



**ST. AUGUSTINE
ELKS LODGE #829**



LODGE BULLETIN



December, 2021

Exalted Ruler's Message

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

The holidays are here, and time is passing quickly. Thanksgiving was a wonderful time, but it's passed and gone. Now, if we are not careful, we will immerse ourselves in finding the perfect gift for that special someone. While our days are engaged with holiday plans, I pray we all realize our family and friends are blessings we must not take for granted.

We've been subjected to a life-changing pandemic that continues today to affect our lives and threaten each of us. For this reason, this particular season, we must show our love and compassion for our families, friends, and those less fortunate.

In our Elks ritual, there's a segment that says, "Our time upon the stage of action is but brief," this applies today more than ever. So, we must take advantage of our time and make the most of it with this reality.

As we move forward, I ask each of you to share your kindness and compassion. Of course, we all want to give a unique gift to those special to us, but sharing our time to help others is the ultimate gift of benevolence. Remember, charity is not limited to Christmas.

Thus far, our year has been one of giving, and I want each of us to continue on this path.

We have several events planned, which will provide an opportunity for you, as Elks, to come together and give of yourself and make a difference to our children, veterans, and those less fortunate within our community. The ability to raise funding to help members of our society has never been more prevalent within our lodge than today. I am looking forward to making this year a banner year for our community and Elkdom.

In November, we attended the Mid-Year convention and enjoyed an informative and inspiring time with our State President and state officials. Florida Elks are continuing to "Make Elkdome Shine" within our state.

Our Youth Camp and Children's Therapy Services continue to make significant strides within children's lives. Your contributions continue to make these two major projects possible.

We are continuing to see membership increases within our lodge. I want to thank each of you who are spreading the news of Elkdom throughout our community. To date, our membership has increased by more than (140) members. It's an exciting time to be a member of the 829.

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Exalted Ruler's Message (Con't)

On November 5th, St. Augustine Lodge "Scholarship Fund" Committee hosted a Prime Rib dinner to raise funds that provide scholarships for high school students in St. Johns County. The anticipated goal was to raise \$2,000.00. However, after dinner, an anonymous donor called me over and said they would donate up to \$500.00 if we could raise an additional \$500.00 to match their contribution. So, I went to the microphone and made the challenge known to members and guests present. I told the attendees I would open the floor to contributions for fifteen minutes. When I returned to the mic fifteen minutes later, I could not believe what had transpired. There indeed was a spirit of giving that came over those present. In fifteen minutes, we raised \$6,000.00. So, for the evening, the total amount raised for the Scholarship fund exceeded \$8,500.00. Way to go, St. Augustine Elks and the Scholarship committee.

On November 13th, we Co-hosted the "Hero's Night Out" event for our first responders in St. Johns County. Bridge City Realty, Movement Mortgage, Land Title of America, and YOU, Elks 829, came together to provide an evening of appreciation for first responders and their families. It was an evening of giving. I want to thank all of those who made this event a success.

The remainder of this year is going to be busy, and we need all hands on deck. Some of you may not know how or where you fit in or if there is a place for you, some of you are new members without the knowledge of how things work within the lodge, some of you are longstanding members who, for various reasons, choose not to be involved, whatever your reason, you are all ELKS. You are welcome to become involved in YOUR lodge functions, either as a volunteer or supporting member. I encourage you to become involved. Not only will you be helping someone else, but you will also be helping yourself.

In this season, remember, it's more blessed to give than to receive.

If you want to become involved, don't hesitate to contact me or our house chairman, Jimmy Dean.

Stay tuned for information regarding upcoming events.

Our two Elk of The Month are Pat Mikulis and Michael Mikulis. Congratulations!

If you are pleased with what is happening at our lodge, Please tell others. If you are not, please tell me.

Your Exalted Ruler,

A. Joseph Smith



The ENF Fidelity Club

The Foundation's Monthly Giving Program

The easiest way to support the ENF all year round!
Do you contribute to the Elks National Foundation often? What if you could donate without having to think about it? Well, you can! Enroll today and become a member of the Fidelity Club—the ENF's monthly giving program.

Why Join the Fidelity Club?

