



**ST. AUGUSTINE  
ELKS LODGE #829**



# LODGE BULLETIN



**January, 2022**

## **Exalted Ruler's Message**

### **Happy New Year!**

Yes, 2021 is over, and we are facing the horizon of 2022. We are excited about the New Year and what it brings us. I pray that 2022 is going to be the best. As we all know, the past two years have been challenging to navigate with the pandemic. However, since April 2021, we have successfully moved our lodge forward.

Our State President, Susi Simonelli, is reaching out to each of our lodges across the state and asking us to make a concerted effort to increase our membership. We have and continue to gain new members, reinstatements, and transfers. With your help, we are reaching new candidates who are excited and anxious to become involved in our mission. It is a joy to see members reinstate or return and re-establish and engage in working to promote Elkdom. I am asking each of you to invite your friends and neighbors to come and see who we are and to witness the impact we have in our community. We each have a role to play and a mission to fulfill. Don't let someone take your joy away.

I expect to gain 200 members by the end of our fiscal year, March 2022. We are hopeful of a total gain of over 175 members by the end of this month. With your help, we can make it a reality.

We are looking forward to a busy month with the PORKPALOOSA FUNDRAISER on January 29th. We need your help in making this event a major success. There's an old saying, "Nothing Comes Easy," which is very accurate with this event. We need a significant force of volunteers to support visitors and keep our facility clean. I know all of us enjoy reaping the benefits of our labor, but it is also a joy to give back. We need you to become proactive in reaching out to our committee chairperson, Sara McDavitt, or myself, and enlisting to help make this event a success. We are expecting hundreds of visitors to our lodge during this event. Our duty as Elks is to make a positive impression on our community. Now is our chance. Join us and share the load.

We continue lodge activities throughout the month, and I want to encourage you to support your lodge, bring guests, and expose them to our facility and our members. In addition, we need to encourage our new members to become involved in our functions and support our events. You are the nucleus that makes our lodge grow and become cohesive.

Each month I choose two Elks as "Elk of the Month." In appreciation for their dedication and support to our lodge, I have chosen Rosie Dean and Jennifer Imholt as our recipients. Thank you for your commitment and drive.

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**

## Happy New Year 2022! Membership Matters

We've got 3 months left in this Elk year to finish strong in Membership!

First I want to personally **THANK** all of you for your hard work on membership this year. Your great TEAMWORK is showing...but we can't let off the gas pedal just yet! **Currently you have 266 in lapsation for a 9.7%, with 81 candidates waiting to be initiated.** Your net right now is a +253 for a 9.2% gain.

In working with our State Membership Chairman, Dave McCranie. PER, and our Area 3 Grand Lodge Membership and Public Relations chairman, Dan Tabor, PSP, we are reaching out to all of you for your help in getting our great state of Florida to a statewide Membership GAIN!

The key to a solid gain is to reach out to those delinquents that have not renewed their membership yet. We are a snowbird state, and many are returning. Please don't drop them until you've heard from them. We also lost over 4000 members last year, look at that list, and invite someone back. Think of the revenue we could have if we get just our lapse members to renew and invite a few back while adding new members! Speaking of adding new members, don't forget you can hold a "special meeting" for the sole purpose of initiating candidates! (*Chapter 15.070 allows this special meeting*) Make a special initiation celebration!

Tell them the good things we do! Let them know that **"Just by being an Elk they are helping to make a difference."** Our communities, youth, and Veterans and first responders need us now more than ever. We are coming into "season", plan lots of fun events! We in Florida can spend a lot of time outside this time of year! Take advantage of it.

Again, I thank you in advance for continuing to work membership to the bone. When our membership is growing, everything else will fall into place! Lodge revenues go up, more volunteers to help with community projects! Think of it as growing our Elks family too! Don't let covid be an excuse, think outside the box and let's keep doing what we do BEST as Elks and that's help everyone and have fun while we are doing it! Together as a TEAM.... we can do it! **As, "Teamwork Makes Elkdom Shine!"**

We want Florida to SHINE in Atlanta and going forward!

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Suzi Simonelli*

Susan "Suzi" Simonelli

FSEA State President, 2021-22



## 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](http://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](mailto: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



We were honored to deliver 82 individual Christmas Bags to the veterans at Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans' Nursing Home in December. Also, the Lodge/PER Association provided enough money to also donate some electric razors, belts, karaoke discs and a multitude of art supplies.

Our Ornament/ Magnet Sale made \$275.00 for Harry Anna.

Our January charity is Home Again, Saint Johns. A Wish List will be in the Social Quarters. Some of the items needed are batteries (AAA/AA/C/D), shaving razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, coffee, creamer, sugar, aspirin, playing cards, sewing kits, hats, gloves, and flashlights. Thank you in advance.

