





Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000 PHONE 813-685-6469 Fax 813-643-5652

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510

Volume 25 Issue 8

www.brandonelks.org

AUGUST 2025



A Message From Your Exalted Ruler, LOU VALENCIA

As I enter my fifth month, I would like to thank those members who have been helping to support this Lodge and help us grow, We had been stagnant, and I believe we have introduced some old and new ideas at the right time. "Garyoke" has been a BIG hit so far. We are also currently having a logo contest. A new "Lodge Emblem" and "Garyoke" has brought back Friday night late fun times beyond the "Toast". The "Emblem Contest" has shown our members the talent we have in our members, and this new logo will set us apart from the "status quo" emblem of the Elks. This is precisely what our Lodge needs to stand out and this new logo will show up on merchandise later this year.

Keep in mind that changes must be made for growth to occur, many people are uncomfortable with the unknown because it is just that, UNKNOWN, but it must be done, or the Lodge will fail to grow. Many of the Old Guard are no longer with us, and we need new members to get involved so that this Lodge can continue to have a bright future.

YOUR LODGE needs help with the snack bar on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in September. We do not want to burn out those that regularly Volunteer, so we are asking for YOUR help. Snack bar is pretty easy to make and will take about 3 hours, for a couple people to do. Please consider getting involved and reach out to me if you are interested.

Diligently conscientious: of ones work or duties, showing care, protective, guarding, keeping someone safe.

Fraternally Yours, Lou Valencia, Exalted Ruler

Obligation: An oath, a course of action or duty to a commitment.

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

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



Alan and Wendy Smith!



They transported the Hospitality trailer to state convention and back, and both are highly involved in day-to-day activities at the lodge. When you see them, please thank them.

OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

Rick Weigand!



He has been a mentor to me and handles all of the maintenance of equipment at our lodge. When you see him, please thank him.

Hello PER's!

August 14th is "tie on the feed bag day". This month we will be going to Brandon Ale House located at 1817 W Brandon Blvd. Hope to see you all there. Lunch choices are great! Come on out PERs for some good food and fellowship.

> Your Restaurant Hunter Kim Martinez PER

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



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-





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 - Kathy Bilinski <u>KayBilinski@yahoo.com</u> 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 AUGUST 4TH @ 7:00 PM Hoping to See You There!

Can you believe it's already August? They say time flies when you're having fun and we sure are! We have had wonderful turnouts with our events. Bunco at the end of June had 64 players. Everyone seemed to have a great time, and they keep coming back. The Fourth of July bake sale was a hit, movie night was lots of fun, and if you missed Christmas in July, you really missed a great time. Over 100 folks attended, Rock the House, band was amazing, and the dance floor was packed almost all night. One of our new members, Cathy DaSilva, created a very delicious and impressive charcuterie board table. Thank you to all that helped make the event successful. Be sure to watch the calendar do you don't miss the fun!!



Terri Ciesla President

Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of Distinction JULY



Our Lady of Distinction is a major force in the daily activities and administration of the Brandon Ladies of Elks. If you have ever attended an event, enjoyed a meat, or simply stepped foot in our lodge, you've undoubtedly witnessed her influence. Her presence is a constant, not only because she is always available, but because she is the driving energy behind so much of what makes our lodge a welcoming home for all. She can be found in the kitchen for catering events and she has been a Sunday Breakfast volunteer for too many years to count. There are few who embody the phrase "doesn't know what it means to sit" quite like her. She is in perpetual motion, always seeking out ways to help, to solve, to serve, and to create a better experience for members and guests alike. Challenges do not deter her; she faces every task with a determination that inspires everyone around her. She simply does not stop until the job is finished and finished welt For her tireless service, her boundless enthusiasm, and her unyielding commitment to the Brandon Ladies and its members, we extend our deepest thanks. She sets a standard of excellence that lifts us a[[, and her presence is a gift we cherish every day. Let us all take a moment to celebrate and thank our extraordinary Lady of Distinction for July - Nickie Wells.

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: Laurie 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
Wednesday dinners: Terri Ciesla

Yearbook: Lori Underberg



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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 MON

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

AUGUST

WFD

6:30PM

PASTA

DINNER

LOUNGE

13

20

9AM - 3PM

LOUNGE

RENTAL

6:30PM

BLOE

DINNER

LOUNGE

6:30PM

VETERAN'S

DINNER

HALL

27

6PM - 9:30PM

CARD BINGO

LOUNGE

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.

Brandon Lodge supports our Veterans

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.

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!

