

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 2020

www.brandonelks.org

Volume 20 Issue 7



Mark Vargo
Exalted Ruler

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER

As we are starting into the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays, we as a Lodge have many activities we are actively involved with to help out our community and promote Elkdome. Our Lecturing Knight, Donald Harrison, is doing a Thanksgiving Dinner at the Lodge for our RV Park visitors and any of our members that would like to enjoy a feast that day. And he really has a feast scheduled. Be sure to send in your RSVP to guarantee yourselves a meal. Our Loyal Knight, Marionette (Puppet) is again collecting toys and other various Christmas gifts for some of our needy families in the Brandon area. If you can contribute gifts or monetarily, please get in touch with Puppet. This is such a rewarding community outreach for our Lodge. Your Exalted Ruler and his wife, Patti (and numerous other volunteers) will be having a New Year's Day Brunch in the Lodge Hall. Please see further notices about this event. Tickets will be available after Thanksgiving, at the bar, in the Office or from your ER. On January 9, 2021, we will finally have our Members Dinner and Awards Presentation. This is free to all members, but you must send in a reservation. It looks to be a busy schedule for our members during the Holiday season. If you can spare any of your time, please contact the Chairperson of these events. They would love to have any additional help. As your Exalted Ruler, I want to wish all of our Members, and their families, the happiest and safest holiday season. As 2020 comes to a close (thank the Lord), I pray that 2021 will be a better year for all of our Members and our Lodge.

Fraternally,
Mark C. Vargo, Sr.
Exalted Ruler

Elks Care - *Elks* Share

Elk of the Month

November's Elk of the Month is long overdue. Ever since this Elk became a member, she has worked tirelessly and volunteered for just about everything. She works in the kitchen; she helps with dinners and special events and she tries to keep our members informed of the "happenings" in our lodge by sending out emails. Please congratulate **Beth Benham** as our November Elk of the Month.



MONTHLY LODGE MEETING

We are back and will hold our regular monthly Lodge meetings in the Lodge Hall, with social distancing. We will have our regular Lodge meeting on Monday, December 14, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. in the Lodge Hall. If you feel comfortable attending, please do. Don't forget your signed 2020-2021 Dues card. We have our regular business to attend to, we have several applications to vote on. Face masks are still optional. Hand sanitizers are still available.

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

CONGRATULATIONS

FREE MEMBERS DINNER AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

We have, again, scheduled a Members Dinner and Awards Presentation (2020-2021 Installation Dinner) on Saturday, January 9, 2021 in the Lodge Hall. Social hour will start at 5:30 P.M. with dinner starting at 6:30 P.M. and the Awards Presentations around 7:30 P.M. Our 2019-2020 Awards presentations will be made by Mary Lou Schreck and Joseph Schreck. The wife and son of our late PER Donald Schreck. *This meal is FREE to all Brandon Elks Members.* Guest meals will be \$10.00. Our B.L.O.E. will be catering this meal and you will have a choice of Beef or Fish.

You must have a ticket or make reservations at BrandonElksRSVP@yahoo.com to attend. We do not want to waste food. Tickets will be available at the bar or front office. If gathering mandates are still in force, we will stop reservations at 150 attendees.

Brandon Lodge Officers for 2020-2021 Elk Year



Mark Vargo
Exalted Ruler
813-376-8855



Jim McCleary
Leading Knight
813-763-9019



Marionette Sexton
Loyal Knight
813-956-3776



Donald Harrison
Lecturing Knight
813-376-8949



Ed Campbell
Lodge Esquire
813-245-0827



Carolyn Greeson
Lodge Chaplain
813-436-0704



Robin Rutkze
Lodge Inner
Guard
305-498-5654



Lara McCleary
Lodge Tiler
203-988-5089



Mary Lou
Schreck
Secretary
813-689-2155



Nancy Price
Treasurer
813-477-7676



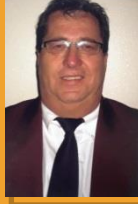
George Scribner
1 Year Trustee
850-206-0577



Nickie Wells
2 Year Trustee
813-716-8051



Delores Westfall
3 Year Trustee
813-363-1562



Larry Oliver
4 Year Trustee
813-767-0870



Ed Ciesla
5 Year Trustee
813-684-0122

Military Appreciation Dinner

Countless volunteers donated their time to prep, cook, package and hand out Thanksgiving dinner to over 150 military families on 11/19/20.

