

OCTOBER 2025





Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

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

www.brandonelks.org Volume 25 Issue 10



A Message From Your Exalted Ruler, LOU VALENCIA

Additional growth of our Lodge continues. I would like to mention some items we have been working on and recently accomplished. Brandon Elks Lodge Logo has been designed and voted on by our members, and pins will be available for purchase very soon, as well as matching patches for shirts, hats, visors or any item you would like a Brandon Elks Lodge patch on, are also in the works.





On a community level, our lodge supports some great organizations,

such as A Kids Place, the Dover Patriots, others to come once we work the details out.

Fraternally Yours, Lou Valencia, Exalted Ruler

Brotherly Love; Feeling For Humanity, Having Compassion, Being Tolerant, accepting, Forgiving.

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

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.



Hello PER's!



t's time to mark your calendars for lunch again. The date to save is October 9th, and yes, it is a Thursday, at 11:30. We will be going to Canopy Road Cafe located at 10254 Causeway Blvd in Shoppes at Causeway Plaza. Heading west on Lumsden/Causeway after you cross over Faulkenburg it should be on your right, the north side on Causeway. This is a new place for us, so I hope it's good. Big menu lots of choices. Everyone enjoyed their lunch last month and I know I would go back to Duke's Brewhouse. Thanks to all the PERs that were able to come. Hope to see you at Canopy Road Cafe. Bye for

> Your Restaurant Hunter Kim Martinez PER

ELK OF THE MONTH - James Schalk! He has helped with the snack bar and with the Sunday Breakfast with zeal!!!

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-







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 KayBilinski@yahoo.com 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 OCTOBER 6TH @ 7:00 PM Hoping to See You There!

September was a busy month beginning on the very first day with the Labor Day picnic cake auction. So many yummy, homemade baked goodies were donated. Thanks to all who donated, attended, and purchased the baked goods.

The day after was our September meeting where we honored Mary Lou Schreck as our Lady of Distinction for the month.

Congratulations Mary Lou for receiving this well-deserved honor. On September 10, we enjoyed watching the movie Breakfast at Tiffany's which helped us get into the mood for our upcoming fashion show to be held on October 4. Thank you, Ed, for always setting up and taking down the projector and screen.

The ladies' breakfast was September 14, and Jane Gilblair drew winners for the beautiful baskets that she created. Thank you, Jane for your hard work and dedication to our lodge.

I cooked the Wednesday night dinner on September 17. Those that attended were able to enjoy a taste of Thanksgiving early.

The Florida Lady of Elks conference followed that where we spent a beautiful weekend in Daytona Beach at the Hard Rock Hotel. Thank you, Nickie Wells, Nancy Price, Jane Gilblair, and Connie Poague, for joining me at this conference.

Another successful card bingo event was held on September 22. I really enjoy watching all these folks having fun at these games. A big thank you to my husband Ed for calling every time we hold this event.

We had two large catering events this month. Thank you to Mary Lou Schreck for hosting the event on September 20 while I was away. We have an ongoing raffle from now till October 12. Buy your Wine and Dine tickets for only five dollars. Proceeds will be going to a Christmas party for the children at A Kids Place. By purchasing a ticket, you will be a part of giving these children, a joyous Christmas. And you may even win a wine dinner for 2. Thank you everyone for your support.

Terri Ciesla President

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

Yearbook: Lori Underberg

Ways and Means: Terri Ciesla Wednesday dinners: Terri Ciesla

Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of Distinction SEPTEMBER

The lady selected for this month has been an invaluable member of the Brandon Ladies of Elks for countless years. Throughout her time with the organization, she has been a steadfast volunteer, always ready to help and especially renowned for her culinary talents. Her reputation as a cook is well-established at the lodge, and she has prepared meals for numerous catering events. She has cooked so many Wednesday Night Dinners that she likely holds the standing record. She also took part in last year's basket competition and is already prepared to step in for catering again this month. She has held several offices within the BLOE, including serving as President. She also supported her husband during his tenure as a former Exalted Ruler by acting as a gracious hostess. Her presence is consistently felt at social events—she's a regular at card bingo and often brings guests to Bunco nights She is truly irreplaceable. As Secretary of the Brandon Elks, she is the first welcoming face members see when they enter the lodge, always greeting everyone with a warm smile. Please join us in congratulating Mary Lou Shreck as the September Lady of Distinction for her unwavering commitment, enthusiasm, and service to our

2552 organization.

