

THE BUGLE



Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

800 CENTENNIAL LODGE DRIVE, BRANDON, FL 33510

ALL AMERICAN LODGE 1999-2000

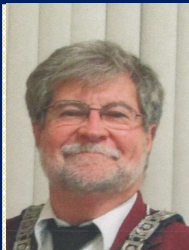
PHONE 813-685-6469

FAX 813-643-5652

MAY 2023

www.brandonelks.org

Volume 23 Issue 5



Ed Ciesla
Exalted
Ruler

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER

Good day – Good May Lodge members!

This month I would like to talk to you about how our Virtues guide us through our lives as Elks.

Our world is full of challenges that test us every day. Often, we are tasked with making ethical and moral decisions. Regardless of how things change in our world, there still exists a definite line between right and wrong. We don't have to look any further than the Virtues of our Order to help us make the right decisions – Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity.

Charity is about extending help to others without reason for our own personal gain. As Elks we should try to leave our world with more than we have taken.

Justice frames the laws of life and holds us accountable for doing the right thing. As Elks we need to uphold the laws of our land, as well as the rules of our Order.

Brotherly love teaches us to truly cherish and care for each other. To extend the hand of friendship, offering compassion, care, and empathy to others, and to our fraternal brothers.

Fidelity requires that we stay true to ourselves and what we believe in. That we stay true to our Obligation in the discharge of our duty as members of society.

As we allow this basic framework to guide us through life, our involvement with the Elks serves as an important vehicle for us to do good work. We are able to see first-hand in our communities the impact of charity and brotherly love. Elks are there to lend a hand in all sorts of community events, helping children and adults in their time of need – thus the famous slogan, "Elks Care – Elks Share."

Elks are people of good character and moral fiber. We stand up for what we believe in.

We are known to be fair and just. And we DO SOMETHING!

As we navigate our way through this world, let us look to Elkdom to guide the way – Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity!

Your Exalted Ruler, Ed Ciesla



ELK OF THE QUARTER

After having dealt with the task of creating the Volunteer Of The Month, I am still left with recognizing an Elk Of The Month. In review, I have asked myself, what is an Elk and what makes him/her outstanding? Elks are American citizens who guide their course in life by the cardinal principals of our order: **Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity.** Identifying this member will be harder for me since I am not fully aware of how our members live Elkdom. Some are noticeable through their exemplifications at our Lodge. Others exemplify the Virtues in ways outside of our Lodge. For this reason, I am changing the frequency of the Elk Of The Month to the **Elk Of The Quarter.** This will give me more time to get to know our members and how they demonstrate Elkdom in their daily lives. I will need your help with this, so please let me know of any members who you feel exemplify any of the Virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, or Fidelity.

Your help will allow me to view a larger group of members and will add credibility to the process. Contact me at EdTheBrandonER@gmail.com.

Volunteer of the Month

Here it is, May, and I am tasked with selecting an Elk Of The Month. So, I begin the process. I ask myself, what is an Elk and what makes him/her outstanding? It is stated right in our Initiation Ritual. Elks are American citizens who guide their course in life by the cardinal principals of our order: **Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity.**

In past years, we have selected an Elk Of The Month based on how they had *volunteered*, rather than how they lived "Elkdom". I thought about all the people who have volunteered at our Lodge since I became a member 14 years ago. I realized that our volunteers are comprised of both members, and spouses/significant others. I examined the notion that the female spouses of our members (who have joined the BLOE) may already have a vehicle to recognize those volunteers, but that recognition is for the contributions to the BLOE, not to the BPOE. I thought more about it and concluded that we need another category in order to properly recognize significant contributions to our Lodge by our volunteers. So, I am pleased to announce a NEW category of recognition: **Volunteer Of The Month.**

With the implementation of this new category, I would like to name **Laurie Bayne** as Brandon Lodge's first Volunteer Of The Month. She has earned this distinction due to her commitment to our Lodge's BINGO program. She has taken the lead on this and has resurrected the program from just a handful of attendees (following the Covid-19 shutdown) and has steadily increased the attendance over the last two years (with some initial assistance from at-the-time Leading Knight Marionette Garvey). Two years of dedication to the success of one of our important Lodge programs is commendable. Congratulations Laurie and THANK-YOU!

From the Secretary's Desk,

Thank you all who have paid their dues! If you have paid your dues and have not received your card, please contact the office and leave a message.

