

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

NOVEMBER 2024

www.brandonelks.org

Volume 24 Issue 11



MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER, DONALD A HARRISON

As we start the month of Thanksgiving, we have much to be thankful for. With Helene and Milton coming to Florida and Tampa Bay, members of our lodge, as well as our community, have suffered various extents of damages. As you read this, many are still in the process of repairs and rebuilding. So, we should be thankful for what we have. Not only in property, but in the relationships with one another. Stress and challenges have a way of creating reactions that we would normally not express. Let's make November a month of healing, of coming together, and making our lodge and our community a better place for all.

In November, we have several events, I do not intend to recite them to you, as they are made available on our calendar, on Facebook, and various other media, for those that have an interest in seeing what we are doing within our lodge and our community, is easily ascertainable.

The Elks organization is a fraternity. A fraternity that does much for others. We do for others, by sharing our labor. The labor to generate income in the snack bar and dinners. The labor to assist with the rental hall and the catering events associated with hall rentals. The labor to go out into our community and make contacts with veterans, children, and those that may be physically, mentally and financially challenged.

With the holiday season coming upon us. We seek your help putting together Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas gifts, and other events that are planned

In closing, you can communicate your desire to take part in the above activities by emailing Elks2383sharing@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Donald A. Harrison
57th Exalted Ruler
Brandon Lodge #2383

WE ARE ELKS! WHAT DO WE DO? WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE. HOW? WE HELP, WE SHARE, WE ARE SEEN.



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

There are several members of our lodge that do many things consistently. October was a challenging time. With Helene in the rear-view mirror Milton grabbed our attention. With our lodge shutting down and our perishable items being lost, it was difficult to get back up to speed. Many of our members experience damage that was their priority and we're unable to assist in our large functions.

This "member" stepped up to assist us in our endeavors to get the lodge back to a normalcy. Her actions seem to be just normal for her. But at the end of the day, it's not normal for us.

So, I want to extend a huge thank you and hug to **Terri Ciesla** for always being there, always willing to dive in, always willing to put it all together. When you see her, please thank her for what she's done in the past, and what she continues to do to make our lodge and our community better and stronger.

Brandon Lodge Officers for 2024-2025 Elk Year

Donald Harrison
Exalter Ruler
813-376-8949



Lou Valencia
Leading Knight
813-376-9863



Robin Rutzke
Loyal Knight
305-498-5654



Wendy Smith
Lecturing Knight
813-862-8573



Christina Puhalla
Lodge Esquire
609-217-5782



Michael Fultz
Tiler
813-205-5885



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

Rick Weigand
1 Year Trustee
813-748-2678



Mark Vargo
2 Year Trustee
813-376-8855



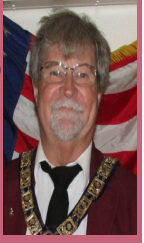
Nickie Wells
3 Year Trustee
813-716-8051



Marionette Garvey
4 Year Trustee
813-956-3776



Ed Ciesla
5 Year Trustee
813-679-7699



Committee Chairs 2024-2025

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 - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

Grants Coordinator - Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

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

State Associations: TBD (Could be You!)

Elks Memorial Day: Don Harrison 813-935-9040

ENF: Nickie Wells 813-716-8056

Veterans Services: Robin Rutzke 305-498-5654

Hall Rental - Jan Czajkowski 518-312-9891

Hoop Shoot - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

House Committee - Mark Vargo 813-376-8855

Kitchen Manager - COULD BE YOU

Lodge Advisors - Henry Poage 813-480-6272

Lodge Maintenance - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678 & Lou Valencia 813-376-9863

Lodge Purchasing Food - Stephen Blackman 813-378-1597

Public Relations - Mike Highfill 813-812-2727

Youth Activity - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

Web Master : Ray Bilinski -
webmasterbrandoneilks@gmail.com

BLOE BITS

Hello Ladies

First off, I hope that each one of you and your families are all okay. With both Helene and Milton coming in back-to-back many were hit twice. I am sure that all of us have had damage of some kind. I know of a couple that have had MAJOR damage. There are many of our members that live in mobile home parks that were with out power for many days. I hope that our ELKDOM will show in reaching out to help any of our Elk members and friends in need.

On a different note, we have some good news. First, Jane Gilblair has finally made it home, but she has a long way to go. If you can, please check on her, even if it is just a card or a small phone call. I am sure it will brighten her day.