Brandon Lodge 2383# loves the military!

Special thanks to Rick Weigand and his kitchen crew for cooking 117 lbs. of turkey and all the fixins



LOUNGE HOURS

Sunday: 1pm – 7pm
Monday - Thursday 4pm – 9pm
Friday 4pm – 10pm
Saturday 4pm – 9pm
MANAGER: WALTER BROOKS

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	Saturday
 December 10 th - 18 th		1 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	2 December Birthday Dinner	3  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	4 Door: Nickie Wells Friday night dinner see page 4
6 Social & Sports	7 BLOE Meeting PER Meeting	8 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	9 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack MTG. - Hall	10  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	11 Door: Ed Ciesla Friday night dinner see page 4
13 8:00am - 11:00am BLOE Breakfast – Hall Social & Sports	14  Lodge Meeting 7PM	15 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	16 BLOE Dinner 6:30 PM see page 5	17  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	18 Door: Larry Oliver Friday night dinner see page 4
20 Social & Sports	21 7pm Governing Board Meeting	22 5:30pm -7:00pm Queen  Trivia or Cards, Pool snack bar open	23	24  STARTS: 6:30pm SNACK BAR:	25 
27 8:00am -11:00am Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast Social & Sports	28	29	30 Veteran's Dinner	31	New Line Dancing on 1 st , 2 nd , and 4 th Thursday 7pm to 9pm:

Save the Date

December 14th, Lodge
meeting

December 16th BLOE
Dinner

December 17th 6:00 PM
Brandon Boys

Lodge Meetings Are Open To Members In Good
Standing and is the Place to Discuss any Lodge
issues.

PER Meeting – 1st Monday;

Lodge Meeting 2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m.

Governing Board mtg – 3rd Monday at 7pm

BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1st Monday of month at 7pm

Member Illness / Convalescence: Notify Lodge
Secretary

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2nd Sunday BLOE Breakfast \$7

4th Sunday – Scout's Pancake
Brkfst

4th Wednesday - VETERAN's
Dinner

Tuesdays 7pm Boy Scouts

Pease RSVP for Dinners
Brandoneiksrsvp@yahoo.com

DECEMBER MENU ITEMS

DECEMBER 2nd DONALD HARRISON & GANG \$8.00

FREE FOR MEMBERS IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN DECEMBER

SALAD - TOSSED

ENTREE (CHOOSE ONE) CHICKEN MARSALA OR COUNTRY FRIED CHICKEN

SIDES: MASHED POTATOES, CORN AND GREEN BEANS

DESSERT: BIRTHDAY CAKE

DECEMBER 4TH HARRISON & GANG \$12.00

SALAD & SOUP – CAESAR and CLAM CHOWDER

ENTREE (CHOOSE ONE) PAN SEARED SCALLOPS(6 oz) IN A
WINE/BUTTER/CAPER SAUCE; BOURBON GLAZED SALMON ON BED OF JASMINE
RICE; FRIED SHRIMP(8) ON A BED OF JASMINE

SIDES: VEGGIES

DESSERT CAKE OR ICE CREAM

DECEMBER 11TH JAN AND HIS CREW \$11.00

SALAD: TOSSED

ENTRÉE: POT ROAST AND GRAVY

SIDES: MASHED POTATOES AND VEGGIES

DESSERT: CAKE OR ICE CREAM

DECEMBER 18TH MARIONETTE & FRIENDS \$12.00 OR \$14.00

SALAD: TOSSED

ENTRÉE: (CHOOSE ONE) STEAK TO ORDER, FISH, OR FRIED SHRIMP (8)

SIDES: BAKED POTATO AND VEGGIES



BLOE BITS

Next Meeting is November 2nd at 7:00 PM

Hoping to See You There!

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

Hard to believe that it's December! The year is flying by!

Congratulations to Joyce Cecchi our Lady of Distinction for last month! The honor is very well deserved!

