

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER



Ed Ciesla

Exalted Ruler

CHARITY, the ENF, and YOU

As you know, charity is one of the cardinal principals of our order. What sets us apart from other charitable organizations is our intense focus on charity. The charitable works we do focus on three levels of commitment: National, State, and Local. Our local charities are supported directly by our lodge. Our State charities are supported by our State Association, namely the Harry Anna Trust Fund. Our national efforts are supported by the Elks National Foundation, otherwise known as the ENF. These Mega pools of money fund things like our Scholarship Programs, our Veterans Services, our Childrens Therapy Services, our Youth Camp, and much more.

So, where does this money come from? The obvious answer is you, our members. We give annually to the ENF and the Harry Anna Trust Fund. These Funds are invested and generate income. The income from these trust funds is distributed to the local Lodges based on the Lodge's annual contribution to these funds. In short, we get a lot more back than we put in. We get the money for our local charitable works through grants. You've heard the names Beacon Grant, Gratitude Grant, Spotlight Grant, Impact Grant, Freedom Grant, and the Community Investment Program (CIP). Thanks to the diligent efforts of Robin Rutzke and Sharon Hammersla, we consistently receive grants from ENF.

With this in mind, it is consistent with our charitable goals to SUPPORT ENF. So, this month we are having a fundraising event for ENF. It is the LATIN GALA, ala Sofia Meyer (Wolf). Hopefully, you may remember when Sofia and Guy held a couple of Latin Nights in our social hall a few years ago. I asked Sofia if she would head up this fundraiser and throw another Latin Gala. She said yes and the date is August 12, 2023. This will be a major event, one worthy of your attendance! You can purchase tickets from Sofia, your Lodge Officers, and the Lounge. Please support this event so that we may continue to do the good works of Elkdom. And as always, if you want to be more involved, more engaged, please let me know at EdTheBrandonER@gmail.com.

Your Exalted Ruler, Ed Ciesla



Volunteer of the Month

This month's volunteer is a relatively new member. Shortly after being initiated, he began volunteering. He answered the call to our snack bar and, so far, has the most number of days in service at that post this Lodge year. Please congratulate **J Jones** (yes, his first name is "J") and thank him for supporting our Lodge.

Hostess Corner

We have a fun filled August. Besides our regular activities we have others going on. Saturday, August 12 (6 pm- midnight) is our ENF (Elks National Foundation) fundraiser: A Latin Gala. A fun filled evening of great food, discounted adult beverages, Latin singers and dancers, and a live band. All this fun, food, and entertainment for only \$30!! Tickets available at the bar. Then on Saturday, Aug 19 is the Elks Olympics in Plant City as well as our magazine and food drive. And on August 19 as well, a new event ... a game night. Need something to do on a Saturday night?? The lodge will have various games to play through the evening. The next weekend on Sunday August 27 is Elks Day at the Rays. We have had amazing interest in this event with 70 tickets sold from our lodge!! Lastly, the Ladies are having Bunco again on Monday, August 28. Please share events with your friends and family. Guests of Elk members are welcome to attend events. They may want to become members. A huge thank you to everyone who is stepping up to work snack bars on Tuesdays and Thursdays and to those who have volunteered to cook Friday night dinners. It's really not difficult, it's fun, and rewarding. We could sure use your help so please consider volunteering See you at the lodge ~ Terri



- 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

Brandon Lodge Officers for 2023-2024 Elk Year



Ed Ciesla **Exalted Ruler** 813-679-7699



Donald Harrison Leading Knight 813-376-8949



Teresa Reeves Tiler 813-650-1607

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





Mark Fox Lodge Chaplain 813-785-5353



Mary Lou Schreck Secretary 813-458-5872



Nancy Price Treasurer 813-756-9341

Larry Oliver 1 Year Trustee 813-767-0870











Member Illness / Convalescence:

Notify Lodge Secretary



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

Grants Coordinator - Sharon Hammersla 813-323-1992

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

Hall Rental - Terri Ciesla 813-679-8007

Hoop Shoot - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

House Committee - Sharon Hammersla 813-323-1992

Kitchen Manager – Ed Ciesla 813-679-7699 Kitchen Coordinator – Terri Ciesla 813-679-8007

Lodge Advisors - Henry Poage 813-480-6272 & Sharon Hammersla 813-323-1992

Lodge Maintenance - Rick Weigand 813-748-2678

Lodge Purchasing Food - Stephen Blackman 813-244-4613

Public Relations - Michael Highfill 813-812-2727

Youth Activity - Don Harrison 813-935-9040

BLOE BITS^{Next Meeting is AUGUST 7TH at 7:00 PM} Hoping to See You There!