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

2661

NO SNACK BAR **SOCIAL &** ELKS **SPORTS** LOUNGE 1PM

5PM - 7PM

CARDS

12

5PM - 7PM

CARDS

TUF

SUN

31

4 6:30PM **BLOE** MEETING -HALL **PER**

MFFTING

7PM

ANTE ROOM

11

SOCIAL & SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM

10 8AM -11AN BLOE **BREAKFAS** HALL SOCIAL &

17 **SOCIAL &**

SPORTS LOUNGE

1PM

SOCIAL &

SPORTS

LOUNGE

1PM

SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM

MEETING 7PM 18

HALL

25

19 7 PM BOARD **MEETING-**

5PM - 7PM CARDS

26 5PM - 7PM



NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

8

FRIDAY

FRI

1

430PM - 10PM LOUNGE RENTAL

2

9

SAT

BINGO IN THE HALL

THU

6:30pm

BINGO

IN THE HALL

6:30pm

14

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

15

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

DD CLINIC BRANDON

23

16

7PM LOUNGE RENTAL

21 22 BINGO

IN THE HALL

28

6:30pm BRANDON

NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS **BOYS** LOUNGE

FRIDAY

29

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO DINNER SEE PAGE 5 IN THE HALL FOR DETAILS

30 3PM - 7PM LOUNGE RENTAL

ROCK ROCK

Save the Date

BLOE MEETING, AUGUST 4TH PER MEETING, AUGUST 4TH LODGE MEETING, AUGUST 11TH BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 18TH

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

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AUGUST 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

AUGUST 6TH



AUGUST 8TH





AUGUST 15TH



AUGUST 20TH



AUGUST 22ND

Eamonn and Crew

FRIDAY

NIGHT

Dinner

August 22nd

Irish Shepherd's Pie

KARANGA

AUGUST 27TH



AUGUST 29TH



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

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE MADE THROUGH CAMPSPOT

SEE INFO ON PAGE 7

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 AUGUST BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

DORA TAGGART, JAMES WILLIAMS, RICHARD PELTON, BRANT WOODARD, CHRIS MURRAY, ROB ROGERS, CARIELKA GONZALEZ, LARRY KUTNO, ROBERT VANDEWEGHE, WILLIAM BEATTIE, PATRICIA KAISER, DAVID HOUGE, JAMES KRAUS, ROBERT WILDER, SANDRA RAY, DAVID HANSHEW, CECIL HOCK, TROY KNIGHT, BETSYE GORMAN, GEORGE SCRIBNER, DONALD CROWE, DONALD WELLINGTON, JAMES CARY, DON MOON, GORDON HUBBARD, CATHY HUDSON, YVETTE KLAJO, FRED MORGAN, JAMES PACHECO, TERRY RICKET, KENNETH ALBANO, KATHY BILINSKI, DONALD MOORE, WAYNE SCOTT, BARBARA O'BRIEN, JAMES SNYDERS, MIKE BAYNE & RICHARD RICHMOND

ATTENTION: RV STORAGE LOT OCCUPANTS

Anyone that has a vehicle, boat, RV or trailer in our storage area needs to contact me immediately. If not me, give all of this information to our Secretary, Mary Lou. I am trying to complete our list of who has reserved a spot in our storage area. I need your name, address, telephone number, email, type of storage vehicle (make and model), the site you are currently parked and the date you are paid up. There are numerous vehicles, RV's and boats that do not have any identification on them (i.e., license plates). I have documented several vehicles that have some type of ownership identification with their storage vehicle/RV/boat. Please email me with this information as soon as possible. Once all of this information is gathered and recorded, the site you paid to reserve will be your permanent site. Any vehicle/RV/boat that remains unclaimed/undocumented after a grace period will be towed off property at owners' expenses. We cannot have undocumented property in our storage area. I urge you to contact me. Thank you.

Mark C. Vargo, Sr., PER RV Committee Chair mcvargo@msn.com











Thank you to everyone who helped and attended the Fourth of July picnic.

Robin Rutzke, Esteemed Leading Knight.

RV Park Committee Member Needed

Looking for a Brandon Elk member who would like to be on our RV Committee. Email or text Mark Vargo, mcvargo@msn.com or 813-376-8855.

RV RESERVATIONS - CAMPSPOT

There has been a change to scheduling and paying for camping reservations at the Brandon Lodge RV park. Reservations and payment will now be completed online via the RV park info link on brandonelks.org website. Individuals desiring to camp at Brandon Lodge 2383 will be redirected to the elks.org website where he or she will log in to verify membership and enter the CampSpot website to complete the reservation.





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





Get your tickets at the bar and with Terri Ciesla

MONIES RENEFITING LODGE ELKS CHARITIES

Brandon Elks Codge presents:





Sponsor a chair for just

Please consider helping
Us raise enough money
To replace all of the
Old chairs in the hall.

\$75



Please see Marionette with questions Or to donate!!





The Elks Olympics

Saturday September 27th, 2025

Food at 1:00 Games at 2:00



Games:

Pellet gun

Target shooting

\$5 to

9-ball Pool tournament Food Contest:

Homemade

Soup

(lodge will supply Sandwiches)

Muffins

LOCATION: BRANDON ELKS LODGE

800 Centennial Lodge Dr Brandon, Fl

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VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke

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!











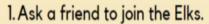
LIVING WILL POWER OF ATTORNEY

FLORIDA WILL, LIVING TRUST

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



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

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Jack S. Scaglione Insurance

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

Medicare Supplements ~ Medicare Advantage Final Expense ~ Whole Life ~ UL's ~ IUL's Term Insurance ~ Annuities