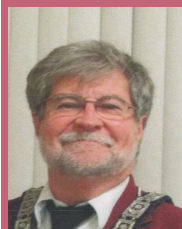
If you have signed up for the 500 Club, make sure your name(s) are on the list. If not, please call the office.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation!

Fraternally,
Mary Lou Schreck,
Lodge Secretary



Brandon Lodge Officers for 2023-2024 Elk Year



Ed Ciesla
Exalted Ruler
813-679-7699



Donald Harrison
Leading Knight
813-376-8949



Lou Valencia
Loyal Knight
813-376-9863



Robin Rutzke
Lecturing
Knight
305-498-5654



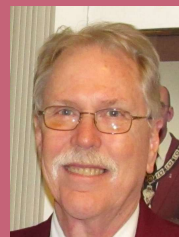
Ed Campbell
Lodge Esquire
813-245-0827



Carol DiAddezio
Inner Guard
484-678-3926



Teresa Reeves
Tiler
813-650-1607



Mark Fox
Lodge Chaplain
813-785-5353



Mary Lou Schreck
Secretary
813-689-2155



Nancy Price
Treasurer
813-756-9341

Larry Oliver
1 Year Trustee
813-767-0870



Sharon Hammersla
2 Year Trustee
813-323-1992



Mark Vargo
3 Year Trustee
813-376-8855



Jim McCleary
4 Year Trustee
813-763-9019



Marionette
Garvey
5 Year Trustee
813-956-3776



Member Illness / Convalescence:

Notify Lodge Secretary

2545

Committee Chairs 2023-2024

Accident Prevention - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

Bugle Editor - Lara McCleary 203-988-5089

Community Activities - (COULD BE YOU!)

Drug Awareness - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

Fraternal Committee - Jim McCleary 813-763-9019

Fraternal Sub Committees:

Americanism: Nickie Wells 813-716-8056

Flag Day: James Randall 813-833-7086

Lodge Activities: Mark Vargo 813-376-8855

Orientation: Jerrilyn Pietro 813-493-0425

State Associations: TBD (Could be You!)

Elks Memorial Day: TBD (Could be You!)

ENF: TBD (Could be You!)

Veterans Services: Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

Grants Coordinator - Sharon Hammersla 813-323-1992

Hall Rental - Terri Ciesla 813-679-8007

Hoop Shoot - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

House Committee - Mark Vargo 813-376-8855

Kitchen Manager - TBD

Lodge Advisor - Henry Poage 813-480-6272

Lodge Maintenance - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

Lodge Purchasing Food - Stephen Blackman 813-655-4251

Public Relations - Michael Highfill 813-812-2727

Youth Activity - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

BLOE BITS Next Meeting is MAY 1ST at 7:00 PM
Hoping to See You There!

As I stepped away from the position of treasurer after 5 years, I planned on being a behind the scenes member, volunteering but not being seen. Well, that was not thought out very well. I believe in this group of ladies and therefore stepped up to the challenge. I take on this position knowing I will succeed only with the support of each person in the lodge, not just the ladies but everyone, we are all members of The Brandon Elks Lodge. My first thoughts as I take on this position is better said by a quote from Helen Keller: "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." This group of women did amazing last year in raising money for the lodge. I wanted to list the major item:

- New Skirt for the Stage 280.00**
- New Freezer 4,096.83**
- New Grill 2,539.60**
- 2 11th Hour Clocks 4209.72**
- Check for 18,000.00**

There is no one person doing this, it can only be accomplished by everyone working together. So, thank you for everyone's efforts in the past year. I want to thank everyone who has stepped up to be an officer and chair lady. We will accomplish greatness with everyone sharing in on the efforts required to succeed as a great group.

I must put out a special thank you to one person that is always finding time to help. She always has many tasks she is working on but still is available to help others. I commend this person for always being there for the lodge. Thank you, Terri Ciesla, you are an amazing person with a very big heart.

Wednesday, March 15, was our St Patrick's Day dinner prepared by Rick Weigand. It would not have been possible without Rick heading up that fabulous dinner. Thank you to all those who made this possible.

Our April breakfast was a hit. We had many more volunteers than before and we served 145 people. What a wonderful turnout for volunteers and guests.

Going ahead we have many exciting events, we started with two fun events in April, Bunco and A Night at The Races. Future events Beach Bash Brunch June 24, Christmas in July 15, Casino Night September 16, Halloween Party October 28, Drag Fashion Show January 20, Sadie Hawkins Dance February 24. You will also see we have Bunco planned throughout the year. Dates subject to change so watch for each event in the Bugle calendar.

