



THE BUGLE



Brandon Elks Lodge #2383



800 Centennial Lodge Dr, Brandon, FL 33510
All American Lodge 1999-2000



Volume 17 Issue 5

Phone: 813-685-6469 Fax: 813-643-5652

August 2018
www.brandonelks.org



A message from your Exalted Ruler

The National Convention in San Antonio was my first. I wish I had known what I have been missing. It's not all business by any stretch of the imagination...there is a lot of socializing. I guess I would liken it to a retreat of sorts, the way it renews your life as an Elk - difficult to put into words, actually. The opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with other Elks, to learn what challenges other lodges face and how they overcome the hurdles to stay relevant in their community...you just *know* that you're involved in something big. Something good. Something that we must strive to keep alive and thriving. Our beloved BPOE is in its 150th year, and our lodge is in the middle of celebrating its 50th Anniversary. We come to our lodge. We donate our time, our talents, our money. We cook, we clean, we commiserate, we whine, we laugh. Never enough time, never enough money. We all do what we can. And we ask ourselves will it ever be enough? Then we attend an event. A big event. The State President's visit to our lodge. And a

father of 4 year old twin boys tells us his very personal story. That he is a veteran. That he and his wife struggled to have a family. That one of his sons is developmentally delayed. That someone put him in touch with the Florida Elks Therapy Services. That his son has come so far in 6 months than he ever thought was possible. This father had tears in his eyes as he thanked the Elks gathered. If you question the viability of working a snack bar to clear \$70.00, or a Friday night dinner, or a Thursday bingo event, please think about this young family. Think about the 500 children that our Therapy Services work with *each week*. 500 children a week. It's breathtaking. Ask Delores Westfall about the children that we donate coats and shoes and backpacks to so they can go to school. Ask Don Cornett about the thank you letters written in crayon after he chaired his umpteenth Hooked on Fishing, Not Drugs, event. Ask Julie Ebert about the grandfather she volunteers with and his granddaughter. As Elks we touch the lives of so many people - we just don't always know it. Personally, all I want to be - is a better Elk today, than I was yesterday. I invite you to join me - take the challenge!

Take the Challenge

Fraternally yours,

Christine Vogel

July 2018



Elk of the Month



Our Elk of the Month has been a member for 9 years. This person graduated from Brandon High in 1973 and has an Electrical Engineering degree from USF. He has three children and one grandchild. His first wife of 40 years tells me he is a big game hunter and that he has owned and operated Woods and Water in Brandon for 34 years. In between his nearly 5,000 dives, running an active business, and through Dive Pirates - teaching handicapped persons to dive -, he still found time to be an officer in our lodge. While he and his family are often seen enjoying our Friday night dinners, recently he has been observed showing off his skills in the kitchen and has introduced Trivia to our lodge. Please join me in congratulating our Elk of the Month, Ed Ciesla! Thank you, Ed, for sharing your time and talents with your lodge! Well Done!



Elroy with Clint Crabtree at the lodge 4th of July picnic. Lots of fun and food was had by all. Our Boy Scout Troop had a float in the Brandon Parade—see more on pages 11 and 13.

Brandon Elks #2383 2018-2019 Officers and Committees

Exalted Ruler	Christine Vogel	813-230-2117
Leading Knight	Donald Schreck	813-689-2155
Loyal Knight	Mark Vargo	813-376-8855
Lecturing Knight	Jim McCleary	813-763-9019
Esquire	Robert Byrd	813-293-4601
Chaplain	David Curfman	813-727-1957
Tiler	Wayne Hutson	813-685-2533
Inner Guard	Marionette Sexton	813-956-3776
Secretary	Mary Lou Schreck	813-689-2155
Treasurer	Larry Harris	813-685-6469
1 year Trustee	Mary Lou Scribner, PER	813-230-1943
2 year Trustee	Rick Weigand, PER	813-748-2678
3 year Trustee	George Scribner, DVP	850-206-0577
4 year Trustee	Nickie Wells, PER	813-716-8051
5 year Trustee	Delores Westfall, PER	813-685-7312
COMMITTEE	CHAIR	PHONE #
Interview	Jerrilyn Pietro/ Don Harrison	813-493-0425 813-935-9040
Orientation	Jerrilyn Pietro/ Don Harrison	813-493-0425 813-935-9040
Veterans Affairs	Robert Booker	301-481-5115
Public Relations	Mary Lou Scribner, PER	813-230-1943
Member Mentor	Don Harrison	813-935-9040
R.V. Park Manager	Jack Mineo	813-681-2531
Lounge Manager	Robert Booker	301-481-5115
Food Purchaser	John Diaz	813-526-1268
Kitchen Manager	Nancy Price	813-477-7676
ENF	Christine Vogel	813-230-2117
Grant Coordinator	Sharon Hammersla	813-323-1992
HARRY-ANNA Trust	Nickie Wells	813-716-8051
	Dennis Osborn	813-610-7099
Youth Activity	NEED VOLUNTEER	
Drug Awareness	Don Cornett	813-917-9872
Entertainment Chair	Phil Hinkle	813-651-0823
Hall Rental	Don Schreck	813-708-2320
Bingo	Joe Pietro	813-685-2765
Scholarship Chair	Sharon Hammersla	813-323-1992
BLOE Catering	Mary Lou Schreck	813-689-2155
Bugle Editor-Publisher	Christine Vogel	813-661-1852
Calendars	Christine Vogel	813-661-1852
Soccer Shoot Chair	Bill Beattie	813-361-4835
Hoop Shoot	David Carter	813-361-4494
Webmaster	Jerry Reid	813-689-8249
Boy Scout Coordinators	Tom Tennant and Alec Brophy	813-689-0071 813-453-9613