Our BLOE breakfast on November 8 was once again very well attended. I want to thank everyone who stepped up to help. You ladies came through once again. Our group of ladies can always be counted on. We are very lucky to have such an amazing group.

Next was the Wednesday night dinner of Ground Beef Wellington hosted by myself. I hate to toot my own horn but it was Delicious!!! If you didn't attend, you missed a very tasty meal. We served 47 dinners and most of them were takeout. I will be cooking for our next Wed night dinner on December 16. This is also the same night that we will be wrapping the children's Christmas gifts, so if you plan to wrap, maybe you can plan to eat too! And since we do takeout, you won't need to cook for your family, you could just take out their meals. Please RSVP to me or by email at brandonekrsvp@yahoo.com.

It was wonderful to see so many folks in attendance at the BPOE VP/DD visitation on Saturday November 7. It looked as though everything was getting back to normal.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am excited to see what the new year will bring.

FYI:

- Next BLOE Meeting - December 7
- Breakfast - December 13
- Wednesday Night Dinner - December 16

"Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment." Anonymous

See you at the lodge, Terri

Brandon Ladies of Elks



She is a joy to be around. She is always smiling and finding happiness in every situation. She is always there at prep and serve at the Brandon Ladies Sunday Breakfast. She donated her time, talent and financial support for several fashion shows and high teas. She always volunteers for fund raisers and caterings. She was Recording Secretary for several years and as usual did a great job. She is a friend to everyone and just an all-around good person.

Please join me in congratulating **Joyce Cecchi** as our November Lady of Distinction.

500 Club Winners

The 500 club names drawn in November were: Jim Williams & Judy Cornett

NOT SIGNED UP!

1866

Need a Break from Christmas Shopping??????

Brandon Elks Ladies



WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
Wednesday, December 16, 2020

The Ultimate Comfort Food Dinner
Minestrone Soup & Hot Meatball Sandwich

Price: \$8.00

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm



Advance tickets available @ the bar or R.S.V.P at

brandonekrsvp@yahoo.com

*****TAKE OUT AVAILABLE*****

Mask required

Kitchen Manager Needed

2736

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.

Please RSVP for Dinners “brandonelksrsvp@yahoo.com”

Bingo Schedule for December

Bingo Helpers	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Table 4 6:30	Barbra	Grace Weigand	Barbra Myers	Grace Weigand	Bob
Table 4 6:30	Sandy/Jim	Mary Ryan	Barbra	Sandy/Jim	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	Jane Moon	Ron Mathews
Call Bingo 7:45/9:00	Nancy Price	Mary Lou Scribner		Rick Weigand	Marionette
Call Bingo 6:30/7:45	Jeannie Barfield	Jeannie Barfield	Jeannie Barfield	Don Moon	Jeannie Barfield
Call Bingo 7:45/9:00	Lori Underberg	Sharon H	Beth Benham	Jeannie Barfield	

We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with Bingo - Call marionette at 813-956-3776



We initiated 3 new members on 11/9/20!

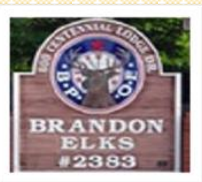
If you see them at the lodge introduce yourself and say Hi



New Members from left to right
Henry Leon, June Arnold, Vickie Knott and Mark Vargo

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 “brandonelksrsvp@yahoo.com”



BRANDON ELKS LODGE NEW YEARS DAY AYCE CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

January 1, 2021 - 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Advance Tickets \$20.00

At the Door \$25.00

Children under 12 - \$10.00



Planned Menu*: Eggs, Sausage, Grits, Biscuits, Fruit, Sliced Roast Beef, Sliced Ham, Vegetables, Potatoes, Danish treats, Coffee, Orange Juice, Tea and Champagne.

Tickets will be available after Thanksgiving, at the bar, the front office or from your Exalted Ruler. You must have a ticket OR your reservations must be made at BrandonElksRSVP@Yahoo.com to be guaranteed a place so you can enjoy this fabulous Brunch. Ticket sales at the door will be limited. Possible raffles.

**Subject to change or additions.*



Attention RV Storage Users

It was brought to our attention that a license plate was stolen from the RV Storage area. Because of this incident, we request that you periodically check on your RV's to make sure everything is ok. The Elks lodge is not responsible for any damage or loss as indicated in your signed agreement.