I look forward to spending many fun hours with each of you as we go forward. I may be the Ladies President, but it is only a small part of what makes us great, it is all of us putting in time volunteering to raise funds for our Lodge.

Looking forward to an exciting year
Jane Gilblair
Lady President



*Brandon Ladies of Elks
Lady of Distinction
APRIL*



This month's lady of distinction was responsible for leading us thru a fabulous year where we accomplished a great deal and made it possible for us to achieve our goals of supporting our charities and the Brandon Elks. She can be seen at the monthly breakfast serving coffee and acting as a gracious hostess. She always has a kind smile and makes sure everyone who comes in feels at home. Her and her husband attended every function at the lodge both BPOE and BLOE sponsored throughout the year She was chair of the Fashion Show this year and it was a success, she made sure it was a great afternoon for all who attended. She is always on the go. Brandon Ladies are lucky to have such a great lady in our membership. Please join me in congratulating **Anne Fox** our Lady of Distinction for April.

*Brandon Ladies of Elks
Lady of the Year*



In order to give full recognition to our Lady of the Year I would be hoarse from talking and fill a landfill of paper. Her accomplishments in the last five or six years are amazing and if you looked up what a Brandon Lady of Elk should be - her name would be first on the list. She is a leader, a cook, fund raiser, partier, friend, mother, wonderful wife to her adorable husband and fabulous grandmother but tonight we want to recognize her as one of a short list of influential ladies that we have the privilege of knowing. The BLOE is famous for having some great ladies in our group. They are super women. This lady handles the catering for the BLOE, she starts with the planning, cooks, supervising and is always the last one to leave after cleanup. She is a joy to work with and has the kitchen, serving and hosting down to a science. When she plans a fundraising event, we know it will be a success and will make lots of money. She is a force to be reckoned with when she sets her mind to something. She has great ideas and because of her magnetic personality its amazing how she gets everyone to volunteer. It was a no brainer when we voted on who should be the Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of the Year for 2022-2023 it is our former president and future Lodge Hostess - **Terri Ciesla**.

2234

10510 Riverview Drive
(813) 671-3121



Riverview, Florida 33578
(813) 671-3730 Fax

Kevin Talbert
Director / Owner

Linda Hinkle
Office Manager

Mark C. Vargo, Sr.
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

500 Club Winners

Called but not signed up:

Jan Thumberg, Richard Montpass, Brian Keeth, Irene Fausset

Signed up; not present

Diana Jones & Marianne Kramer

Door Duty

May 5th – Mark Fox

May 12th – Ed Campbell

May 19th – Marionette

May 26th – Don H

BLOE BREAKFAST
ALL YOU CAN EAT \$10
2nd Sunday
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lounge Rental

ONLY Elk members can rent the lounge for themselves or immediate family (children, parents, siblings, aunts or uncles).



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

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
30	01 BLOE Meeting 6:30PM PER Meeting 7pm Ante Room	02 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open MARY KAY PARTY 6-9PM LOUNGE	03 Spaghetti Dinner Hall 6:30PM \$8	04 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	05 Music: Mike Albright Friday night dinner see page 5	06 11AM-8PM Subero Hall & Lounge
07 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM Fraternal Committee Meeting 1:30 PM Ritual Practice 2PM	08 Lodge Meeting 7PM	09 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	10	11 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	12 Music: Skip & Nancy Friday night dinner see page 5	13
14 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM 8-11AM BLOE Breakfast Hall	15 7pm Governing Board Meeting	16 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	17 BLOE Dinner Hall 6:30PM	18 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	19 Music: Hot Mix Friday night dinner see page 5	20 8AM-12PM Qtrly Food Magazine Drive Latham Wedding Lounge 2:30-6:30PM
21 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM Trivia Lounge Snack Bar 2PM	22 BUNCO 6PM LOUNGE	23 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	24 Member Orientation 6:30PM	25 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	26 Music: Kris Pierce Friday night dinner see page 5	27
28 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM FL State Convention - Orlando	29 MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC 11AM-2PM 	30 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	31	01	02	03 Lodge Olympics BRANDON 1PM
04	06	07	08	09		

Please RSVP for Dinners

RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com

Save the Date
LODGE MEETING, MAY 8TH
BLOE MEETING, MAY 1ST
FRATERNAL COMMITTEE, 1ST
SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