Cathy Walsh [Kcpwalsh93@gmail.com](mailto:Kcpwalsh93@gmail.com) Elizabeth Bastedo

# 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:elks829secretary@gmail.com) or (904)471-2829 when your address, phone or email changes.

## **Harry Anna Investment Fund, Inc.**

Together We Can Do Great Things

Of everything that the Florida Elks do, perhaps nothing is more important than our work with the state's youth. Sowing the seeds of accomplishment and commitment through our **Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services** and **Florida Elks Youth Camp** programs, children are given the opportunity to grow and learn beyond their dreams.

The trust fund started in 1951, was named after Harry and Anna Miller who donated land and a building to establish the original Florida Elks Hospital for Crippled Children. Its purpose was, and continues to be, the collection of donations and the acceptance of endowed gifts.

The trust fund is restricted, which means that only the income derived from it may be used to support our major projects: the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services and Florida Elks Youth Camp programs.

### **MAKING YOUR DONATION**

An online donation is the quickest and easiest way to support our trust fund efforts. Click the button below to make your secured gift.

#### **Federal Tax Savings**

A contribution to the trust fund is a tax deductible donation to a U.S. tax code 501(c)(3) organization. Continuing changes in the federal tax code make the counsel of professional tax and legal advisors essential to a donor who may benefit financially from a well structured plan.

## ***New Members—December, 2021***

**Our Lodge continues to grow as we initiated 9 members in December.**



The new members are:

(Front row L to R): Mark Kennedy, Jackie Richeson, Karl Vierck

(Back Row L to R): Philip Seely, Tanya Seely, Dennis McGlove, (ER: Joe Smith, Sr.), Ryan Westover, James Manning, James Cutter.

### **Congratulations to ALL!**

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



*From the House Chair:*

*We are excited about the upcoming Pork-a-Palooza event of Saturday, January 29th, 1-7 PM. So far, we have 6 food trucks, plenty of music, 20 vendors, a Cornhole tournament, a Kids Zone and lots more.*

*The open-to-the-public event is a fundraiser for the RB Hunt school. The cost is \$10 for general admission or \$20 for admission plus food samples and the right to vote for the best ones.*

*The Eland Garage sale will be on January 22nd.*

*Veteran's luncheon returns on Tuesday January 18th.*

*We still need urgently need volunteers for food service and to help on projects. Also, your ideas and suggestions are sincerely appreciated. Please contact me or the Exalted Ruler or send an email to [elks829secretary@gmail.com](mailto:elks829secretary@gmail.com)*

**Jimmy Dean, House Chair**



### **Eland News:**

**WE NEED YOU! We NEED your Support! Any questions or to register, please contact Dianne Cook at 386-503-6460 or at Eaglespirit315@gmail.**

As another year comes to a close, we can be grateful for a lot of wonderful things that happened here at the Lodge. The charities that we gave to, the local businesses we were able to help, the wonderful functions we were able to hold, and now we have a great garage sale to look forward to on January 22, 2022.

The Eland Club has one more day to drop off your goodies for sale, Sunday January 16th from 3-6. If you cannot make those days, drop off will be Friday January 21, times to be announced. Our garage sale will be from 8am-2pm and we are looking for volunteers to help on Friday for set up and Saturday to help us sell.

Please come and support your Eland Club here at the premier Lodge of the mighty NE district, #829!

We are having our meeting on Thursday January 13 at 6:30pm so come and join us and see what we are going to be planning for 2022. It should prove to be another exciting year. Put on your thinking caps as we need ideas from everyone! See you then

Thank you for your support

Dianne Cook, Interim President

### **Florida Elks Youth Camp Bus Trip**

**February 05, 2022**

We will leave the Lodge at 8:30 AM Sharp! We will tour the Camp and then have lunch at the Camp. This is also the Quarterly Meeting of the State, which is very informative. Games and prizes will be played on the trip down. We will stop on the way back at "Black Water Inn" for afternoon "Snack". The bus will be supplied by COA along with a volunteer driver. We will be returning to the Lodge around 4:00 - 4:30 PM. Donations will be accepted for the trip, they will go toward 2022 FEYC Camperships. NOTE: This assumes we have enough participation and sign up by members for the trip.

**SIGN UP SHEET IS IN THE BAR Must include name and Phone number Printed legible.**

## **LODGE OFFICERS 2020-2021**

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

## **TRUSTEES**

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

## **THE ELKS CLUB OF ST AUGUSTINE INC.**

### **Board of Directors**

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

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2020-2021

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

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

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

## LODGE ADVISOR

<b>PAT SHIPLEY (PDD)</b>	(904) 471-2630
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