Thinking over the time I have been in this position I am thankful for those who have stepped up to help. Volunteering is what keeps us a strong productive group of women. Our Christmas in July was a bit different this year because it was a smaller support of participants, but it was one of our best. Becky Cresswell and Tracy Tlrado were amazing at everything they did for Christmas in July. Running the games, setting up the food, and clean up too. It was a blessing to have them volunteer.

Now we look forward to Casino Night on September 16. Please buy your tickets in advance.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, August 7.

Jane Gilblair Lady President



OUR DRESS CODE

One of the items I field from our members frequently, are questions about the DRESS CODE.

Since it has been brought to my attention often, I want to re-visit the requirements with you. I have paraphrased in order to get to what is needed for you to know:

Friday Nights: Men - Full-length trousers and shirt with collar, or dress shirt designed without collar, for eveningwear. Ladies - Slacks, dresses, skirts, and dress shorts with appropriate tops.

Dress shorts and shorts outfits may be worn at any time, but are not considered proper attire for Lodge functions held in the Lodge room. Other Nights: Ladies shorts, shorts outfits, men's dress shorts, T-shirt, and dress shirt without collar may be worn in the lounge.

BPOE MEETING ATTIRE:

Men – Full-length trousers and shirt with collar. Ladies - Slacks, dresses, skirts with appropriate tops.

Tank Tops and T-shirts with offensive language or graphics is not considerate proper attire.

Cut-offs, short shorts, gym shorts, and halter tops are not considered proper attire and shall not be worn at any time.

For a more detailed description, see the signs posted at the entrances to our lounge.

Its not often that one of our members is in violation. Usually, it is a guest of a member not knowing we even have a Dress Code. So as you invite guests to our Lounge, please take a moment to let them know.

Thank-you for your consideration.

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Brandon Ladies of Elks Lady of Distinction TULV



What can I say about this person? She always has a smile on her face. If she is around, look quick because she has one speed, fast. She has held different positions on the board. She is always saying what a great job different ladies have done. Always with a smile. She is one person we go to when trying to figure something out. She is all about volunteering here as well as other places. She helps with catering when needed as well as deciphering what our projected budget should look like. She is the chairlady for LOD, but today she is our LOD, Julie Ebert.



Join us for the Elk Olympics!! August 19th 1:00pm (chefs 12:00) Lakeland Elks Lodge

Max 8 person Per event/Per lodge

\$5 entry fee pp For team events



Horseshoe ournament

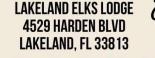
Lodge with most attendance at each **Event** awarded 2 points!!



\$10 pp For meals

Pulled pork Competition

Cobbler competition



Sign up sheets behind the bar 2908

Riverview, Florida 33578 (813) 671-3730 Fax

Mark C. Vargo, Sr. **Director / Owner**

Kevin Talbert 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

SAT

500 Club Winners

Called, signed up, not present: Not Available at the time of print



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

Door Duty

August 4th – Nancy August 11th – Mary Lou August 18th – Mark Fox August 25th - Ed Campbell

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

30	31	01	02 Spaghetti Dinner Hall 6:30PM \$8	03	04 Music: Kris Pierce Friday night dinner see page 5	05
06 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM Fraternal Committee Meeting 1:30 PM	07 BLOE Meeting 6:30PM	08 5-7PM Queen 🍲 Cards, Pool snack bar open	09	10 BINGO In the Hall 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	11 Friday night dinner see page 5	12 Latin Gala HALL 6PM
13 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM 8-11AM BLOE Breakfast Hall	14 Lodge Meeting 7PM	15 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	16 BLOE Dinner Hall 6:30PM	17 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN BRANDON BOYS LOUNGE 6:30-8:30PM	18 Music: Good Stuff Friday night dinner see page 5	19 8AM-12PM Qtrly Food Drive/School Supplies Lodge Olympics Lakeland 1PM Game Night Hall 6PM
20 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM Trivia Lounge Snack Bar 2PM	21 7pm Governing Board Meeting	22 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool Snack bar open	23 Veterans Dinner Member Orientation 6:30PM	24 BINGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	25 Friday night dinner see page 5	26 DD/VP Visitation & Inspection Brandon/Plant City Lodges Plant City Host 11AM HALL Rental 5PM
27 Social & Sports Lounge 1PM	28 BLOE Bunco Lounge 6PM	29 5-7PM Queen Cards, Pool snack bar open	30	31 BUNGO IN THE HALL 6:30pm SNACK BAR OPEN	01	02

THUR

FRI

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.