LOUNGE HOURS
 Sunday: 1pm – 7pm
 Monday - Thursday 4pm – 9pm
 Friday 4pm – 10pm
 Saturday 4pm – 9pm
 MANAGER: JANE GILBLAIR

MAY MENU ITEMS

TO BE ASSURED OF A MEAL, PLEASE RSVP
TO RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM
BY 12 PM THURSDAY

MAY 3RD

TERRI & ED \$8
ENTREE: SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS
SALAD & DESSERT



May 5TH

DON & FRIENDS ALL YOU CAN EAT \$15
ENTRÉE: FAJITAS, BURRITOS, ENCHILADAS & MORE
MUSIC: MIKE ALBRIGHT



MAY 12TH

TERRI & FRIENDS \$15
ENTRÉE: PORK WELLINGTON
SIDES: POTATO, VEGGIES
SALAD & DESSERT
MUSIC: SKIP & NANCY



MAY 17TH

BLOE WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
TERRI CIESLA \$10
ENTRÉE: SAUSAGE, POTATOES, CORN BAKE
SIDES: COLE SLAW
DESSERT



MAY 19TH

NICKI & FRIENDS
SALAD: TOSSED
ENTRÉE: (PLEASE CHOOSE ONE): STEAK (\$15), SHRIMP (\$13)
GRILLED CHICKEN (\$12) OR FISH (\$13)
SIDES: VEGGIES AND BAKED POTATO
MUSIC: HOT MIX



MAY 26TH

BEVERLY LAUNDY & CINDY HOLT \$15
ENTRÉE: PORK CHOPS
SIDES: MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, PEAS
SALAD & DESSERT
MUSIC: KRIS PIERCE



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 \$50 per month

THANKS FOR STAYING
IN OUR PARK

Frank Craft – 813-245-6238
LODGE PHONE – 813-685-6469



BUGLE BOOSTERS:

- Pat & Jeff LaVoie
- Joseph Zebrak
- Kim Martinez
- Lynda & Frank Craft
- Carolyn & George Thomas
- John Christensen
- Julie & Henry Ebert
- Phillip Singletary
- Charlene Hart
- Grace & Rick Weigand
- Connie & Henry Poage
- Donald Harrison
- Kenneth League
- Diane League

BE A BUGLE BOOSTER !!!

Please help defray the cost of printing and
mailing out our Bugle.
Donations help a great deal!!





500 Club Members

If you paid and do not see your name below, please call Mary Lou!

Adams	John	Jones	Diana
Adams	Donna	Kramer	Jack
Alberico	Joe	Kramer	Marianne
Bayne	Michael	Lane	Larry
Bayne	Laure	Laundy	Beverly
Bilinski	Ray	LaVoie	Jeff
Bilinski	Kathy	LaVoie	Pat
Butner	Richard	League	Kenneth
Butner	Cindy	League	Diane
Cameron	Michael	Long	Cliff
Ciesla	Edward	Lowe	Beverly
Ciesla	Terri	Mann	Gerri
Craft	Frank	Matineau	Donna
Craft	Lynda	Martinez	Kim
Czajkowski	Jan	Moon	Don
Duncan	Tony	Moon	Jane
Ebert	Henry	Pietro	Jerrilyn
Ebert	Julie	Reeves	Teresa
Flood	Joe	Rutzke	Robin
Flood	Carole	Schreck	Joseph
Florentino	Robert	Schreck	Mary Lou
Fox	Mark	Smith	Phillip
Fox	Ann	Smith	Wendy
Fultz	Michael	Subko	Robert
Fultz	Donna	Subko	Eileen
Garvey	Glenn	Thomas	George
Garvey	Marionette	Thomas	Carolyn
Giblair	Jane	Thompson	Chris
Harrison	Don	Valencia	Lou
Harvey	Lee	Vargo	Mark
Highfill	Michael	Vargo	Patti
Hinkle	Phil	Wells	Nickie
Hinkle	Linda	Yanni	Art
Holt	Cindy	Zilka	David

It is time for us to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever, the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it.

--Vince Lombardi

everything begins at the Lodge level

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION

Hostess Corner

It's been a great start to this new year!! A couple of reminders Please rsvp for dinners no later than noon the day before the dinner

And save the date for lots of laughs at our comic night on June 10.

