RSVP! DINNER IS FROM 6:30PM - 8PM

MAY 2ND



MAY 7TH



MAY 9TH



MAY 11TH



MAY 16TH



MAY 21ST



MAY 23RD





MAY 30TH





TO OUR ELKS RV GUESTS

Welcome to our RV Park **ELKS MEMBERS ONLY**

OUR RATES ARE:

- ▶ \$25 per night; 7th night FREE
- ▶ RV Storage is \$60 per month THANKS FOR STAYING

IN OUR PARK

Mark Vargo - 813-376-8855 LODGE PHONE - 813-685-6469



BUGLE BOOSTERS:

Frank & Lynda Craft

Henry & Julie Ebert

Charlene Hart

Diane & Ken League

Bob & Jackie Florentino

George & Mary Lou Scribner

BE A BUGLE BOOSTER !!!

Please help defray the cost of printing and George & Carolyn Thomas mailing out our Bugle. Jeff & Pat LaVoie Donations help a great deal!! **Kim Martinez** Gerri Mann Joseph Zebrak



Happy Birthday

TO OUR MAY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

JUDI EADE, PAULA STEARNS, DALE DAVENPORT, BARBARA GOULD, BRUCE JACOBSON, KARIE CARRUTHERS, JEFF LAVOIE, GARY UREMOVICH, JAY MOYER, DAVID SHAW, FRANK BEHRENDT, EDWARD TOWNSEND, ARTHUR ROESEMANN, DENNIS STEPKA, LORI HURWITZ, PATRICIA MAZUR, MARY LOU SCHRECK, HERSHEL BURDEN, STEVE HELLWEGE, LOWELL THOMPSON, CHRIATINA LEMON, STERNS POOR, STEVEN STUART, JOE VELASCO, RICHARD CHEEK, ROBIN MINALL, PAMELA COODY, TRAVIS MARTIN, TINA FALLEN, CYNTHIA HOLT, VICKY BURLEY, JOHN HOGUE, SUE POWERS, RANDY BAYNE, CLIFFORD GLAUSIER, SUZANNE MOTL, ROLAND THOMPSON, STEVE PENTICOST, MARTHA BENNETT, DAVID MAGNESS, RAYMOND MULARONI, JOSHUA PSZCZOLKOWSKI, NICKIE WELLS, CARMEN YEBBA, SR.!

BLOE Elected Officers

President: Terri Ciesla Vice president: Jane Gilblair

Recording Secretary: Donna Mancuso-Fultz

Corresponding secretary: Beth Benham

Treasurer: Janis Jacobson

Past Lady President: Jane Gilblair

Appointed Officers

Chaplin: MaryAnn Kramer Parliamentarian: Nancy Price Historian: Jerrilyn Pietro

Official Hostess: Nickie Wells

Committee Chairpersons

Audit and Budget: Roseanne Caracciolo Birthdays and anniversaries: Cathy Hudson

Bylaws: Mary Lou Scribner

Catering: Terri Ciesla and Nancy Price

Charities: Wendy Smith

Lady of distinction: Julie Ebert Lots of luck: Kathy Hattan Membership: Jane Gilblair Program: Lauri Bayne

Properties: Carolyn Thomas Publicity: Jerrilyn Pietro Scholarships: Kathy Eldridge Secret pal: Millie Marrero Sunday breakfast: Nancy Price Sunshine: Karen McArthur Telephone: Charlene Hart Ways and Means: Terri Ciesla

Yearbook: Lori Underberg

Wednesday dinners: Terri Ciesla

Helping feel the Local Community!

Brandon Lodge #2383 was invited to be part of the first Walgreen's Community Food Drive to help feed the local community. Between the dates of March 29th and 31st, the food donations collected were picked up from the 14 assigned Walgreen stores with the help of the dedicated Brandon Elks Lodge #2383 team of volunteers. Thank you to members Joe Alverico, Melinda Giffin Frater, Mike Fultz, Nelson Guggino, Jim Kraus, Ken Muzyk, PER Larry Oliver, PER Mary Lou Scribner, Mark Sims, PER Nickie Wells, and John Wick for volunteering their time to pick up the donated food. Because of the Walgreen's Community Food Drive and the community who donated, the Brandon Lodge was able to donate 399 pounds of food to the local Nativity Food Bank and another 75 pounds of food along with some socks and hygiene items were given to the Brandon Community High School to stock their food, clothing and hygiene pantry which helps students and local families. Thank you to Leading Knight Robin Rutzke who delivered the donations to the local community food banks. On April 14th Robin sorted and delivered the food to John Malinowski of Nativity Food Bank who weighed and accepted the food into the Nativity Food Pantry. Robin also delivered the 75 pounds to the Brandon Community High School Pantry.

Because of the partnering of the local Walgreen's Store's in union with the Brandon Lodge #2383 volunteers, a total of 474 pounds of much needed food was available to help support the local community. Thank you, Walgreen's and job, well done volunteers!



