







SEPTEMBER 2025 www.brandonelks.org 800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510 ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000 PHONE 813-685-6469 Fax 813-643-5652

Volume 25 Issue 9

A Message From Your Exalted Ruler, LOU VALENCIA

As we enter September, I am seeing a swing towards a more harmonious atmosphere at the Lodge, Members are staying longer and having more fun. I would like to thank all our members who have helped make this happen. My goal this year has been to see our Lodge thrive, but not by doing the same things as before. For growth to happen, we must try new things, whether it be things that maybe did not work previously or totally new things. I believe we are trending that way now, but as always it requires your participation. There are areas still needing involvement like the snack bar that we will be bringing back on Tuesdays starting October 1st, this is an easy way to volunteer for a short time (usually 3 hrs. total) and it will help keep those that are currently volunteering from getting burned out. There are also several lodge committees which need attention such as hoop shoot and drug awareness. I ask that you sincerely give volunteering some thought. For this Lodge to succeed it needs volunteers. I would like to thank all those who are working diligently to bring this to fruition.

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

Fraternally Yours, Lou Valencia, Exalted Ruler



Diligently conscientious: of ones 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.

ELK OF THE MONTH



Gary Varnum!, He has helped me make this Lodge fun and enjoyable again!



Hello PER's!



Lunch time PER'S. For September's luncheon we will be going to Duke's Brewhouse on Thursday September 11th at 11:30. Duke's is located at 795 West Lumsden on the southwest corner of Lumsden and Kings. This is a new place for us so I hope everyone can attend and voice your opinion of the food. I'll be looking for you. 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 SEPTEMBER 2ND @ 7:00 PM Hoping to See You There!

Wow!! August came and went, and September is going to be B-U-S-Y!!

Starting with the Labor day picnic bake auction on Monday Sept 1, then our ladies mtg Sept 2. We are having a FREE movie night Sept 10. The movie will be Breakfast at Tiffany's to get us in the mood for our fashion show theme October 4. Sept 17 is a taste of Thanksgiving ladies' dinner. Florida Ladies of Elks conference is Sept 18-21. Then we have 2 caterings on Sept 20 and 27!! Sept 22 is card bingo and Sept 29 we will have a fall craft event. Whew...I'm tired!!! Be sure to check the monthly Bugle as well as Brandonelks.org to view the calendar of events. We will keep vou busv.

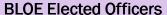
Terri Ciesla President

Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of Distinction AUGUST



This month's Lady of Distinction is a valuable asset to our group. Since she joined, she has supported all our fundraisers and is a regular at the Sunday Breakfasts. She helped at Card Bingo, Bunco and Christmas in July, she is everywhere. She keeps us fed at meetings as Chair of Refreshments and surprised us at the last Bunco with special mats for rolling Bunco dice. She is a real asset to our group. Please join me in congratulating Laurie Bayne our August Lady of Distinction.

SWC DISTRICT FUNDRAISER REVERSE RAFFLE ALL BRANDON MEMBERS WELCOME! SEPTEMBER 13TH @6PM PLANT CITY LODGE



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



Community • Friendship • Charity



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

SUN

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
Dinner * Dancing *
Music

Weekly 50/50 Raffles \$500 Club Drawing

SAT

FRI

THU

SEPTEMBER

WED

TUE

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

Brandon Lodge supports our Veterans

of their food/beverage.

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> <u>and collared shirt for men.</u>

Skirt, Dress, or long slacks for women.

PER Meeting – 1^{st} Monday, 7pm Lodge Meeting 2^{nd} Monday of month, 7pm Governing Board mtg – 3^{rd} Monday at 7pm BLOE Ladies Meetings – 1^{st} Monday of month at 6:30pm 2760

NO SNACK BAR 1 2 3 5 6:30PM BINGO **12PM** BLOE 6:30PM CELEBRATION OF LIFE DON MOON, PER LODGE LABOR DAY MEETING -**PASTA PICNIC FRIDAY** IN THE HALL 11AM - 1PM HALL DINNER **NIGHT** 6:30PM LOUNGE DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS **5PM-7PM CARDS** 8 9 10 11 12 13 DISTRICT FUNDRAISER PLANT CITY **FRIDAY** BINGO 5PM - 7PM 6PM - 9:30PM **NIGHT CARDS** MOVIE NIGHT DINNER IN THE HALL **SEE PAGE 5** LOUNGE 6:30pm SOCIAL & FOR DETAILS 3PM -7PM LOUNGE **SPORTS** MEETING LOUNGE RENTAL 1PM 14 15 17 18 19 20 16 8AM -11AM **FRIDAY** BINGO **BLOE** 5PM - 7PM **NIGHT** 7 PM BOARD 6:30PM DINNER BREAKFAST **MEETING -**IN THE HALL CARDS BLOE SEE PAGE 5 6PM – 10PM HALL HALL 6:30pm HALL DINNER FOR DETAILS **SOCIAL &** LOUNGE RENTAL 6:30pm SPORTS LOUNGE BRANDON BOYS **1PM** LOUNGE 22 24 25 26 27 23 SOCIAL & 5PM - 7PM BINGO SPORTS LOUNGE HALL RENTAL CARDS 6:30PM 6PM -9:30PM **FRIDAY** VETERAN'S 1PM IN THE HALL **NIGHT** DD VISIT LAKE PLACID **CARD BINGO** DINNER DINNER 6:30PM LOUNGE HALL **SEE PAGE 5** FOR DETAILS 29 30 SOCIAL & FLOE CONFERENCE - DAYTONA **SPORTS** 5PM - 7PM **6PM CRAFT BEACH** LOUNGE CARDS **EVENT** SEPTEMBER 18TH - SEPTEBER 20TH 1PM LOUNGE

