



**ST. AUGUSTINE  
ELKS LODGE #829**



# **LODGE BULLETIN**



**March 2021**

## Exalted Ruler's Message

As the year began, I was looking forward to all the great events we had planned for our Lodge. Then, March 13th hit and the Lodge had to close for nearly three months. Our Officer's Installation party was cancelled, Mid-Term, and Grand Lodge Conventions canceled, as well as most of the Lodge visitations to the district. We didn't open again until July 15 and only partially. In fact, we have never fully opened, with all our activities and events, since we closed in March. I would not blame you for feeling frustrated. We can all feel frustrated if we choose to. If we focus on the frustration, we will likely lose sight of our blessings.

In 2020, volunteers we hardly knew stepped up in ways we could not have imagined at the beginning of the year. When we reopened for the first time in July for the PER Fish Fry, we were elated that so many Elks showed up to our Lodge that day. The PER's donated their proceeds to the Lodge, we had raffles, volunteers played music, people who had never waitressed before took orders and we collected over 100 can goods and \$1000 to take to the Homeless Coalition.

Our Breast Cancer Survivor Party and Fundraiser chaired by Grace Andrews was also a big success. We raised \$1500 to donate to the Bailey Hospice Center through member donations, basket raffles and 50/50 raffle.

We began the year with a lot of maintenance items to resolve. Volunteers Randy Stay and Chris Love volunteered their time and replaced the kitchen ceiling. The flooring in our dining room and bar area was replaced, we painted the lodge room, hallway, pool room, bathroom and bar, we hired a new lawn company, cleaning company, and bug company, painted a new walkway outside of the pavilion, we repaired a water line (several times), replaced all the copper pipes in the entire building and the walls afterwards, replaced air conditioners, hot water heater, ice machine, freezer, replaced the lights in the walk in cooler with water proof lights, repaired the ice machine, added an emergency exit to the front porch with an alarm, replaced an outer door, repaired the lights on the sign out front, replaced the parking lights with LED's, repaired the alarm on the pool room outer door, cleaned and painted the cast iron grates on the stove, and cleaned the entire duct system in the lodge.

We began to make better use of the pavilion. Utilizing it for outdoor Lodge meetings, events like the Veterans Day Party (where we had volunteer's play music and gave free burgers, beer and desert and a commemorative coin to all our Veterans), lodge committee meetings, music and karaoke.

So, what were our blessings this year? Our number of delinquent members are smaller than they have ever been! My goal this year was to focus on Charity and we accomplished that by giving away over \$15,000 to charitable organizations! We gave over 5000 coloring books and ribbons for drug awareness to local schools, we gave 11 local scholarships out, the lodge was cleaned continuously to stop COVID from spreading.

Thank you to all the hearty souls that donated time, money, and sweat-equity during my term. You make a difference in our Lodge and community. I wish Joe and his team the best of luck next year! I've been honored and humbled to be your Exalted Ruler,

**Connie Sarnowski, Exalted Ruler** P.S. See inside for the Installation & Dinner on 3/21

### **Elk of the Month**

My Elk of the Month is Jean Teta who is part of the House Committee, and also a part of the Investigation Committee. She volunteers to help the veterans and so many other things. Congratulations!

### **Social Quarters**

Unfortunately, the House Committee has had to suspend live bands on Fridays during March. There wasn't enough business in the Social Quarters to even break even when a band had to be paid. We are seeking other ways to provide entertainment such as themed nights with a DJ.

### **Officer Installation and Dinner**

**Installation at 5:30PM and Dinner at 6:30PM**

Stuffed Flounder or Chicken Boursin  
Fresh Medley of Vegetables  
Green Bean Almandine  
Roasted Potatoes  
Salad  
Rolls  
Dessert



**\$15**

**Please sign up at the Bar and pick which one entrée you would like.**

To all Elk Members:

#### **LODGE OFFICERS NEEDED:**

There are currently three (3) officer positions open and need to be filled for this coming year.