- **Ease:** The ENF Fidelity Club recognizes automatic, regularly scheduled donations through your bank account or credit card. These donations occur monthly (minimum \$5).
 - **Eco-Friendly:** Save a tree and save time with paperless donations!
 - **Convenience:** No need to purchase stamps or mail a check. It takes just five minutes to sign up, and you're good to go!
 - **Flexibility:** You can increase, modify or cancel your gift at any time.
- Security:** It's safe, reliable and allows the ENF to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission.

Ready to Join?

Becoming a member of the Fidelity Club is simple! Enroll online at enf.elks.org/recurring and start your gift today! If you prefer to sign up through the mail, download the form from this site. Questions? Contact enf@elks.org or 773/755-4728 for additional information about starting a monthly gift and joining the ENF Fidelity Club.

Already a member? If you have an active monthly gift agreement with the ENF, you have automatically been enrolled in the ENF Fidelity Club!

Community Outreach

Later in the month of December, we will be delivering Gift Bags to the 82 residents of Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans' Nursing Home. Each bag contains items from the Wish List of the Home, plus a few extra items. The bag contains: body wash, deodorant, cologne, chap stick, a puzzle book, a mechanical pencil, a magnet and a Christmas ornament. We also will be providing art supplies that were requested. We thank the Lodge and the PER association for providing the funding.



In December we also will be selling a Candy Cane Ornament (\$5), an Elks ornament (\$5) and an Elks magnet (\$3). Proceeds from this sale will be Harry Anna.

Cathy Walsh Elizabeth Bastedo
Kcpwalsh93@gmail.com

Trivia Night

2nd & 4th Thursdays 7:00-9:00 PM
Join a Team-Fun—Excitement—Prizes-Braggin' Rights

NOTICES

Dues may be renewed by credit card online: elks829.com

Lists of current membership candidates (new, transfers or reinstatements) are posted on the Lounge Bulletin Board. Members wanting to comment on a prospective candidate should contact a Lodge Officer or send an email to: elks829secretary@gmail.com.

A list of bills-to-be-paid and detailed budget information is available at the Wednesday meetings.

Please notify the Secretary (elks829secretary@gmail.com or (904)471-2829 when your address, phone or email changes.

Honoring our Public Service Heroes



New Year's Eve Party



Plan to join us on New Year's Eve for a great party from 7:00 PM until Midnight. Tickets will cost \$50 a couple; the night will include Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, 2 complimentary cocktails, champagne at Midnight and music by the Morrow Family Band. Cocktail attire is requested. For reservations, TEXT Necie Smith at 904-460-5434

Rosie Dean
Activities Committee

New Members—November, 2021

Our Lodge continues to grow as we initiated 13 members in November.



(Front row L to R): Janet Spencer, Robert Almstead, Shelley Rice, Diane Brann, Eddie M Byers, Eric Berger, Lee Manning

(Back Row L to R): Gerry Todd, Ed Thomas, Michell Bertke, (ER) Joseph Smith Sr. Miguel Quinones, Gail Comfort, Glenn Leth

Congratulations to ALL!

When you see them in the Lodge introduce yourself and make them welcome.

From the House Chair:

December is shaping up as a very busy month.

First, December crept up on us because the first of the month was actually our first business meeting. The first Friday will introduce a new band to the Lodge: The Morrow Family Band. They will also have been signed for New Year's Eve.

This weekend not only do we have entertainment in the lounge, but we will have parking for a concert plus a rental at the Pavilion. Saturday, Dec 4th is Pal Day, which we cohost with the USO. At 1:00 on Sunday, Dec 5th we will hold our annual Memorial Day. Please try to attend to honor those that have passed on. Karaoke returns on Sunday with Joe Smith Jr. inside starting at 4:00.

On Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve, we will be closed, as we will be on Christmas Day.

The bathroom project continues with tile and electrical work being done this week and lighting upgrades continue throughout the Lodge.

Remember, our Lodge is in constant need of volunteers, and I will be the first to admit that I'm not the best at asking people to help. So please step forward and ask me what you can do for your Lodge. We need help in the kitchen for cooking hamburgers, hotdogs and fries on Sunday.

Jimmy Dean, House Chair



**Upcoming Amphitheater Parking Events
Parking Volunteers are Very Urgently Needed**

Friday, December 10th

Joe Bonamassa

Saturday/Sunday, December 11-12

Old Dominion "Band Behind the Curtain Tour"

To help, send an email to elks829secretary@gmail.com or contact Carolyn Anderson at cjla64@yahoo.com or 904-687-6350.