Save the Date

BLOE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2ND LODGE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 8TH

BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 15TH

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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SEPTEMBER 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

SEPTEMBER 3RD



SEPTEMBER 5TH



SEPTEMBER 12TH



SEPTEMBER 14TH



SEPTEMBER 17TH



SEPTEMBER 19TH



SEPTEMBER 24TH



SEPTEMBER 26TH



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:

Joseph Zebrak Frank &Lynda Craft

Charlene Hart

Diane & Ken League

Henry & Julie Ebert

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



Happy Birthday

TO OUR SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

PAT HALISEY, DIANE FOX, PAT LAVOIE, BARRY SCHMOLL, TONY DUNCAN, WENDELL RICE, WILLIAM STRONG, CATHY WELSH, DORIS GREESON, DOUGLAS JORDAN, SCOTT VANHOOSE, JOE CICCARELLO, SABRINA DAVIS, BOB IRVINE, MICHAEL ROIAS, RICHARD WAGNER, MIKE DAVIS, ALEXANDER PAPP, JOE PIETRO SR., MARY LOU SCRIBNER, JAMES HALL, BUFFY HESLIN, JOSHUA VARGO, SCOTT BEESTING, LARRY HARRIS, RICHARD JONES, NEUMINE ROBERTS, STEPHEN ROBISON, JEAN RYAN, DAN MCWHERTOR, JEFF BECKER, RICHARD GURRERA, ELAINE REINSTEIN, DAVID ADAMS, CHARLENE HART, DARCI WARREN, DAVID ZILKA, ANTHONY CASSELLA, CLIFFORD LONG, BOB PRONG, JO SHINE, WILLIAM BREZINA, LOU VALENCIA, GARY BROOKS, ROBERT CANPBELL, MICHAEL CHUBA, CARL FALKENBACH, KELLY SIMS

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

9-ball Pool tournament Food Contest: **Homemade** Soup (lodge will supply Sandwiches)



LOCATION: BRANDON ELKS LODGE

800 Centennial Lodge Dr Brandon, Fl

Brandon Lodge #2383 Supports Local Community

On Wednesday, July 30th, Lou Valencia, Exalted Ruler of the Brandon Elks Lodge #2383, presented a check for \$2,500 to the Dover Patriots. The Dover Patriots is a tackle football and cheerleading organization for children in Dover, Florida and its surrounding communities. The Dover Patriots' football program and the Dover Patriots' cheerleading program mission is to provide an environment for student athletes to learn life skills such as, Responsibility, Leadership, and Life Goal Setting Skills. Their goal is to serve the community and to ensure that The Patriots' Football and Cheerleading experiences are enjoyable as well as rewarding. Their priority; to underscore the importance of scholastic achievement. Their philosophy is to inspire children through the practice of sportsmanship and physical fitness.

This is a nonprofit organization that depends upon fundraisers and sponsorship donations within the community. The League and Program is available: MIGHTY MITES: ages 5 & 6, PEEWEE: ages 7 & 8, MIDGETS: ages 9 & 10, JUNIOR VARSITY: ages 11 & 12, and VARSITY: ages 13 & 14.

This monetary donation of \$2,500 will be used by the Dover Patriots to help with expenses such as the children's uniforms, sneakers, bows and anything else needed by the football and cheerleading organization.



Picture: Left back row: Exalted Ruler Lou Valencia and Marionette Garvey









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 **NIGHT!**

DINNER

PROCEEDS TO PURCHASE CHAIRS

THE HALL

TRUNK

OR

TREAT

BRANDON ELKS LODGE

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE

BRANDON FL 33510



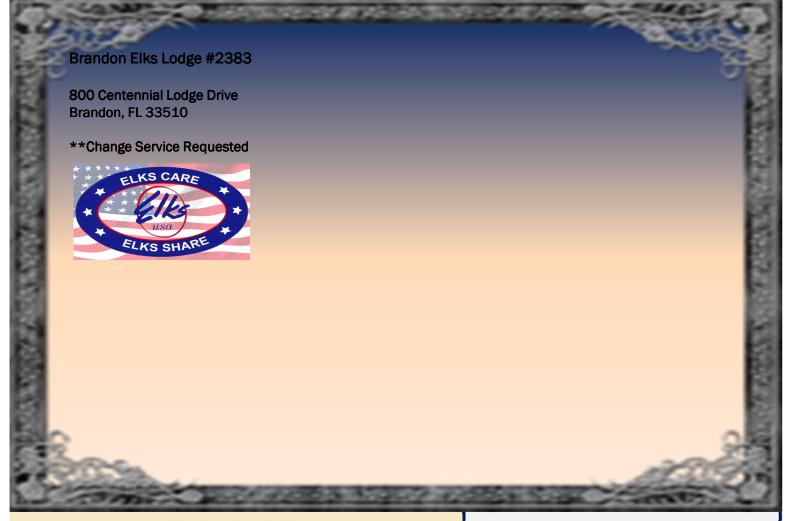
OCTOBER 26 2025

6 PM to 8 PM

HOT DOGS AND DRINKS FOR ALL CHILDREN

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH

THIS IS FREE TO EVERYONE





- 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



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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

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Jack Scaglione Licensed Insurance Agent

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