2018-2019 Bugle Boosters

Lewis Bartholf; Ron Cantrell; Esther Cantrell; Joyce Cecchi; Jack Clark; Linda Clark; Clinton Crabtree; Sheila Crabtree; Frank Craft; Linda Craft; Judy DeMask; Henry Ebert; Julie Ebert; Richard Gurrera; Diane Gurrera; Kathy Hattan; Beth Hawkins; Larry Henbest; Bernie Hiskey; Pat Hiskey; Jack Hogue; Gerry Mann; Kim Martinez; Frank Martinez; Rhea Martinez; Barbara Matthews; Barbara Meyer; Dale Miller; Robert Morris; Dennis Osborn; Vi Osborn; Lou Palumbo; Ginny Palumbo; Arthur Rine; Mary Rina; Don Schreck; Mary Lou Schreck; William Stout; Sandra Stout; William Stuart; Angela Sweeney; George Thomas; Carolyn Thomas; Tom Tomlin; Anna Tomlin; Christine Vogel; Gerry Westfall; Delores Westfall; Joseph Zebrak; Frank Zilka; Kathleen Zilka;



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MAKE ME A BUGLE BOOSTER

I (we) would like to offset the Bugle expenses and become a Bugle Booster. Please enter my (our) names as follows:

Bring this form with your donation of \$5.00 per person to the office or give it to a Lodge Officer.



Sunday is Sports Day at the Lodge



Come join us for good food and a good time

We enjoy NASCAR Racing, Football,
Baseball, Golf
Or whatever is currently being televised.
Everybody brings a dish to share.



TOGA, TOGA, TOGA PARTY



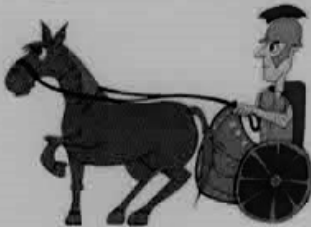
**Saturday, August 18, 2018
6:00 until 11:00 P.M.**

**\$ 18.00 Pre-Party (includes a raffle ticket)
\$ 20.00 at the door**

PRIZES * PRIZES * PRIZES

MUSIC, FUN, GAMES AND CONTESTS

*** WIN PRIZES ***



PARTAKE IN A CHARIOT RACE

**TRY YOUR SKILL AND CUNNING AGAINST
ANOTHER GLADIATOR**

TOGA COSTUME CONTEST (MEN AND WOMEN)

50/50 DRAWING - RAFFLES



MENU:

**HUMMUS, STUFFED OLIVES, CHICKEN SOUBLAKI, GREEK PASTA
SALAD, WRAPPED GRAPE LEAVES, GREEK MEATBALLS, GREEK
POTATO SKINS AND BERRY DESSERT**

**PURCHASE TICKETS FROM MARK VARGO, LINDA HINKLE OR
FROM THE BARTENDERS**

Meeting Schedule

Lodge: 2nd Monday of this month at 7:30 p.m.

House Committee & Board: 3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are open to any member in good standing and is the place to discuss any lodge issues.

Ladies Meetings are the 1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.
(Social at 6:30 p.m.).

New Member Initiation

The next initiation is scheduled for Monday, August 13 at 7:30 p.m. Please check the calendar & Bugle For further initiation dates.