Picture: Left to right: Brandon Leading Knight Robin Rutzke, Nativity Food Pantry volunteer John Malinowski







50/50 raffle

Join us for the Elk Olympics!! Saturday May 31st 1:00pm (chefs 12:00)

Brandon Elks Lodge

Max 8 person Per event/Per lodge

\$5 entry fee pp For team events

\$10 pp For meals

Cornhole



8 BALL POOL

TOURNAMENT



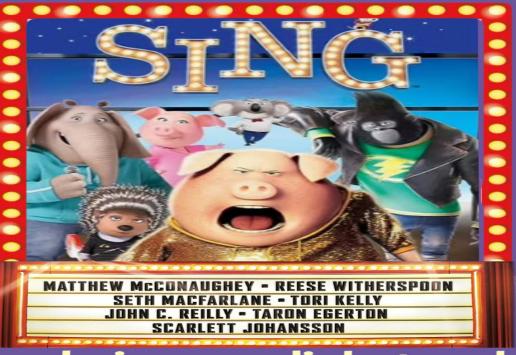


Lodge with most attendance at each competition, **Event** awarded 2 points!!



Brandon Elks Lodge 800 Centennial Lodge Dr Brandon, FI 33510

BLOE PRESENTS.... 6pm You will love this movie!!



Please bring a dish to share





Brandon Ladies of Elks **MONDAY MAY 19TH**

Dinner - 6:00pm/Game - 6:30pm Cash prizes for Most wins / Most losses Most Buncos / Last Bunco





MONIES BENEFITING LODGE ELKS CHARITIES



Get your tickets at the bar and with Terri Ciesla

VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke

BPOE Loyal Knight USAF (ret) 305-498-5654



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

God Bless our Veterans!



ATTENTION – ATTENTION – ATTENTION!

Parade of Heroes
recognizes and honors veterans from
WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Gulf War,
Operation Iraqi Freedom and
Operation Afghanistan Freedom.



Parade of Heroes

3-day, all expense paid event

in our nation's capital honoring our Military Veterans over Veterans Day

If you are interested in participating in the Parade of Heroes

For more details go to our FSEA Historical Programs 2025 Parade of Heroes Website for enrollment and more details.

Registration opens on <u>www.floridaelks.org</u> second week in January, 2025

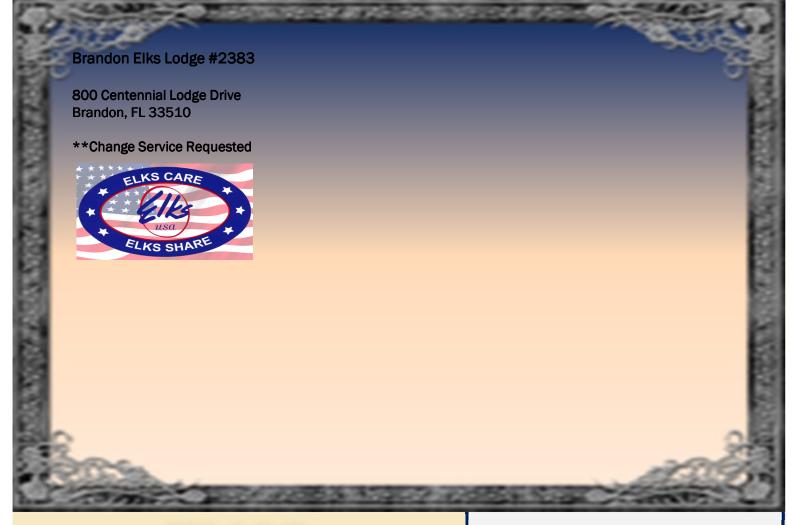
Reach out to Brandon Veteran Chair, Robin Rutzke 305-398-5654 rrutzke@gmail.com

Brandon Lodge has participated in this event each year sending many of Military Veteran Brandon Lodge members to Washington.

If you are a Military Veteran, take advantage of this great opportunity and event!









- 1. Ask a friend to join the Elks.
- 2. Invite your friend to the Lodge.
- 3. Ask them to apply on-line.
- 4. Follow-up with the application.
- 5. Schedule an initiation.

Community • Friendship • Charity join.elks.org



FLORIDA WILL, LIVING TRUST LIVING WILL

POWER OF ATTORNEY

William R. Mumbauer, Attorney 813-685-3133

205 N. Parsons Ave., Brandon, FL 33510 www.flwillstrustsprobate.com

Living Will \$75 Durable Power of Attorney \$75 Health Care Surrogate Designation \$75



11700 N 58th Street 2nd Floor, Suite F Tampa, FL 33617 (813) 504-1645 www.jackscaglioneinsuranceagent.com

JScaglione3@brighthouse.com

Jack Scaglione
Licensed Insurance Agent

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