To keep up with current activities, join the Facebook group "Brandon Elks Members"

Terri

EdTheBrandonER@gmail.com

Something NEW for our members! As I mentioned last month, I want our members to be involved with their Lodge at any-and-every level. If you can help with an event, attend an event, serve on a committee, or just offer your thoughts about our Lodge, please let me know. I have created an e-mail address for you to do just that:

EdTheBrandonER@gmail.com .

I want to hear from you.

Victoria Harrison
Licensed Esthetician

<https://unfilteredesthetics.square.site/>

itsyourskingirl_vik

1(813)817-6032

2806 South 63rd Street
Tampa, FL 33619
Home Based

LiveWell7 Wellness Center

506 Westbrook Avenue
Brandon 33511
(813)733-5497 Text
(813)689-6359 Call



For more information see:
WWW.MARYBETHDC.COM
BRANDONSCHIROPRACTOR.COM

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Newly Installed Officers 2023-2024



From left: Exalted Ruler - Ed Ciesla, Leading Knight - Donald Harrison, Loyal Knight - Lou Valencia, Lecturing Knight - Robin Rutzke, Secretary - Mary Lou Schreck, Treasurer - Nancy Price, Esquire - Ed Campbell, Chaplain - Mark Fox, Inner Guard - Carole DiAddezio, Tiler - Teresa Reeves, 5 Year Trustee - PER Marionette Garvey



2022-2023 Exalted Ruler Awards:

From Left: Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award - Robin Rutzke, Officer of the Year - Lou Valencia, Elk of the Year - Carole DiAddezio, PER Marionette Garvey.

FACELIFT

Have you noticed the front of our Lodge lately? It has had a face-lift! Tracy Tirado, Becky Cresswell, and Kris Solano spent a hot Saturday afternoon trimming bushes, pruning trees, and pulling weeds. They also cleaned out the flowerpots on either side of the front door and planted new stuff. Be sure to pause and examine what they have done. This is an example of what I'm talking about when I speak of member involvement. Thank-you for your initiative, and good work!



VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke

BPOE Lecturing 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!



Brandon Elks Comedy show

June 10TH 2023
6:30 PM COCKTAIL HOUR
7:30 PM SHOW

\$25
Food
included


Rosco Nash


Victoria Yepes




Aniria Turney


Tony Gaud



BUNCO NIGHT!

\$20 **\$20**

Brandon Ladies of Elk

MONDAY MAY 22ND

Dinner - 6:00pm/Game - 6:30pm

Cash prizes for :
Most wins / Most losses
Most Bunco's
Last Bunco





Get your tickets from Terrie Ciesla , Beth Benham or at the bar



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MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS INCENTIVE PROGRAM AVAILABLE.

ASK ME ABOUT CHARITABLE GIVING.






50/50
raffle

Join us for the Elk Olympics!!

June 3rd 1:00pm (chefs 12:00)

Brandon Elks Lodge

Max 8 person
Per event/Per lodge

BB GUN SHOOT



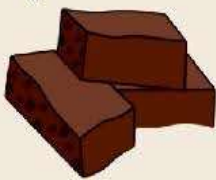
POOL TOURNAMENT



*\$5 entry fee pp
For team events*

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

Brownie competition



*\$10 pp
For meals*

Wing competition



Sign up sheets at the bar

Our Lodge Brings Elroy to the Willis Peters Prom



Our Brandon Lodge has a long history of supporting Willis Peters Exceptional Center in Dover. For many past years our Brandon Elks supported a Prom that was put on at our lodge for those special children of the Willis Peters School. However, as with many things, their annual Prom had to be cancelled for the past two years due to COVID-19.

This year, PER Nickie Wells reached out to the school and with the help of members of the school in partnership with our Brandon Elk volunteers (Exalted Ruler Ed Ciesla, Leading Knight Donald Harrison, Trustee Sharon Hammersla/PDDGER, Lodge Treasurer Nancy Price, Loyal Knight Lou Valencia and PER Nickie Wells), worked with the schoolteachers and supported this year's Prom for the kids.

The theme of the Prom was "Fire and Ice" and to better accommodate the kids, the Prom was held at the Willis Peters school. Exalted Ruler Ed Ciesla put on the costume and personality of "Elroy" and mingled with the kids. Nickie, Lou and Nancy cooked the chicken nuggets, French fries, pizza squares and themed cupcakes. All the Elk volunteers served the food and made the Prom a special and successful event for the kids.