Please come out and welcome our new members!

**Attention Chefs**

Orders for all food and kitchen items needed for your function or event **MUST** be placed on the list by Tuesday morning. The list is located on the kitchen wall to the right of the steam table. Please identify yourself in case questions arise.

Thank You !!

LODGE OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm & 4:00—7:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm & 4:00—7:00 pm
Thursday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, Friday thru Sunday Closed

These are hours when the Lodge Office will be staffed to assist members. The Secretary will be available on Monday & Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you need access to the Secretary or Treasurer at times other than those listed, please call the lodge office at 685-6469 during these hours to arrange for a separate meeting.

BUGLE INPUT:

Articles/flyers must be submitted in word or publisher format by the **15th** of the month to ensure that your entry is included.

No Exceptions! Please send all print-ready flyers and entries to: Christine at vogel.elk@gmail.com and/or Mary Lou at perelkmls@hotmail.com

**with The Brandon Elks Lodge**

Weekly 'Things to Do' Mailing List—

BLOE Mailing List—millie372000@yahoo.com

Bugle Email List requests—Brandonelks@outlook.com

Brandon Elks website—www.brandonelks.org

Brandon Elks Lodge Secretary—brandonelks@outlook.com

The Brandon Elks monthly newsletter, The Bugle, is available by email, on our website, and if required by USPS.

Brandon Elks Private Facebook group —

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/222366944459802/>

Brandon Elks Lodge 2383 Public Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Brandon-Elks-Lodge-2383-125830344166157/>

**Calendar and Website**

If anyone would like to have something added to our Elk's online **calendar**/Bugle calendar or have something you want placed on our website, www.brandonelks.org, please send your information directly to Christine Vogel at vogel.elk@gmail.com.

**BETH BENHAM**

Realtor

727.776.1104 Cell
813.289.1712 Office
Beth.Benham@Floridamoves.com



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FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES

Linda Hinkle
Office Manager

Kevin Talbert
Director / Owner

Mark C. Vargo, Sr.
Director / Owner

...FYI...

...information to educate, inform and protect our members...

The Federal Trade Commission, along with law enforcement officials and charity regulators from 70 offices in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam and Puerto Rico, announced more than 100 actions and a consumer education initiative in "Operation Donate with Honor," a crackdown on fraudulent charities that con consumers by falsely promising their donations will help veterans and servicemembers.

"Americans are grateful for the sacrifices made by those who serve in the U.S. armed forces," said FTC Chairman Joe Simons. "Sadly, some con artists prey on that gratitude, using lies and deception to line their own pockets. In the process, they harm not only well-meaning donors, but also the many legitimate charities that actually do great work on behalf of veterans and servicemembers."

"Not only do fraudulent charities steal money from patriotic Americans, they also discourage contributors from donating to real Veterans' charities," said Peter O'Rourke, Acting Secretary for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

"The FTC's Operation Donate with Honor campaign will help educate citizens on how to identify organizations that misrepresent themselves as legitimate veterans charities, and those who, by contrast, truly help our nation's heroes. I commend the FTC and its state partners for taking strong action on this important issue." (Excerpt from article on FTC website, (www.ftc.gov)). *If you donate through the Elks, you know your donations will go to the right cause!*



Operation

Donate with Honor

Which veterans group would you donate to?

- American Disabled Veterans Foundation
- National Vietnam Veterans Foundation
- Healing American Heroes, Inc.
- Veterans Fighting Breast Cancer
- Military Families of America
- VietNow National Headquarters, Inc.
- Foundation for American Veterans, Inc.
- Healing Heroes Network
- Help the Vets, Inc.

They have all been sued for lying to donors.

Don't depend on the name.

Do your research.

Then donate.

ftc.gov/charity

Neil G. "Paul" Paulson, Sr. and Help the Vets, Inc., (HTV) will be banned from soliciting charitable contributions under settlements with the FTC and the states of Florida, California, Maryland, Minnesota, Ohio and Oregon, for falsely promising donors their contributions would help wounded and disabled veterans. Operating under names such as American Disabled Veterans Foundation, Military Families of America, Veterans Emergency Blood Bank, Vets Fighting Breast Cancer, and Veterans Fighting Breast Cancer, HTV falsely claimed to fund medical care, a suicide prevention program, retreats for veterans recuperating from stress, and veterans fighting breast cancer. It also falsely claimed a "gold" rating by GuideStar, which provides information about nonprofits. One letter signed by Paulson stated, "But for thousands of disabled veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, giving an arm and a leg isn't simply a figure of speech – it's a harsh reality. . . . Your \$10 gift will mean so much to a disabled veteran." But according to the FTC's complaint, HTV did not help disabled veterans, and 95 percent of every donation was spent on fundraising, administrative expenses, and Paulson's salary and benefits.

