# ELTampa 708

Volume 2016 Issue 2 – May Official Publication of Tampa Elks Lodge #708, Founded 1902, Published monthly at 3616 W Gandy Blvd, Tampa FL 33611 Office: 813-831-4280 - Lounge: 813-839-8928



#### LODGE OFFICERS:

EXALTED RULER - Shelagh Gombarcik, PLP LEADING KNIGHT - TBD LOYAL KNIGHT - Tommy Moore LECTURING KNIGHT - Bert Newbill SECRETARY - Rick Schneider, PER TREASURER - Rita Smtih ESQUIRE - George Hilficker INNER GUARD - Madison Benzing TILER - Dee Cisneros CHAPLAIN - Becky Sullins 5 YEAR TRUSTEE - Laura Jones 4 YEAR TRUSTEE - Theresa Matthews, PER 3 YEAR TRUSTEE - Robert Suhrheinrich 2YEAR TRUSTEE - Christopher Miles 1 YEAR TRUSTEE - Richard Florance, PER

DISTRICT ADVISOR - Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER LODGE ADVISORS - Steve Harmon, PDDGER Mike Pierson, PDDGER VAVS REP FOR JAMES A HALEY - Brian Brantley, PER

#### **Exalted Ruler**

Shelagh Gombarcik, Exalted Ruler House Committee Chair Laura Jones (laj6687@gmail.com) Bar Manager Laura Jones (laj6648@gmail.com)

Hall Event Inquiry: 813-837-4246 Susie Harlow

Lodge email: lodge708secretary@outlook.com Elksize Editor: Shelagh Gombarcik, ER

#### Club Hours:

Mon - Thursday 4:00pm - 11:00pm Friday 4:00pm - 12:00am Saturday 4:00pm - 11:00pm Sunday 12:30pm - 9:00pm





As a lodge, we start each year with the task of supporting our first major function, the Florida Elks State Convention. This year the convention is titled "FECON 2017" and it offers some exciting new options for you to choose from. The location is the first of these changes as the convention will be held at the Marriot World Center outside of Disney in Orlando. We will have our Tampa Pirates Den Hospitality room as usual, but in addition there will be an attraction on the Convention Hall floor. There will be Music, Food, Beverages, Booths to show off your Lodge, and videos with the latest information regarding our State Projects. Plus all the fun and fellowship you could possibly enjoy.

If you have never attended a state convention and would like give it a try, you now have the option of taking a one day bus trip sponsored by the State Association. (There is a \$20 wristband fee and you must be registered by May 5th.) This offers you the opportunity to be with us all day Saturday and attend the celebration in the Convention Hall. You will experience and all things Florida Elks has to offer.....Youth Camp, Therapy Services and more. For those that have never experienced the Original Ritual, you can attend one presented by a Ritual Team.....believe me its extremely impressive. Information regarding this bus trip is available at the lodge or you can go to FSEA.org and look for FECON 2017 for more information.

Courtney's Table is up and running and has been very well received. We had a wonderful Easter Brunch and we are looking forward to the Mother's Day Prime Rib Brunch with a Free Champagne or Mimosas for the Mums. Thank you for your support of this new venture as an additional membership benefit.

There are lots of Volunteer Opportunities available for members that would like to become more involved with helping our lodge help our Community. Please see the article inside. We are still in need of help with our monthly Elksize. If you have computer skills in Publisher, or like program, please reach out to Shelagh or the Lodge Secretary, Rick Schneider.

We have planned some fun events for May....Starting with a Kentucky Derby Party on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May, the Hilarious Improv-a-holics Comedy Musical on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, and followed by May 20th Karaoke with our Leading Knight KJ Dee Cisneros. Mark your calendar and come enjoy your friends or bring a friend to our house, Tampa Elks #708!

Fraternally yours, Shelagh Gombarcik, ER

# Your 2017-18 Committee Chairs

**Bert Newbill** Hoop Shoot & Soccer Shoot

**Bonnie Atwood, Jackie Apple And Melissa Bertoch** Auditing Committee

Brian Brantley, PER VAVS Rep to James A. Haley

Bert Newbill Marquee Manager Courtney Weil, PER

Community Projects & Activities

**Dee Cisneros** Americanism Flag Day

**Georgia Hilficker** This Week Monitor Web Calendar

Jacquie LoCicero LOE Liaison John Wayne, PER Youth Camp Marty Quire Web and Online Communications