Bugle updates

Please submit all Bugle entries to lreintz@gmail.com by the 15th of each month in an editable format, no PDFs. Time is needed to develop, proofread and send for printing before the 1st of the month

2647

Scrappin' for Jesus To benefit those in need

James Deputy
813-486-6161

Anything metal will be picked up for free.
All scrap metal big or small including aluminum,
Steel, copper, brass, scrap appliances, parts etc.

"...whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Proverbs 14:31



TOM COLLINS

BRADFORD MOTOR INN

Rooms • Apartments • RV's
Rentals • Buy • Sell

2811 Hwy. 60 East
Valrico, FL 33594

Office: 813-681-9940
Home: 813-651-0062



JIM MCCLEARY
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

BUYING OR SELLING?

**I'M HERE TO HELP YOU REACH YOUR REAL ESTATE GOALS.
LET'S TALK!**

MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS INCENTIVE PROGRAM AVAILABLE.

ASK ME ABOUT CHARITABLE GIVING.

813.763.9019
Jim@McClearyMoves.com
www.McClearyMoves.com






bags of brotherly love

Bags of Brotherly Love

The bags of brotherly love continue to assemble food and hygiene products for the homeless. We delivered 70 bags in November to partners with the Homeless Initiative and continue to purchase products to make new bags for Hillsborough County organizations in need. We were also blessed with a generous donation of \$2,000 from Humana. Many thanks to our fellow Elk member, Monica Rodriguez, for facilitating this much needed donation. Without Monica's help and initiation to her employer on our behalf, this gift would otherwise not have been possible. She was able to garner this donation from a letter bags of brotherly love submitted and within two weeks, the funds were donated. It is through members like Monica and our Brandon Elks Lodge #2383 family that we continue to keep our bags distributed to those in need. We are continually collecting product donations from the red bin in the front lobby. Monetary donations are also accepted and used mainly in the purchase of food products. Thanks again to all our members for your support and helping to keep dignity in the lives of those less fortunate. Elks Care, Elks Share continues to shine through this holiday season for those most in need. Hope to see everyone at the lodge when we can and look forward to all the holiday activities planned to help our community. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need us to pickup any items you can not get to the lodge. We are more than happy to collect them at your convenience.

Bob and Elisa Blair
813-758-8894



The Brandon Elks Lodge Christmas for Kids

The names and sizes are listed outside the bathrooms in the lounge at the lodge if you would like to sponsor a child. Donation of Christmas paper, tape, name tags, toys, food, and/or money is greatly appreciated.

The wrapping for this event will be on December 16, 2020 about 6:30pm. Music will be provided from 6:30-8:30. We will also need volunteers to deliver these gifts to the families.

If you have any questions, please call Marionette at 813-956-3776.

Brandon Lodge Notices & Announcements

VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke



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

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

God Bless our Veterans.



Lodge Olympics 2021

On Saturday January 23rd at noon we, Brandon Lodge 2383, will be hosting the first of 3 Olympic events.

Competitions as follows:

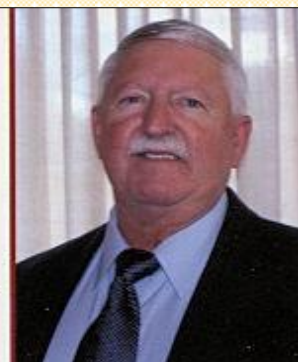
Events: Pellet gun shooting and Texas hold'em (at least 4 teams of 2)
Food: Wings (5 lbs.) and Cakes (no limit)



Jerry's Roofing
of Tampa Bay, Inc.
Residential & Commercial
Free Estimates
(813) 685-8190
Jerry Hajar / Owner
Licensed, Bonded & Insured Lic. # RC0047181

We're Here Before & After The Storm

Pete Marion, Realtor®
Senior Chief USN-R (Retired)
"For all your real estate needs"
Commercial, Residential and New Home Sales
Direct: 813.601.5028
E-mail: petemarionkw@aol.com
Fax: 813.684.8400
Office: 813.684.9500
KELLER WILLIAMS
2119 W. Brandon Blvd
Suite E
Brandon, FL 33511
Each Keller Williams Office is Independently Owned and Operated



2521



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, Past Exalted Rulers, Association

PRESENTS

LODGE LICENSE PLATE FUND RAISER

(The Funds will go to the Lodge's General Fund to Pay for Lodge Improvements as determined by the Board of Directors.)