The defendants are charged with violating the FTC Act, the FTC's Telemarketing Sales Rule, and laws of the six states. In addition to the ban on soliciting charitable contributions, the proposed settlement order bans Paulson from charity management and oversight of charitable assets. To ensure that donors to HTV are not victimized again, HTV and Paulson must destroy all donor lists and notify their fundraisers to do so.

The order imposes a judgment of \$20.4 million, which represents consumers' donations from 2014 through 2017, when HTV stopped operating. The judgment will be partially suspended when the defendants have paid a charitable contribution to one or more legitimate veterans charities recommended by the states and approved by the court. Paulson must pay \$1.75 million – more than double what he was paid by HTV – and HTV must pay all of its remaining funds, \$72,000.

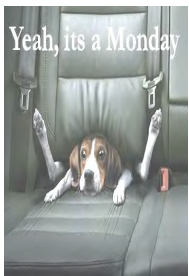




















Lodge Activities - August 2018

Lodge Hours: Office: Monday and Wednesday 10 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 7 pm; Thursday 10 am to 2 pm.

Lounge: Monday : 5 pm to 10:30 pm; Tuesday through Thursday: 4 pm to 10:30 pm;

Friday : 4 pm to 12:30 am; Saturday: 4 pm to 10:30 pm; Sunday: 1 pm to 7 pm.

Lodge closed: New Years Day; Easter; Thanksgiving; and Christmas

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Interviews - Orientation 6:30 pm–7:30 pm	2  Starts at 6:30 pm Snack Bar 5:30-6:30	3 500 Club Drawing Friday Night Dinner: Fried Chicken, mashed 'taters, veggie and dessert \$12.00 Don Harrison, et al Entertainment: Tony and Tricia Door: Jim McCleary	4  Coast Guard Day
5  Sports day in the Lounge	6  B.L.O.E. Meeting 7:00 pm 6:30 social	7 4:00 pm Pool in Game Room 5:30 pm Snack Bar 6:00 pm Cards Lounge 50 /50 Drawing 7:00 pm Boy Scout Mtg	8  Boy Scout fundraiser dinner Menu TBA	9  Starts at 6:30 pm Snack Bar 5:30–6:30	10 500 Club Drawing Friday Night Dinner: Country Fried Chicken, 'taters, veggies and dessert Christine Vogel, et al Entertainment: Tony and Tricia Door: Rob Byrd	11 10:00 am DD Clinic @ Sebring  6:00 pm lounge
12 8:00 am–11:00 am BLOE Breakfast  Sports day in the Lounge	13  7:30 pm Lodge Mtg Balloting / Initiation	14 4:00 pm Pool in Game Room 5:30 pm Snack Bar 6:00 pm Cards Lounge 50 /50 Drawing 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Mtg	15 B.L.O.E. Dinner 6:30 pm Pulled Pork Sandwiches, homemade potato, bacon and cheese soup, salad and dessert \$8.00 Colleen Harmon Movie in the Lounge "The Bucket List" 6:30 pm	16  Starts at 6:30 pm Snack Bar 5:30–6:30	17 500 Club Drawing Friday Night Dinner Meatloaf, mashed 'taters, veggie, salad and cornbread \$8.00 by Jim McCleary Entertainment: Freestyle Door: Wayne Hut-	18 Toga, Toga, Toga! 6:00 pm \$18.00 early sale \$20.00 at the door
19  Sports day in the Lounge District Reverse Draw at Lake Placid Drum and Bugle Corps 12:00pm –4	20  Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm Followed by Trustee Mtg	21 4:00 pm Pool in Game Room 5:30 pm Snack Bar 6:00 pm Cards Lounge 50 /50 Drawing 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Mtg	22  Lodge Veterans Dinner 6:30-7:30 pm Salad, Chicken Fricassee And dessert \$8.00 Mary Lou Schreck and Friends	23  Starts at 6:30 pm Snack Bar 5:30–6:30	24 500 Club Drawing Friday Night Dinner Steak : \$14.00 Shrimp of Fish: \$12.00 Potato, veggie and salad. Nancy Price and Friends. Entertainment: Skip	25 6:00–9:00 pm Lounge Rental
26  Sports day in the Lounge	27 	28 4:00 pm Pool in Game Room 5:30 pm Snack Bar 6:00 pm Cards Lounge 50 /50 Drawing 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Mtg	29 	30  Starts at 6:30 pm Snack Bar 5:30–6:30	31 500 Club Drawing Friday Night Dinner Roast Chicken or Crab Cakes, potato, veggie, cole slaw \$8.00 Steve Sawdey and friends Entertainment: Jukebox	1  World Letter Writing Day