Patty Jankewicz Lodge Veteran's Committee

Patty Elkins Youth Activities

**Rick Schnieder, PER** Government Relations

**Rita Smith** Grants Athena House

Shelagh Gombarcik, ER Orientation/Membership Elksize Editor

Steve Harmon, PDDGER Ritualistic Chairperson

Susie Harlow Bingo Chairperson

Theresa Matthews, PER State Major Projects

#### **Tommy Moore**

ENF Chairman Drug Awareness Grand Lodge Youth Programs

#### Not filled as of printing

Army of Hope Inter-lodge Visitation

#### House Committee:

Laura Jones Chairman & Bar Manager

Jacquie LoCicero Ed Mulder George Hilficker Logan Matthews

Bert Newbill

Madison Benzing Assistant Bar Manager

## 2017-18 CALENDAR EVENTS

#### VICE PRESIDENTS VISITATIONS:

JUNE 3	
JUNE 10	DUNEDIN/CLEARWATER #1525
JUNE 17	New Port Richey # 2284
JULY 8	Largo Lodge # 2159
JULY 29	St. Petersburg #1224
AUGUST 5	Seminole Lodge #2519
AUGUST 12	
AUGUST 19	TAMPA #708 <b>(Homecoming)</b>

#### **OTHER EVENTS**

AUGUST 5DD CLINIC 9:00AM ST. PETE #1224
SEPT 15-17 STATE PRESIDENT VISIT TO THE WCD
SEPT 17ELK'S DAY AT THE RAYS
JULY 16-19GRAND LODGE CONVENTION - RENO, NV
SEPT 22-24 FLOE CONVENTION - MAITLAND, FL.
NOV 10-12 MIDYEAR CONVENTION - PLANTATION INN AT CRYSTAL RIVER, FL.
Feb 9-11, 2018 QUARTERLY MEETING - UMATILLA, FL. (FEYC)
MAR 16-18, 2018 Officer Training - World Center Marriott, Orlando
APRIL 7, 2018DD CLINIC ST. PETERSBURG LODGE – 9:00AM
MAY 25-27, FECON '18WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT, ORLANDO
Theresa L. Matthews, Tampa Lodge 708

# **A Warm Welcome To Our New Elk**



Kelly Ray Sponsored by Bert Newbill



Greg Livingston Sponsored by Bert Newbill



Peggy Smith Sponsored by Rita Smith



Rob Meekins Sponsored by Bert Newbill



Bert Newbill, our Lecturing Knight is the Recruiter of the month! Enjoy your parking space Bert!

## **May Elk Recognition**

## OFFICER OF THE MONTH: BERT NEWBILL

Bert is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel from US Special Operations Command with more than 23 years of distinguished service to our Nation. With his leadership skills from his years of service in the Military, he is going to help lead our lodge into the future. Bert is also a member of the Freemasons and consequently knows what it means to be in the leadership line of a Fraternal Order. Bert is currently a Basketball coach and also serves on the Advisory Board of the South Tampa YMCA. Since joining our lodge, he has been active in many areas including mentoring with the Club Chivalry Program and he is now chairing the Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot. Bert made the decision to start his journey through Elkdom and is serving as our Lecturing Knight



### ELK OF THE MONTH: MARTY QUIRE

Marty Is the son of PER Larry Quire and is a second generation Elk. A Systems Analyst for Raytheon Corporation, Marty travels all over working on flight simulators. He currently serves as our Webmaster and I'm sure you will agree that the Tampa Elk's Website is one of the finest in Elkdom. He also send out the weekly updates, blasts and anything that needs to be brought to the attention of our members. If you're not receiving updated information please email Rick, our Lodge Secretary to get on his list and receive the Elksize this way and save the paper and post. Marty volunteered to photograph our incoming officers and has done so in the past, so the photos in our lobby are usually due to him. When Marty is not busy keeping us updated he morphs into one of our DJ "MARDONIX", he spin the discs and boy can he sing. His expertise enables him to work on the Lodge's audio/visual equipment keeping it up to date. We appreciate all you do for us.



#### VOLUN "ELK" OF THE MONTH: BERNI TURPIN

BERNI TURPIN is a Past Lady President of the LOE and a supporter of all things LOE and Elkdom. Whenever she is asked to volunteer for a task she is 100% in and that is what she has done with the 365 Club. The little house that you see and many take home with you to put your spare change in goes directly to the FECTS Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services, the mobile therapy service that delive4rs this much needed service to children throughout the State. Bernie has collected a tremendous amount of change over the years and it has all been donated on behalf of Tampa 708 Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you for your dedication to making sure that we are promoting and supporting FECTS.