Inner Guard  
Tiler  
Chaplain

The positions are appointed by the Exalted Ruler and are required by Grand Lodge. If you are interested in serving the lodge and your Elks family please contact Mike Rathmann or me:

A. Joseph Smith - (904) 759-3020

Mike Rathmann – [elks829secretary@gmail.com](mailto:elks829secretary@gmail.com)

## \*\*\*Florida Elks Youth Camp\*\*\*

NOTICE: It is time for Florida Elks Youth Camp Reservations to be made. If you know of any underprivileged or deserving child who would like to go to camp, between the ages of 9-13, please go on line to FEYC.org and fill out application on line. If you need our Elks Lodge 829 to sponsor any needy child or If you have any problems or questions please text or call me at, 904 315 3773 you can also email me, kodagator@bellsouth.net. NOTE: All RESERVATIONS are MADE on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

WE STILL NEED YOU: Brother or Sister Elk, to become a "Florida Elks Youth Camp Booster". We appreciate the recent new and continued boosters and look forward to more members becoming a "Booster".. The cost is \$25 per year and goes a long way towards helping the Florida Elks Youth Camp with expenses, and incidental costs. Please include this with your membership renewal.

Your Continued Support and Donations  
Make it all possible, for these deserving  
children.

Keep them coming, Thank YOU!

Irv Stockdale

March 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	1 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	2 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM	3 <b>Lodge Closed</b> Lodge Meeting/ 7:30 PM	4 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	5 Lounge Open 3-10 PM TBA	6 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM
7 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	8 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	9 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM	10 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	11 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	12 Lounge Open 3-10 PM TBA	13 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM
14 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	15 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	16 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Orientation Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM	17 Social Quarters Closed Lodge Meeting/ Initiation 7:30 PM	18 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	19 Lounge Open 3-10 PM TBA	20 Lounge Open 3-10 PM District Mtg Green Cove Springs Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM
21 Officer Installation 5:30-dinner to follow	22 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	23 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM	24 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	25 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	26 Lounge Open 3-10 PM TBA	27 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM
28 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	29 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	30 Lounge Open 3-10 PM Karaoke by Tony 6-10 PM	31 <b>Lodge Closed</b>	Plan to join us at the Lodge on Sunday, March 21st for the installation of our 2021/22 officers. See Page 3 for more info.		

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2020-2021

<b>ACCIDENT PREVENTION/SAFETY</b>	RANDY STAY (PER)
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>AMERICANISM</b>	TED HORTENSTINE
<b>AUDITING</b>	
<b>BINGO</b>	
<b>CHARITY</b>	JOE SMITH SR.
<b>DRUG AWARENESS</b>	GRACE ANDREWS
<b>ELAND LIAISON</b>	SHARON GRACE
<b>ELKS NATIONAL FUND</b>	JOHN GEBERT (PER)
<b>FRATERNAL</b>	CONNIE SARNOWSKI
<b>GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</b>	CONNIE SARNOWSKI
<b>INVESTIGATION</b>	MIKE HUGHES (PER)
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	JOHN GEBERT (PER)
<b>ORIENTATION</b>	RANDY COOK (PER)
<b>PARKING</b>	CHRIS LOVE
<b>PER ASSOCIATION LAISION</b>	LORIN AUSTIN (PER)
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>	CHERIE STUCKI
<b>RELIEF</b>	CONNIE SARNOWSKI
<b>VETERANS AFFAIRS</b>	GEORGE APRIL (PER)
<b>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</b>	IRV STOCKDALE

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

<b>CHAIR</b>	JOHN GEBERT (PER)
<b>MEMBER</b>	STEPHEN THREATT
<b>MEMBER</b>	CHERIE STUCKI
<b>MEMBER</b>	MINETTA DUNN
<b>MEMBER</b>	JEAN TETTA

## LODGE OFFICERS 2020-2021

EXALTED RULER	CONNIE SARNOWSKI
EST. LEADING KNIGHT	JOE SMITH SR
ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT	RANDY COOK (PER)
ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT	DR ERIC COLON
SECRETARY	MICHAEL RATHMANN
TREASURER	JUDY REYES
TILER	GRACE ANDREWS
ESQUIRE	
CHAPLAIN	LIBBY JOHNSON
INNER GUARD	
ORGANIST	GEOFF DOBSON (PDD)

## TRUSTEES

ONE YEAR	TOM PHILLIPS
TWO YEARS	BLAIR CRAIG
THREE YEARS	LORIN AUSTIN (PER), <b>Chair</b>
FOUR YEARS	RANDY STAY (PER)
FIVE YEARS	OLEN MEREDITH (PER)

## ELKS CLUB INC.

CHAIR	PAT SHIPLEY (PDD)
MEMBER	BOB KERSHNER (PER)
MEMBER	JAMES DEAN (PER)
MEMBER	DAVID LEE (PER)
MEMBER	TED BEAL (PDD)
MEMBER	BARRY MASTERS (PER)

## LODGE ADVISOR

JAMES SOLANA (PSP)	(904) 823-6990
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