BLOE President
Julie E. Ebert

BLOE BITS

*Next Meeting is August 6th at 7:00 PM
Hoping to See You There!*

*Brandon Ladies
of
Elks*



Summer is in full swing at the Brandon Elks. The July Sunday Breakfast ran like a fine oiled machine thanks to all the ladies and gentlemen who make it an overwhelming success every month. Kathy Hudson and crew treated us to a fabulous chicken and yellow rice dinner at our Wednesday Night Dinner. Thanks Kathy - you are the best!

Jean Barfield, Grace Weigand, Donna Gurrera and myself dropped off four baskets of cookies, danish and fruits to the first responders in our area. We will do four different locations next quarter. We were welcomed with open arms and thanked. We thanked them for their great service keeping us safe and ever ready to help in an emergency.

The State President's visit was a success. Thank you to all the members that provided the delicious desserts. They were many and what a variety. There were a lot of BLOE faces there. Whether you attended the dinner, worked in the kitchen, helped to set up, clean up or serve - you are the best!

The summer and fall has several events scheduled so make sure you mark your calendars now, so you won't miss anything. The next BLOE meeting will be on August 6th; the Sunday Breakfast is the 12th; and Colleen Harmon and crew will be serving pulled pork sandwiches, homemade potato, bacon and cheese soup, salad and dessert - for the Wednesday Night Dinner on the 15th.

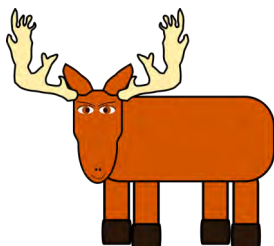
Grace and Diane are putting together and raffling off a Labor Day Basket so don't forget to bring small gifts for that at the August meeting.

Plans are still being made for our upcoming High Tea @ Noon on November 10. I have a special program being presented so don't miss out on an old fashion tea and all the fixings.

That's all for this month. Stay cool and enjoy all the upcoming events at the lodge.

See you at the lodge!!

- Julie



July is the month for celebration and fun. Our lady of distinction is a new member this year and has taken on the task of putting the Brandon Ladies on the map. Her excitement is infectious about what she is trying to accomplish in getting the word out to everyone what a great group of ladies belong to the BLOE and trying to recruit new members.

She has set up the new Brandon Ladies Facebook and has kept the membership up to date on upcoming events and plans for the future,

Like I said, July is for celebrating and fun so join me in congratulating our BLOE Lady of Distinction for July - Cathy Byrd !

Congratulations!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The FLOE 55th Annual Conference will be held on September 20 - 22, 2018 at the Sheraton Lake Buena Vista, Fl. This is a great way to celebrate all the wonderful ladies' clubs throughout Florida.

If you need any additional information contact Connie Poage (813-754-2240) or Julie Ebert



Wednesday Night Dinner at the Brandon Elk's Lodge
A great meal at a great price!
Dinner served at 6:30 P.M.



Wednesday, August 15th

B.L.O.E. Dinner

Pulled pork sandwiches, homemade potato, bacon and cheese soup, salad
 and dessert \$8.00

By Colleen Harmon & Friends

Wednesday, August 22nd

The Elks host **Veterans** from James A. Haley Hospital and Liberty Manor

Salad, Chicken Fricassee, and dessert \$8.00

By Mary Lou Schreck and Friends

Veterans Dinner

***Come out and support our
 Veterans from James A Haley
 Hospital and Liberty Manor.
 Say hello and "Thank You",
 while enjoying a great meal, on
 the Fourth Wednesday of each
 month.***

**Your support is greatly
 appreciated by the attending
 Veterans.
 See Calendar for Entree**

The Winners Corner

500 Club



**Our most recent winner is
 Gerry Westfall!**

Some of the recently called names include Pat Hiskey,
 Chester Nowak; - but they weren't signed up!

You can't win if you are not signed up!