**Executive Board** 

**Jacquie LoCicero - President** 

Suzanne Moore - Vice President

**Devoney Bedami - Secretary** 

Robert Bordonaro - Treasurer Carolynn Breit - Chaplin

**Bonnie Atwood - Parliamentarian** 

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## Supporting Reports



And we're off.... the new lodge year is starting with a bang, the LOE is having a Kentucky Derby Horse Race on May 6th. This is a family friendly event, food, drink specials, hat contest and more. Courtney's Table will be serving a wonderful menu starting at 5:30, betting windows open at 6pm with the first race at 7pm. Horses can be bought

for \$10 each, see your bartender to make your purchase. Hope to see you there.

Hope all who attended the Easter had a wonderful time. This year the LOE gave out goodie bags filled with treats to the children and paid for their brunch.

Thank you to Sharon Ford for your generous donation to the LOE to help with the Easter goodie bags.

Like us on Facebook: LOE Tampa Lodge 708 Email: LOETampa708@yahoo.com Jacquie LoCicero, Ladies of the ELK President

"Every day may not be good, but there is something good in every day."

#### LOE May Birthdays submitted by Carolynn Breit:

5th - Robert Orcutt, 12th - Rita Smith, 12th - Brenda Stokking - 28th James Harlow - 28th - Datha Sirmans, 31st-Jannette Bennett





Hello Fellow Members,

I went to the lodge and found several members that don't come often. When they saw me empting our houses, they pulled out their donations. Remember guys we are doing this for a great cause. If you can't come in often please

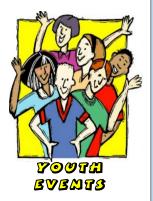
consider taking a house home and bring it in when you come. You can also give your donation to a Lady Officer. I am ever so grateful to all that contribute. Here are this month's donors.

Wendy Woo, Robert Summers, Frank Palladini, and Donna Halsey. We also collected from bar and tables.

Thank you to all who helped and I hope more will join.

## **Committee Communications**

The Drug Awareness Program along with our Community Affairs Program had the pleasure to partner with the South Tampa Chamber of Commerce on April 2nd for the Chambers annual Taste of Tampa held at the Women's Garden Club. There was plenty of great food and beverage for everyone. There were about a thousand people that attended. Over 75 merchants giving away their samples. I would like to thank the following Elks whom help set up/tear down and manned the booth: Bryan Brantely. Bryan and Rebecca Sullins Great job, Thank You. Also thanks to Courtney's Kitchen for donating 100 delicious cookies that we gave visitors as they walked around. We distributed Drug Awareness Literature on the dangers of drugs and promoted our Lodge and our ever popular Kids Summer Camp, Gave out info and application for membership. Thanks also to all of the Elks who attended. Our Lodge pairing with the Taste of Tampa has really put us out there in our community.



Fraternally Yours, Tommy Moore, Drug Awareness Chairperson

## **Committee Communications Continued**

Elks Hello everyone Just wanted to let everyone know that for this year (2017/2018 I will ational be replacing Shelagh as Elk National Foundation Chairman. I have big shoes to fill as oundation Shelagh has done a terrific job in taking care of the ENF donations for several years now. She will continue to help me get my feet wet and hope I can do what she has for our Lodge. If anyone wishes to make a donation, please contact me(831-1017) or Lodge Secretary. Thank You for your support. **ENF Chairperson Tommy Moore** 

Elks Youth Camp -Summer Camp

We are still accepting applications for the Youth Camp and if you have children interested in attending one of the summer sessions please go to FEYC.org for the applications. We are pleased to announce that we have 3 Young People from our Lodge that will be councilors this summer.

Taylor Taylor and Mallory Benzing will be returning counselors and Jeremey Elksins will be a counselor in training. Fraternally yours, John Wayne, PER, Youth Camp Chairman





On the 24th of March, 32 Club Chivalry students and 5 Elk chaperones attended a Career Fest sponsored by Hillsborough County Schools and the Technology Department at Hillsborough Community College. The Elks chaperones were the School Sponsor, Kristina Chowning, Loyal

Club Chivalry Report

Knight Tommy Moore, Lecturing Knight Bert Newbill, Inner Guard Madison Benzing, and our brand new 21 year old member, Mallory Benzing. The bus for the field trip was provided, at no charge to the Club or the Elks, by the Hillsborough County School Board! Prior to that tremendous gift, we were looking at a bus bill of about \$700.00. There were no charter busses available in our area to be found for that day- we would have had to pay for one to drive down from Orlando. We are very grateful for that tremendous donation, and excited to know that the school board is even aware of our Club Chivalry project. Hillsborough County School Board is the 6th largest in the country. The students and our two male chaperones boarded the bus at about 8 AM. We provided juice and pastry for the trip, so things got off to a sweet start. Our three female chaperones drove in a private car to make more bus seats available for students. There were kids from every high school at the career fest, and the students were free to move around through the areas at their own pace. They met back up for lunch, which was a boxed lunch by chic fil et. At the end of the Career Fest, Elks provided chips and sodas for the students as they boarded the bus. Though I didn't attend, our Officers tell me this was an excellent and educational field trip that the students will not soon forget.