The all-weather License Plates come in a variety of colors to match your vehicle and can be PERSONALIZED to your liking.

BRANDON ELKS #2383

(Personalization #1)



(Personalization # 2)

**COST OF THE PERSONALIZED PLATE IS A DONATION OF
\$ 40.00**

(TO ORDER YOUR PERSONAL PLATE - COMPLETE THE ORDER FORM (AVAILABLE FROM YOUR BARTENDERS) AND GIVE THE FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO YOUR BARTENDER OR DROP BY THE OFFICE)

SUPPORT YOUR LODGE. GET YOUR PLATE TODAY!

NOTE: The Vendors require a minimum order of 20 plates per order. Our Goal is to sell as many as we can. Please consider this as a great way to show you are an "ELK" and you Support the "Brandon Elks".

**Brandon Elks Lodge #2383
Annual PER Dinner
Friday
January 29th
6:30 – 8:00 pm**



**DINNER INCLUDES
ALL THE TRIMMINGS
And Dessert!**

**\$10 Pork Roast with
Apple Cranberry Stuffing
Mixed Veggies
Salad
Dessert**

*Prepared by
Chef Rick Weigand*

Pre-sale required

Tickets can be purchased:

- See any Past Exalted Ruler
- Tickets at the Bar
- Tickets in the Office

Brandon Lodge #2383 Continued Community Involvement!

Food Drive for Local Community Food Bank

Chaired by Brandon Inner Guard Robin Rutzke, and Co-

Chaired by DVPS Sharon Hammersla, the Brandon Lodge #2383 spearheaded another food drive for their local community.

The lodge and its members remained dedicated to community involvement. Members were asked to drive by the lodge on Saturday, November 14th and drop off food donations from 8:00 am to noon. And 25 Elks and 9 non-Elks did just that! Over 1,800 pounds of food was collected with a value of over \$2,600. In addition, members donated money totaling \$230 with instruction to purchase more food.

The success of the food drive is due to Elk members uniting for a common cause. It begins with Robin Rutzke and Sharon Hammersla sparking an idea, and then PER Rick Weigand and commitment to be there to open the lodge early on a Saturday morning. Then member Beth Benham blitzing the members with electronic announcements about the food drive. PER Mary Lou Scribner helps organize the loading of DVPS Sharon Hammersla's "food hauler" as she likes to call it. And ends with DVPS Sharon delivering the food to the Nativity Church local food bank.

The Brandon Lodge is committed to helping their local community especially during these trying times. Robin is in the process of putting her thinking cap on for the next quarterly event. More to come!



Top picture: Kathy Brogli
Bottom picture: L to R
Mary Lou Scribner Sharon
Hammersla & Robin Rutzke

Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

800 Centennial Lodge Drive
Brandon, FL 33510

****Change Service Requested**



Label Here

TO THE RV GUESTS

Just a few words to

Welcome you back to our RV Park

AS YOU KNOW OUR RATES ARE

- ▶ \$20 per night; 7th night FREE
- ▶ RV Storage is \$50 per month

**THANKS FOR STAYING
IN OUR PARK**

Jack Mineo 813-681-2531



JIM RANDALL, CIC
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
RANDALJD@ADCOCK-INSURANCE.COM



Adcock-Adcock
Property & Casualty Agency, Inc.

BUSINESS - AUTO - HOME

315 W. FLETCHER AVE.
TAMPA, FL 33612

"YOUR BUSINESS IS APPRECIATED!"

PH (813) 933-6691
FAX (813) 932-6287

TOLL FREE (866) 933-6691

FLORIDA WILL, LIVING TRUST LIVING WILL POWER OF ATTORNEY

William R. Mumbauer, Attorney
813-685-3133

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

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

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Every Thursday Night at 6:30pm
Brandon Elks Lodge



800 Centennial Lodge Drive, Brandon

SNACK BAR FOOD & DRINKS