Ask any member for details on the Friday night 500 Club
 drawing and how you could win big. \$\$\$

Find your membership number anywhere in this
 Bugle and win a free drink from the lounge! To
 claim your drink, you must present your member-
 ship card to the bartender during the month of this
 publication.

In Sunday's Times

Jack Eckerd—Opportunity's Doorman

Business tycoon, champion yachts-
 man, publicity-shy philanthropist—
 Jack Eckerd is a remarkable man by
 any yardstick. Driven by his com-
 petitive instinct, he has built his drug
 chain to 101 stores in Florida and is
 now expanding into Georgia. He
 backs up his belief that "it's people
 who make you a success or a flop"
 with a share-the-wealth approach
 which has paid big dividends to him
 and to his employees. Don't miss
 Charles Patrick's revealing portrait
 of Jack Eckerd in



FLORIDIAN



**Is Your Birthday
 This Month ?????**

**Ask your bartender
 About your FREE
 Birthday Drink.....**

**EAT
 Drink
 AND CELEBRATE MY
 BIRTHDAY**





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Trivia Night

At the Brandon Elks!

Brandon
Lodge Trivia !
Saturday August 11th

Bring your Friends

Free to Play!

Prizes! Pub Food Available!

Trivia Host :

Scott Lindsey

Fun starts at 6:00 pm / game soon after

Our Lodges Second MEAT RAFFLE

JULY 29th

2:00 - 5:00

**For Details
See
Nancy-Puppet
Nickie**



Don't forget to get your
50th Anniversary Lodge
Pin before they are all
gone! They are on sale at
the bar for only \$3.50.

ADVERTISERS

Advertisement fees are now due for the 2018—2019 Elk Year.

Please submit payments to the Brandon Elks Lodge
800 Centennial Lodge Drive
Brandon, FL 33510

If you have questions about
advertisement cost, please call the lodge at 813-685-6469.

BTW

did you hear about.....?

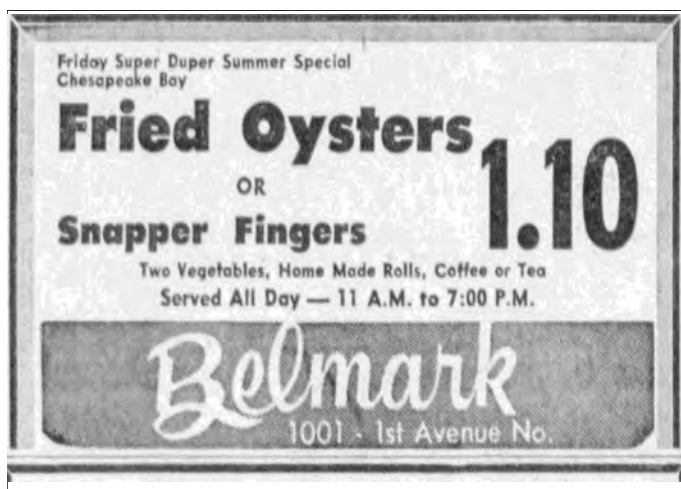
PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BRANDON ELKS LODGE

I volunteer at the Nativity Food Bank every week. Last week I was packing boxes with a man I never met before. The subject of the Brandon Elks' came up and he immediately put a smile on his face and talked about his disabled granddaughter and how great Larry from the Elks' Children's Therapy Van was. He told me that his granddaughter has had many different therapists working with her and her family on breathing problems. He stated Larry was the only one who took the time to show them how to perform breathing exercises with his granddaughter, her mother is able to do them three or four times during the day which has helped tremendously with her problems. He couldn't say enough about how great Larry and the Elk's Children's Therapy Van have been.

Boy, was I proud, I told him I was a member of the Ladies' of Brandon Elks and that the Children's Therapy Van was just one of the charities that the Brandon Elk's support. I told him - "That's what Elks Do".

It proved to me that even though we play a lot at the Brandon Lodge we also work together to make our Lodge a place to be proud of.

- Julie Ebert



RECRUITS NEEDED

You gotta love these guys !! They simply will not stop volunteering !! They just don't know when to throw in the apron. However, our resident Chef, Donald, is not so happy with the thought of his finely prepared meals taking so long to be delivered to the tables, or having to wait for the pilot light on the stove to be relit....there's



just something about cold prime rib that isn't setting well with our beloved Chef.



I've tried explaining the intricacies of balancing a tray full of food and wheeling themselves to the tables, or hoisting a 30 pound

tool bag...but the lawyer in the Chef just doesn't seem to get it...And quite honestly, there's just something unsettling about an old man in a wheelchair cruising up to the table with my dinner sitting on his lap...