## Last Month's Fantastic Festivities & Events



Bill Edwards, PER, PLP, installs our new ER, SHELAGH GOMBARCIK

## **2017-18 OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY**

This year's installation ceremony went off without a hitch. Our new officers were installed with all the pomp and circumstance they rightfully deserve. The offices they have agreed to accept will be work intensive and selfless, and we truly appreciate their dedication and their resolve to make our lodge prosperous and safe.

Though the office of Leading Knight was not filled at the time of installation, it has been filled now by Dee Cisneros, who will be leaving his position as Tiler. Brian Brantley, PER has agreed to accept the vacated Tiler post.

I know I speak for everyone when I wish our new officers, board of directors and trustees all the best for the coming year.





## 2017-18 LOE OFFICERS INSTALLED

Following the Lodge installation came the installation of this years Lady of the Elk officers. These ladies are the back bone of our lodge and they play a large part in keeping us solvent. This year's Lady President, Jacquie LoCicero is a committed, organized and enthusiastic lady, excited to make her mark on the position. Her board of directors are: Vise President, Suzanne Moore, PLP, Secretary, Devoney Bedami, Treasurer, Robert Bordonaro. Chaplin, Carolynn Breit, Parliamentarian, Bonnie Atwood.



This year's Easter Brunch was a roaring success! Over 160 guests were served and our LOE paid for children under 12 years of age. Not only did Courtney's Table put out an outstanding buffet, but the guests were impressed with



our lodge and many asked how they might join. Needless to say, our ER Shelagh Gombarcik was there to offer assistance. The bar enjoyed a good day as well and everyone is looking forward to the Prime Rib Mother's Day Buffet to be held on Mother's Day, May 14th.

## Last Month's Fantastic Festivities & Events



Great Showing at this year's STCOC TASTE OF SOUTH TAMPA The Taste of South Tampa enticed a record number of attendance. We were able to introduce Elkdom to many interested people and Courtney's Table provided yummy homemade cookies for us to offer the attendees. Tommy Moore, Bryan Brantley, PER, and Becky Sullins maned our booth and our ER joined them to help educate the public.



## **Upcoming Events and Projects**



# LADIES OF THE ELK HORSE RACE May 6th

BUY AND ENTER YOUR HORSE TODAY ONLY \$10.00 BETTING WINDOWS OPEN AT 6PM...START TIME 7PM

Family Friendly Event Adult and children's hat contest See Bartender, Sue Moore or Jacquie LoCicero To Purchase Your Horse Dinner Available from Courtney's Table at 708 Offering an authentic Derby Menu! From 5:30pm to 7:30pm Come support your LOE!



**SERVING AN AUTHENTIC TRADITIONAL KENTUCKY DERBY MENU!** 

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# Yes, they're funny... But can they sing?

Saturday, May 13th ~ 7:00pm Tampa Elks Lodge ~ 3616 W Gandy Blvd

Cash donation of \$10 is suggested for admission. Proceeds benefit the Ladies of the Elks, who support Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services.

Free hors d'oeuvres available at 6:00, with SHOWTIME at 7:00

Please be aware that this performance is for open-minded adults only, and is not appropriate for children!



# **Upcoming Events and Projects**

Your Exalted Ruler Presents:





Starting Saturday, May 20th - 7pm Repeating each month, every 3rd Saturday. Drink Specials, Music, Games, and Competitions! Join us for Fun, Fun, Fun!