Please RSVP for Dinners RSVPBrandonElks@yahoo.com

Save the Date LODGE MEETING, JUNE 12TH BLOE MEETING, JUNE 5TH 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

THE BUGLE • JULY 2023 • Page 5

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

AUGUST 2ND

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



AUGUST 4TH

DON & FRIENDS \$15 ALL YOU CAN EAT

ENTRÉE: SALMON, COUNTRY FRIED STEAK, PORK CHOPS COCONUT SHRIMP, FRIED SHRIMP & CHICKEN QUARTERS SIDES: MASHED POTATOES, CORN & GREEN BEANS SALAD & POTATO BAR WITH DOZENS OF TOPPINGS DESSERT NO TAKE-OUT MUSIC: KRIS PIERCE

AUGUST 11TH JIM (PER) & FRIENDS \$15 ENTRÉE: BAKED ZITI WITH ITALIAN SAUSAGE SIDES: GARLIC BREAD, SALAD & DESSERT

AUGUST 16TH **BLOE WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER \$10** ANNIE FOX SHEPHERD'S PIE, SALAD AND DESSERT

AUGUST 18TH

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

AUGUST 23RD

NANCY & FRIENDS - VETS EAT FOR FREE ENTRÉE: MEATLOAF SIDES: SALAD & DESSERT



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:

Steak Night

Friendship
Charity

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!!



Angela Sweeney Pat & Bernie Hiskey Gerri Mann Mary Lou & George Scribner 2945



AUGUST 25TH **BEV LAUNDY \$15** ENTRÉE: PORK CHOPS SIDES: MASHED POTATOES, PEAS SALAD & DESSERT











Our Elks nonperishable food and annual school supply drive is scheduled for Saturday, August 19th, 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 19th, please leave in the Ante Room with a note stating for quarterly food drive with 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.



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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!



Meet the ENF

In 1928, one mans dream became a reality for all Elks and the communities we serve. Then- National President John F. Malley envisioned a plan that would "unite the forces of the Order into a mighty army for the service of mankind." During the annual Grand Lodge Convention in Miami that year, Malley's call to service inspired delegates to take action by voting to establish the Elks National Foundation with an initial \$100,000 grant. More than 90 years after Malley shared his vision with the Order, the ENF continues to unite all Elks in service to their communities. The Mission The mission of the Elks National Foundation is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We help youth develop lifelong skills, send students to college, meet the needs of today's veterans, support the charitable work of the state Elks associations, and fund projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities. Like all Elks, the Foundation values the belief that charity is the greatest of all virtues and that by sharing and giving, we have the power to replace sorrow and despair with hope and confidence. Donations to the Foundation help us fund programs that match our cornerstone values of knowledge, integrity and community.

Our Impact

Since inception, the ENF has contributed more than \$500 million toward Elks charitable projects nationwide. Our programs continue to grow each year, allowing Elks to do even more to build stronger communities. This year, the ENF allocated nearly \$16 million to fund the Community Investments Program, investing in Elks communities through grants for Elks Lodges. Community Investments Program grants offer your Lodge an opportunity to serve your community in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization that's doing great things. The ENF is able to help Elks build stronger communities thanks to contributions from our generous donors. Since inception, we have received more than \$288.7 million in contributions and bequests. Today, we have more than 124,000 active donors and an endowment fund valued at \$751.5 million.

How the ENF Works

A board of seven trustees, who are all past national presidents of the Order, governs the ENF, which is located at the Elks national headquarters in the Elks Veterans Memorial in Chicago. The director, Jim 0'Kelley, oversees the administration of the ENF's day-today operations. The ENF also has volunteers at the Lodge, district and state levels who help coordinate our fundraising strategy and implement our programs. Thanks to the ongoing support of our donors, the ENF continues to expand on Malley's vision, mobilizing Elks across the country into a force for positive change.



Brandon Elks Lodge #2383

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