Eland News:

WE NEED YOU! We NEED your Support! Any questions or to register, please contact Dianne Cook at 386-503-6460 or at Eagle-spirit315@gmail.com.

Happy Holidays!!

I hope this finds everyone well and full from a wonderful thanksgiving feast!

We are coming to the close of another year and getting ready for the Christmas festivities to begin.

The Eland Club canceled their meeting on November 11, 2021 as some of the officers had Veterans Day plans, instead, we had a closet cleaning party November 7 and used that as our meeting time as we discussed the big garage sale coming up. We will announce the days to come and drop off your goodies for the sale, so get them ready. I am sorry to say we have no way of picking anything up, so please bring it to the Lodge.

Our next meeting, which is December 9, will not be held as we will be having a small "Christmas party" at the Amici. Restaurant. Contact me for additional information or to make a reservation

Our meetings are every second Thursday of the month, the next one being January 13, 2022, at 6:30 pm. If you are a Lady Elk, spouse of an Elk, or a widow of an Elk in good standing, you are invited. Come sit in on the meeting and join a great group that works with the Elks to fund raise for the major projects, Fl. Elks Youth Camp, and Fl. Elks Children's Therapy services as well as local charities.

Hope to see you soon in preparation for the garage sale to be held January 22, 2022, dates to drop off goodies coming very soon in your email, and also the Eland meeting January 13, 2022

Thank you for your support

Dianne Cook, Interim President

LODGE OFFICERS 2020-2021

EXALTED RULER	JOE SMITH SR.
EST. LEADING KNIGHT	RANDY COOK (PER)
ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT	ERIC COLON
ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT	KATHERINE HELHOSKI
SECRETARY	MICHAEL RATHMANN
TREASURER	JUDY REYES
TILER	PATTI SHIPLEY
ESQUIRE	BRIAN WELLIVER
CHAPLAIN	SARA MC DAVITT
INNER GUARD	CHRIS LOVE
ORGANIST	GEOFF DOBSON (PDD)

TRUSTEES

ONE YEAR	BLAIR CRAIG
TWO YEARS	TOM PHILLIPS
THREE YEARS	RANDY STAY (PER)
FOUR YEARS	OLEN MEREDITH (PER)
FIVE YEARS	KEVIN WALSH (CHAIR)

THE ELKS CLUB OF ST AUGUSTINE INC.

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT	PAT SHIPLEY (PDD)
VICE PRESIDENT	DAVID LEE (PER)
MEMBER	JAMES DEAN (PER)
MEMBER	BOB KERSHNER (PER)
MEMBER	TED BEAL (PDD)
MEMBER	BARRY MASTERS (PER)
MEMBER	A. JOSEPH SMITH SR. (ER)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2020-2021

ACCIDENT PREVENTION/SAFETY	DAVE PARK
ACTIVITIES	ROSEMARY DEAN
AMERICANISM	JOE SMITH SR.
AUDITING	BRUCE DAVIDSON
BINGO	MARY BEACH
CHARITY	RANDY COOK (PER)
DRUG AWARENESS	
ELAND LIAISON	JUDY REYES
ELKS NATIONAL FUND	MIKE HUGHES (PER)
FRATERNAL	ROSEMARY DEAN
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS	BILL LENNON
INVESTIGATION	MIKE HUGHES (PER)
MEMBERSHIP	MIKE HUGHES (PER)
ORIENTATION	CHRIS LOVE
PARKING	CAROLYN ANDERSON
PER ASSOCIATION LAISION	JOHN GEBERT (PER)
PUBLIC RELATIONS	SARA MC DAVITT
RELIEF	JOE SMITH SR. (ER)
VETERANS AFFAIRS	GEORGE APRIL (PER)
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	IRV STOCKDALE

HOUSE COMMITTEE

CHAIR	JAMES DEAN (PER)
KITCHEN MANAGER	MARIA CRANN
MEMBER	
MEMBER (SECRETARY)	NECIE SMITH
MEMBER (ACTIVITY CHAIR)	ROSIE DEAN

LODGE ADVISOR

PAT SHIPLEY (PDD)	(904) 471-2630
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