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

OCTOBER

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

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 always be 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> 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 – 3nd Monday at 7pm
BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1st Monday of
month at 6:30pm

2816

SUN MON SAT TUE WED THU FRI 1 3 BINGO 6:30PM LABOR DAY 11AM - 2PM BLOE FASHION SHOW **PASTA** PICNIC **FRIDAY** IN THE HALL 11AM - 1PM DINNER **NIGHT** 6:30PM LOUNGE DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS 6 7 8 9 10 DD/VP VISIT ARCADIA **7PM BLOE FRIDAY** BINGO **NIGHT** 5PM - 7PM **MEETING -DINNER CARDS** IN THE HALL HALL 4PM LOUNGE RENTALPM **SEE PAGE 5 7PM PER** 6:30pm FOR DETAILS SOCIAL & 5PM - 10PM HALL RENTAL **MEETING** -**SPORTS** ANTE ROOM LOUNGE 5PM-11PM 1PM HALL RENTAL 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 8AM -11AM PRESIDENT VISIT -BINGO **BLOE** 5PM - 7PM **PLANT CITY** 6:30PM **BREAKFAST** IN THE HALL CARDS BLOE FRIDAY 6PM – 10PM HALL 6:30pm HALL DINNER NIGHT **SOCIAL &** LODGE LOUNGE DINNER RENTAL 6:30pm SPORTS LOUNGE MFFTING SEE PAGE 5 BRANDON FOR DETAILS BOYS 1PM LOUNGE 20 22 23 24 19 21 25 **SOCIAL &** 12PM - 4PM 5PM - 7PM SPORTS LOUNGE BINGO LODGE 7 PM BOARD CARDS 6:30PM OLYMPICS BRANDON **FRIDAY** MEETING -**VETERAN'S** 1PM IN THE HALL **NIGHT** HALL DINNER DINNER 6:30PM HALL **SEE PAGE 5** 6PM HALLOWEEN FOR DETAILS PARTY HALL 27 28 29 30 31 26 **SOCIAL &** SPORTS LOUNGE BINGO 5PM - 7PM **FRIDAY** 1PM 6PM -9:30PM CARDS **NIGHT** IN THE HALL DINNER **BUNCO** 6:30PM **SEE PAGE 5** LOUNGE 6PM - 8PM FOR DETAILS TRUNK OR

Save the Date

BLOE MEETING, OCTOBER 6TH

PER MEETING OCTOBER 6TH

LODGE MEETING, OCTOBER 13TH

BOARD MEETING, OCTOBER 20TH

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

THE BUGLE • OCTOBER 2025 • Page 5

OCTOBER 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

OCTOBER 1ST



OCTOBER 3RD



Chef Terris

Friday October 10th

Night Dinne

6:30pm

Parmesan Crusted
Chicken Breast
Roasted potatoes,
Green beans and dessert

GARYONE

GARYONE



OCTOBER 15TH





OCTOBER 22ND



OCTOBER 24TH



OCTOBER 31ST



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 6

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



BUGLE BOOSTERS:

Diane & Ken League

Henry & Julie Ebert

Charlene Hart

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

Frank &Lynda Craft



Happy Birthday

TO OUR OCTOBER BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

THOMAS MYER, JACKIE PIETRO, JOSEPH HIGHSMITH, PHILLIP PETRY, LINDA HINKLE, TIMOTHY ROSENAU, ART YANNI, TERRY HALL, HOWARD SHIREY, DORINDA ROUNTREE, PENNY BENZON, DAVID DEMEZA, JENNIFER ROBERTS, BRYAN BEBNOWSKI, KEVIN SOLOMON, LAURIE BAYNE, EDWARD BEJARANO, CHRISTINA JOHNSTON, GEORGE THOMAS, LAURA WALKER, ROBERT MAESTAS, JERRY BROCKMEIER, JOYCE BELMORE, JOHN SWEET, MICHEAL AZZARO, BETH BENHAM. RICHARD LANGILL, FRANK CRAFT, TOM COLLINS, PATRICIA JACKSON, BARRETT HIGGINS, TERRY OSKERSON, ALEX BAKER, DAVID HORTON

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

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 <u>brandonelks.org</u> website. Individuals desiring to camp at Brandon Lodge 2383 will be redirected to the <u>elks.org</u> website where he or she will log in to verify membership and enter the CampSpot website to complete the reservation.

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.



The Elks Olympics Saturday October 25th, 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

eat

LOCATION: BRANDON ELKS LODGE

800 Centennial Lodge Dr Brandon, Fl



Several of our Lodge Officers presented a check for \$1,000 to 'A Kids Place'. The Brandon Elks Lodge will continue to donate to this organization monthly for the rest of the fiscal year!