Seriously, though, our lodge is in desperate need of newer members to step up and accept the institutional knowledge our more established members are prepared to pass on.

We are celebrating our 50th Anniversary this year. I am personally so thankful that our established members have put so much work into our lodge. They have earned the right to mentor us in reaching our 100th Anniversary. Elkdome is all about sharing your time and talents. It doesn't have to be a huge, time consuming contribution, or a unique talent such as octopus wrestling.



I strongly believe every member has a couple hours a month and a talent to share with our lodge, one that will not interfere with or compromise any health or work concerns. Please help your lodge survive. Help with a dinner, a snack bar, a special event, veterans dinner, a lodge clean up, bingo, assist a project manager of one of our grants —there are countless opportunities for each of us... Thank you for your continued support of our lodge!

— Christine Vogel—
Exalted Ruler



RAYS 2018

The 11th Annual Florida Elks Day at the **RAYS** Fundraiser



SUN, SEP 9
VS. BAL
GATES OPEN: 11:40 A.M.
START TIME: 1:10 P.M.

DON'T MISS:

- Free Parking for cars with 4 or more people
- Snack and Drink Cup (Kids 14 and Under)
- Kids Run the Bases Post Game
- Choice of a Rays Hat or Elks Tote Bag

Lower Corner Tickets are \$29 (Up to a \$40 Value)
Portion of each ticket sold will benefit Elks Harry-Anna Trust Fund

Deadline to order Monday, August 27 2018.

Florida State Elks Association

SAVE THE DATE

Contact Jean Barfield: 813-689-2923

Brandon ELKS Lodge #2383 and BSA Troop 627 presented well in the July 4th parade! With a revamping of the trailer, some paint and some TLC from Scout adult leaders and the Troop, we took to the parade route to share some 4th of July cheer! With Scouts on the float wishing America "Happy Birthday" and Scouts on the ground handing out American flags and popsicles, the Troop provided a festive atmosphere for the crowd! What a great time to see our youth sharing their love for our country! God Bless the USA! Special thanks to Keith Gill, Lorrin Wagner, Kathleen Brigati and the Scouts in the Troop for all the hard work! Until next year!



ATTENTION !! ABANDONED PROPERTY

It would appear that two boats have beached themselves in the RV storage lot. No contract is on file for these items, nor any information about the owner(s). If you have any information about the below described vessels, please contact the office immediately.

#1 A sail boat. Massachusetts tag number: F2411

#2 A boat (approximately 27' in length).

Florida tag number: CBTG43

Rent is due and owing on each of the above described items. Please contact the office (813-685-6469) or Jack Mineo (813-507-0173) if you have any information at all about these items. After September 30, 2018 these items will be disposed of in accordance with Florida Law if they are not claimed.

FREE FREE FREE

...The BEST FEELING IN THE WORLD is when you help a child, or anyone, in need! Our lodge has been extremely fortunate to qualify for multiple grants the past several years. The Elks National Foundation distributes literally hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to lodges throughout the country. Last year our lodge received \$17,500.00 in grants. These grants help support the charitable work our lodge does such as Hooked on Fishing, not Drugs; Bags of Brotherly Love; the Willis Peters Prom; our monthly Veterans dinners; the Yates Elementary School Project; and others. We are blessed to have Project Managers who have administered the programs and will continue to do so. They have been successful in growing their programs, so much so, that help is needed for them. We have two projects that could use assistance. Bags of Brotherly Love is an initiative that feeds the homeless and provides some basic necessities such as hygiene products and limited clothing items. For more information about this project contact Bob Blair (813-758-8894). The Yates Elementary School Project provides basic necessities to students, such as coats, shoes, socks, under garments, school supplies and backpacks. Yates is a Title 1 School just two blocks from our lodge. For more information about this project contact Delores Westfall at: delores2961@gmail.com For information about any of the grant programs that our lodge has, please contact Sharon Hammersla (813-323-1992), our Grants Coordinator.

Thank you Thank you Thank you !!!!

DON'T MISS OUT !!!

Was your name drawn for the 500 Club but you were
"NOT SIGNED UP"?

Maybe you couldn't get to the Lodge that week or just forgot? Now is your chance to sign up for the 500 Club for the rest of this Lodge year.

By paying \$26 by October 1st 2018 you **WILL BE SIGNED UP** for the 500 Club drawings from October 5th 2018 through March 29th 2019.