The Open House Membership Day put on by Cheryl Barker was a good time for the Veterans of 214. May have brought us at least 3 new members. I just haven't had the time to meet up with them just yet to get them signed up as Elks and/or as BLOE members. I hope to do so in the coming weeks.

We have had to cancel many of our events this month due to Milton. I am going to miss the Halloween Party for sure. There was just too much happening in everyone's life that I believed it was too stressful to try to prep for the event and try to get our own life back together.

There are several things coming in November, and I hope to see things back to normal soon. Come out to the meeting on the 4th , Sip and Paint on the 16th , Breakfast on the 10th , Bunco on the 18th and dinner on the 20th.

Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it.

~ Gilda Radner~

Thank you,
Becky Cresswell
President



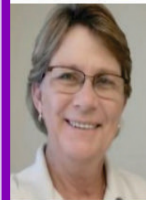
Next Meeting is
NOVEMBER 4TH @ 7:00 PM
Hoping to See You There!

*Brandon
Ladies of Elks
Lady of Distinction
OCTOBER*

Due to Milton the ladies meeting
was cancelled!

25

BRANDON #2383 Reverse Draw
\$50 - includes appetizers & 2 free drink tickets
1st #: \$25 / 25th #: \$25 / 50th #: \$50 / 75th #: \$75 / 150th #: \$2,500
(If all 150 tickets not sold, \$2,500 prize will be based on percentage of tickets sold)
Only 150 REVERSE DRAW TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!
When: Saturday - March 1st, 2025 Begins at 6:30
CHANCE TO WIN \$2,500!!!!



Cyndi Buchanan

Yellowfin Realty
813.391.7231

CyndiBuchanan.YFR@gmail.com

500 Club Winners

Not available at publishing time

"Our focus is serving you, it's what we do"

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Give the Gift of Time!
Help
WANTED
Volunteers Needed

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Kevin Talbert
Director / Owner

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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

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
Dinner * Dancing * Music
Weekly 50/50 Raffles
\$500 Club Drawing

NOVEMBER



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.

Thank you.
Mark C. Vargo, Sr., PER
Board of Directors Chair

BLOE BREAKFAST
ALL YOU CAN EAT \$10
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

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	01 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS MUSIC: TOURIST BOB	02
03 SOCIAL & SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM 	04 6:30PM BLOE MEETING – HALL PER MEETING 7PM ANTE ROOM 	05 5PM - 7PM CARDS 	06 6:30PM PASTA NIGHT DINNER LOUNGE	07 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm 	08 STATE PRESIDENT VISIT - SEBRING FRIDAY PER NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS MUSIC: SUNNY SITUATION	09
10 8AM - 11AM BLOE BREAKFAST HALL SOCIAL & SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM 	11 Lodge Meeting 7PM	12 5PM - 7PM CARDS 	13	14 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm 	15 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS MUSIC: BILL D WILLIAMS	16 11AM – 2PM PAINT N SIP LOUNGE 6:30 LOUNGE ELKS BIRTHDAY DINNER
17 SOCIAL & SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM 	18 6PM BUNCO LOUNGE 7 PM BOARD MEETING - HALL	19 5PM - 7PM CARDS 	20 6:30PM BLOE DINNER LOUNGE	21 BINGO IN THE LOUNGE 6:30pm HALL RENTAL 6:30PM BRANDON BOY'S DINNER - LOUNGE 	22 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS MUSIC: TAYLOR TAYLOR	23 2PM – 5PM QUILTS OF VALOR 4PM LODGE GAMES LOUNGE
24 SOCIAL & SPORTS LOUNGE 1PM 	25	26 5PM - 7PM CARDS 	27 NO VETERAN'S DINNER THIS MONTH	28 2PM – 4PM THANKSGIVING DINNER HALL	29 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS	30

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.

Save the Date

BLOE MEETING, NOV 4TH
PER MEETING, NOV 4TH
LODGE MEETING, NOV 11TH
BOARD MEETING NOV 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: Carole DiAddezio

NOVEMBER MENU ITEMS

THE ONLY WAY TO BE ASSURED OF A MEAL IS TO RSVP RSVPBRANDONELKS@YAHOO.COM

BY 12 NOON THE DAY BEFORE FOR ALL 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

NOVEMBER 1ST



NOVEMBER 10TH



NOVEMBER 22ND



NOVEMBER 6TH



NOVEMBER 15TH



NOVEMBER 28TH



NOVEMBER 8TH



NOVEMBER 20TH



NOVEMBER 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

**THANKS FOR STAYING
IN OUR PARK**

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



BUGLE BOOSTERS:

Pat & Jeff LaVoie
Kim Martinez
Lynda & Frank Craft
Carolyn & George Thomas
Ron & Ester Cantrell
Julie & Henry Ebert
Charlene Hart
Donald Harrison
Kenneth League
Diane League
Richard Clark
Jackie Florentino
Gerri Mann

Karen McArthur
Angela Sweeney
Joseph Zebrak
David Zilka
Mary Lou & George Scribner
Pat & Bernie Hiskey

BE A BUGLE BOOSTER !!!