Nickie has pledged to work with Willis Peters each year, now that COVID-19 is behind us, to make sure the Prom continues to be an annual event that the Brandon Elks Lodge and our volunteer member's support. If you are interested in being part of this fun and rewarding annual event, please reach out to Nickie. Always looking for new volunteers to get involved in our local community and our lodges charitable events.



Our Elks nonperishable food and magazine (donated to the veterans) drive is scheduled for Saturday, May 20th, 8:00 am to noon.

All items can be dropped off in front of the lodge . If out-of-town or unable to drop off items on the 20th, please leave in the Ante Room with a note stating for quarterly food drive and your name. The POC's will ensure it is collected for the drive.

POC's Robin Rutzke, Lecturing Knight at 305-498-5654 or Sharon Hammersla, 2 Year Trustee at 813-323-1992.

Thank you for your continued support with this lodge quarterly community project.

Elks Care-Elks Share.

Registration for the 2023 Parade of Heroes is now OPEN.

ATTENTION
ALL VETERANS
OF WWII, KOREAN, VIETNAM & GULF WARS

“Parade of Heroes”
An annual event held in Washington D.C.
on Veterans Day week
for our Elk Veterans

This is an event that hosts Elk Veterans of WWII, Korean War, Vietnam & Gulf War to an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C.

This event features tours of the memorials, as well as a “Parade of Heroes” which includes outstanding bands, choirs and JROTC cadets from around the country in a special tribute to all veterans from WWII up to and including Gulf War veterans at the World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War memorials.

If you are interested in participating in the “Parade of Heroes”,
please complete the form found on www.Floridaelks.org.

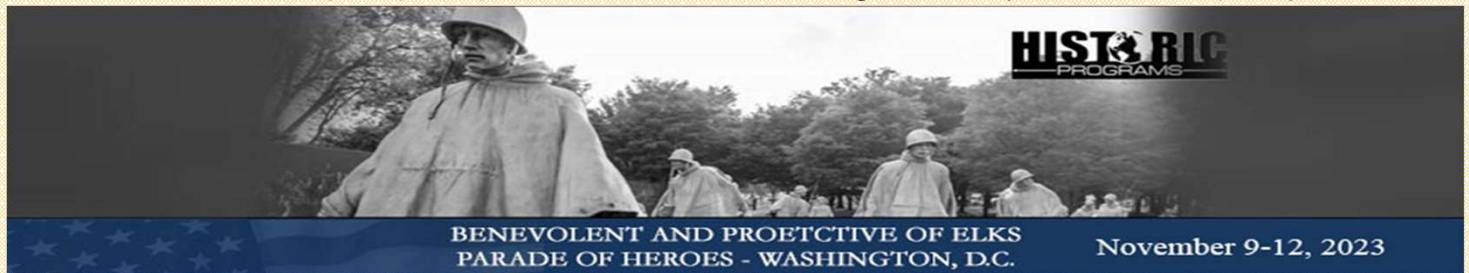
Someone will be in contact with you as soon as possible to discuss the details in securing your participation in this truly historic event.

ENROLL NOW!

Question, Comments or Concerns?

Please contact Brandon Veteran Chair Robin Rutzke at rrutzke@gmail.com or (305) 498-5654 and she will be happy to answer your questions or help you with the process.

The Parade of Heroes is a major step to help mend the wounds suffered during and after any of the conflicts especially the Vietnam war.



As Long As There Are Veterans, We Will Never Forget Them

Since the early days our Elk history, the BPOE have taken care of our Veterans. We help them with their injuries, their infirmities, their homelessness, their hunger, and any other way we can find. Heck, some of us even help them when we encounter them on the side of the road at an intersection asking for a dollar.

The Elks have a long history of taking care of our Veterans. But did you know that we also invest in our country’s FUTURE Veterans? The BPOE has an Awards Program for High School Junior ROTC Cadets. The criteria for selection of this award is to identify a Cadet who has attained academic achievement, has participated in community service, and has maintained the highest standards of performance in the JROTC program.

This past month, on April 20, The Brandon Lodge gave this award to Cadet Josmary Valiente of Middleton High School in Tampa. The award consists of a certificate and Medal. But our Lodge didn’t stop there. We also presented her with a gift card for \$100.

The Brandon High School JROTC Program also has a candidate worthy of this award. Since the award had not yet been presented at the time of this writing, we will announce the winner in the June Bugle.

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