The 10th Annual Run For the Fallen/Tampa Bay, sponsored by the Marine Families organization, returns on Sunday, October 7, 2018 at the Little Everglades Ranch in Dade City, FL. Honored Guests: Gold Star Families. This free community event honors the Fallen Heroes of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Operations Enduring Freedom (2003-2014). The humbling Florida Fallen Memorial will again be on display. This memorial is made up of individual crosses for each Fallen Hero, from the state of Florida, who died during these conflicts.

The day will include late registration, packet pick up, opening ceremony, 10K/5K/1 mile events, music, food trucks, vendors and activities for the whole family.

Come out and join us as we honor the Fallen Heroes and their families and help us keep our promise to never let them be forgotten.

Event details and schedule:

Saturday, October 6, 2018 - EARLY PACKET PICK UP*

Location to be Announced

10:00am - 2:00pm - Early Packet Pick Up

*Any packets not picked up on Saturday CAN be picked up at the event on Sunday.

Sunday, October 7, 2018 - R4F EVENT DAY

Little Everglades Ranch

17951 Hamilton Road, Dade City, FL 33523

7:00-8:45a.m. - Packet Pick Up & Late Registration

9a.m. - Opening Ceremony

Immediately Following:

10K Run / 5K Walk/Run / 1 mile Walk/Run

Shirts are \$15 for pre-registration and will increase to \$20 day of event.

Email for this event:

MarineFamilies.R4F@gmail.com

The State President's Visit

July 21, 2018



Brandon hosted the State President's visit to the Southwest Central District on July 21, 2018. The weekend started at the hospitality room on Friday and concluded at our lodge Saturday night with a well attended dinner. What an event ! The hall was beautifully decorated and the evening started out with a musical program presented by the Florida Brass Drum and Bugle Corps. - thank you, Mark Daniels, for making that possible. Dinner followed with an amazing menu prepared by our resident Chef, Donald Harrison. Our generous members gave \$500.00 to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund, and the Brandon Lodge received a \$900.00 President's Grant for first place in our district, along with a Grand Lodge Citation for a positive gain in membership for 2017-2018. Our Lodge also received a beautiful plaque from our friends at Liberty Manor. At the conclusion of the business portion of the dinner, Skip and Nancy provided entertainment.

Many people worked very hard to make the visitation such a success: Nancy Price, Puppet Sexton, Glenn Garvey, John "JD" Diaz, Nickie Wells, Bob Booker and Mary Lou Scribner decorated and worked the hospitality room. Hall Décor compliments of: Carolyn Thomas, Gerri Mann, Diane League, Mary Rine, Marian Tennant, George Thomas, and Julie Ebert. At the doors: Colleen Harmon and Lou Valencia, Jacquie Pietro and Linda Craft. Donald had a small army of Assistant Chefs to put on the dinner: Harrison Aten, Ed Campbell, Ed Ciesla, David Curfman, Nickie Wells, Puppet Sexton, Glenn Garvey, Bob Booker, Jeremy Pittinger, and Karen Pittinger. Clean up crew: Tina Michael, Trudy Wade, Diane League, Carolyn Thomas and Julie Ebert. Our photographer - Sharon Hammersla. To all of our members—I say, well done ! - Christine Vogel -

July 4th Picnic at the Lodge

Special Guest - Elroy !





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our First Responder Appreciation Dinner is September 12, 2018. We need YOU to make this a success. We are providing lunch and dinner to local law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, and military, *and their families*.

We will be serving from 2:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Donald Harrison is again headlining the Chef Staff. Please contact Nickie Wells (813-716-8051) or Christine Vogel (813-210-2117) as soon as possible to volunteer for this very important event.

PER FUND RAISER !

...proceeds to be used for improvements to sound system in lodge hall...

For only a \$20 Donation

Each Friday, beginning July 6th and ending February 15th, there will be a drawing for \$25. The winning ticket will be placed back in the hopper and eligible for the next drawing with the opportunity to win again.

Final drawing will be held on February 16th, 2019 at our Special Gala Event celebrating the end of our 50th year celebration for 50% of the profits / maximum \$1,000.00 to winner

See any PER for details and to purchase your ticket(s)

You can purchase more than one!



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"...whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Proverbs 14:31



Mark L. Craft, MD
 Internal Medicine

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Brandon Elks Lodge 2383

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BINGO

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800 Centennial Lodge Drive
Hwy. 60 East At Oakwood
then North to Centennial Lodge Drive

SNACK BAR FOOD & DRINKS