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

**JOIN THE
BOOSTER CLUB**

Happy Birthday

TO OUR NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

MARISSA CIELSA, HENRY EBERT, PHILLIP SINGLETARY, ROBERT LESTER, DENNIS WALSH, DEBORAH HALE, WILLIAM LILLEY, MONICA RODRIQUEZ, DUANE PETRY SR., JAMES STOCKS, BARRY CLARK, MICHELLE GARCIA, DAVIS ESPY, BRIAN KILLAM, JOE FLOOD, PHIL HINKLE, KENNETH LEAGUE, GLENN GAVREY, CJ HAYES, DENNIS HUJAR, DREW SHERRY, STEVE BLACKMAN, REBECCA BRIGHT, MATT HARDEN, DANIEL WENDLAND, ROBERT BROOKS, LARRY HESTER, COLIN HENDRY, FRANK MARQUEZ, LINDA HANCOCK, ROLF KLASMANN, RICK WEIGAND, JERRY HUJAR, KIM MARTINEZ

DON'T FORGET TO COME OUT ON 11/16 FOR YOUR FREE BIRTHDAY DINNER

ATTENTION TO ALL ELKS THAT HAVE SOME TYPE OF VEHICLE/CAMPER IN OUR STORAGE AREA

We have completed the north side of the storage lot with new marked and numbered spaces. We will be doing the south side of the lot soon. When completed with the new marked spaces, we will be asking those on the south side to re-position their RV's/Boats. Please have some type of identification placed on your stored vehicle (name, telephone and email).

If you have something stored in our Storage Area, please contact Mark Vargo at 813-376-8855.

We need to know what you have stored and how big.

We are asking all those that temporarily stored in the RV park, to please move back to the storage lot.



ATTENTION ALL PER'S! Since October's luncheon was cancelled, we will try again! As promised, this months a little different then our usual lunches. We will be going to City Buffet at 790 West Martin Luther King Blvd in Seffner. It is in the shopping center on the southwest corner of Parsons and MLK. Lunch is at 11:30 on Thursday, November 14th. As stated, this a buffet all you can eat, lunch is \$9.99 they serve American, Chinese, Japanese, and Seafood. I Hope to see you there, this is a chance to try something new, maybe crawfish and if you don't like it, then get something else. We would love to see you.

Your Restaurant Hunter Kim Martinez PER

SUSTAINING DONATIONS

[BECOME A SUSTAINING DONOR](#) - HARRY ANNA
[BECOME A SUSTAINING DONOR](#) - ENF

Thank you
 Donald A Harrison
 Exalted Ruler, Brandon Elks Lodge #2383



VETERANS AFFAIRS
Committee Chair
Robin Rutzke

BPOE Loyal 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!



B L O G *Sip & Paint*

November 16th
11 - 2pm

50/50 and Raffles \$15 /Person
Supplies Provided
Wine glasses, brushes, paints, ideas, and food

Advanced Tickets Required
See Terri Ciesla

500 Centennial Lodge Dr. Brandon, FL 33510

Brandon Ladies of Elk

Rock'n Roll

Dec 7th **7:30 - 11 pm**

After Party

FOOD ★ MUSIC ★ FUN ★ DANCING

\$10 WITH ELVIS TICKET **\$20 PARTY ONLY**

BUNCO Night!

\$20

Brandon Ladies of Elk
MONDAY NOVEMBER 18TH

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

BUNCO
What Happens At Bunco Stays At Bunco

MONIES BENEFITING LODGE ELKS CHARITIES
Get your tickets from Terri Ciesla, Beth Benham or at the bar

Brandon Ladies of Elk
Presents

Gene Styles
Elvis Impersonator
A Tribute To

ELVIS

Saturday December 7th
5-7pm

\$25 Includes Show & Appetizers

Earlier you get tickets The better your seat if getting a table of 8
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

800 Centennial Lodge Dr Brandon, FL 33510
Tickets available at bar or Terri Ciesla

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Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

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