10510 Riverview Drive (813) 671-3121



Riverview, Florida 33578 (813) 671-3730 Fax



VETERANS WE WANT TO HONOR YOU

2 FREE Tickets for Veterans

and Active Military (with Military ID, DD214 or VA Card)

Door

Join us at our ${\sf 7^{TH}}$ <code>ANNUAL</code> event, as we thank Veterans for the freedoms we enjoy. <code>BBQ</code> lunch will be prepared by the Wooden Spoon Diner. You also won't want to miss the thought-provoking weapons and memorabilia display from WWll, Korea, Vietnam up to the Gulf War. Advance Tickets only, NO Tickets available at the door. This is a cooperative effort between the Elks Lodge and Historic Plant City Main Street.

> DATE: Sunday, November 02, 2025

TIME: Doors Open at Noon

Event starts at 1:00 PM

PLACE: TRINKLE CENTER 1206 N. Park Rd.

TICKETS: \$10 for non veterans.



WILLIAM G. "JERRY" BOYKIN Executive Vice-President, Family Research Council

FIRST 100 VETERANS WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL GOODIE BAG!

Tickets will be available Sept. 22nd at the following locations:

Bruton Library YMCA Walden Lake Car Wash 302 McLendon St. 1507 YMCA Place 1414 S. Alexander

Donation checks may be made payable to Historic Plant City Main Street a (501(c)3 organization). Write Veterans Event on the memo line.

CASH or CHECK ONLY

Contact: Judy Wise, 863-370-8389, 2706 Pine Club Dr. 33566 or Sherry Scheitler, 214-529-8372, 562 Oak Island Cir. 33565

Meet our keynote speaker

RETIRED THREE STAR GENERAL WILLIAM G. "JERRY" BOYKIN Executive Vice-President, Family Research Council



LTG. (Ret.) William G. "Jerry" Boykin's is touted as one of the most accomplished and decorated leaders in the US Army. A founding member of Delta Force and later serving as commander he participated in some of its most high-profile missions, including the Iran hostage crisis in 1980, the hunt for drug lord Noriega in 1989-90, and the "Black Hawk Down" firefight in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993 to name a few. He commanded the Army's Green Berets as well as the Special Warfare Center and School.

In all, Lt. Gen. Boykin spent 36 years in the Army, serving his last four years as the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence.

He is an ordained minister with a passion for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and encouraging Christians to become warriors in God's Kingdom.

LTG. (Ret.) William G. "Jerry" Boykin's book, Never Surrender: A Soldier's Journey to the Crossroads of Faith and Freedom will be given to the first 100 Veterans who arrive at the event.

VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke

BPOE Leading 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!



Chair Drive

Sponsor a chair for just

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





Please see Marionette with questions Or to donate!!





MUSIC TO DANCE THE NIGHTI

DINNER

PROCEEDS TO PURCHASE CHAIRS FOR THE HALL OR

TREAT

TRUNK

BRANDON ELKS LODGE

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE

BRANDON FL 33510



OCTOBER 26 2025

6 PM to 8 PM

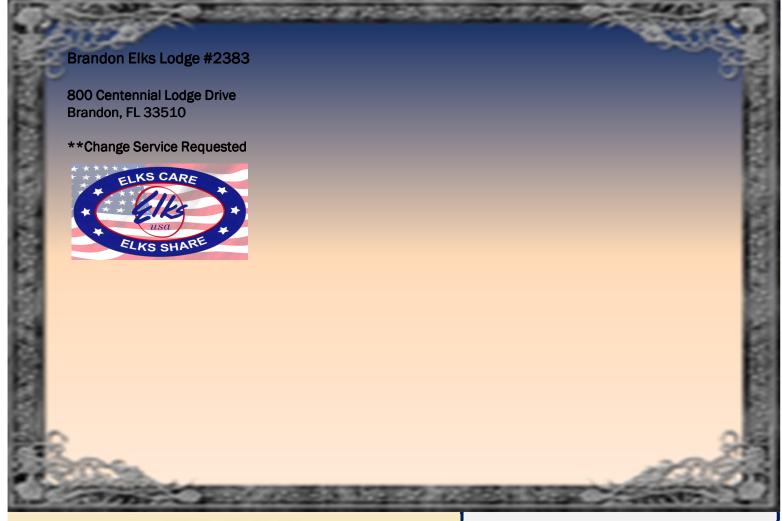
HOT DOGS AND DRINKS FOR ALL CHILDREN

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH

TICKETS ON SALE AT THE BAR

THIS IS FREE TO EVERYONE

2688





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

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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