RERORIAL BAY CEREMONY BRAY BOTH AT 11AB FLORIDA FLKS STATE CONVENTION Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER, Shelagh Gombarcik, ER, LIMITED TO 55 PASSENGERS – BOOK & PAY EARLY TO RESERVE SEAT And George Hilficker, Esquire will participate in the laying of a wreath in honor of our nation's heroes. WHEN: May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 & Bus will depart at 8:15 a.m.! Ceremony to take place at American Legion #5 WHERE: Bus will depart from Tampa Elks Lodge Kennedy and Dale Mabry Highway HOW: Signup sheet located on bulletin board All Welcome DEPARTS: Orlando at 4:30 p.m.! TRIP COST: Wristband purchase only - Due May 5 Bring Your Kidz & Grandkidz FECON '17 Wristband is Required st is \$20 Per Per FEGON **\$20.00** KICTONE! New Member Candidate come get initiated SAVE DA 1 **FECON '17!** Please make plans to support our annual Veteran's Committee Fundraiser. SATURDAY. COMING IN JUN Let's kick off the Summer JULY 1ST - 4PM with a splash Bring a friend or 2 Family Friendly Event featuring Family Friendly Fun, Food and Games BBQ Ribs, Live Music, a Cakewalk and More! for all ages Only \$17 for Adults, \$7 under 12

## **Upcoming Events and Projects**

## MAY 25-28-ORLANDO WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT



Celebrate Florida Elkdom on the Convention Floor and Meet Members from Across the State.

Presentations, Vendors & Exhibits,

Food/Beer/Wine/Activities and CROSS COUNTRY BAND

## \$20.00

Convention Floor Party with Hospitality Room Type Food/Treat Stations: Food Carts 11am-1pm with Ice Cream, Donuts, Pop Corn, Wraps, Salads 1—5pm Wraps and Salads HAPPY HOUR - Wings, Pretzels, Egg Rolls Brats. 7 - 9pm Sliders, Dogs and Fries.



Join Tampa 708 Elks Very Own Pirate Fest in there Hospitality Room and at Convention Booth, Featuring Tampa Specialties, along with Booty, Treasure and a whole lot of Fun!



Activities Include: Manga (Gaga) Ball, Capture the Flag, Card & Board Games, Kickball, Gator Ball, Archery, Arts & Crafts, Movie Night To Join Us For all This and More! Go to floridaelks.org and Register

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## Lodge Business and Programs



# **Partners in Progress or PIP**

## **Platinum Investors 100+**

In Memory of Vern Pickenpaugh from the Reids 3/17 Also from the PIckenpaugh Family 4/17 Walbart, Mark 6/17 Suhrheinrich, Robert & Candice 6/17 Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 6/17 In Memory of Jerrye & Patrick Fennell 6/17 Speach, Michael 6/17 With sincere thanks for the transportation Schneider, Rick & Jan 6/17 Appel, Jackie 6/17 In Memory of Tom Stanton From Mrs. Helen M. Stanton 9/2017 Florance, Richard 9/2017 Osterbrock, Debbie 5/18 To increase the financial strength of Tampa Elks Lodge #708, ensuring that our Lodge will be around for another 100 years. We will accomplish this by rebuilding our capital through investments made by Lodge Partners who are determined to secure Tampa Elks Lodge #708 future. Interest earned on the investments will remain in the investment account and help to increase the overall financial strength of our Lodge.

> Gold Investors \$51-\$99 Bordonaro, Robert 7/2017

Silver Investors \$21-\$50 James, Howard 3/2018

Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20 Your Name Here?

## Lodge Business and Programs

### A Word From The House Committee:

... the membership card, which will be presented to you by the Secretary, is a means of identification. It shows that you are a member in good standing in this lodge. <u>You should carry it</u> with you at all times. You are required to present it in order to gain admission to this lodge, and without it you cannot gain admission to another lodge..... Excerpted from Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Initiation adopted by the Grand Lodge in 1979.

We are in the middle of the transition from one Lodge year to the next. The green membership cards no longer allow access to the social quarters or Lodge meetings.

Rather, the 2017-18 purple card is required. In order to be compliant with our charter and the laws governing our organization you must prove member-in-good-standing status in order to gain entrance and/or buy a drink. All of this lead up is to ask for your understanding and cooperation as we strive to ensure Lodge rules are being properly applied and followed.

To this end our bartenders have been given the following very specific instructions:

- If a single person enters via key card access no inquiry is necessary.
- If multiple people enter together via key card access the bartender must ascertain whether it is multiple members or a member & guests and respond accordingly.
- If the bartender is required to 'buzz' someone in the bartender must ask to see membership card(s) before taking any drink order(s) or starting a tab.

In other words ..... please proudly display your purple membership card every time you visit!

Laura Jones, House Committee Chairman



## WE HAVE A WINNER! \$1,310

Our very own Ralphie, Ralph Shep finally captured the lovely lady and won himself a healthy jack pot! CONTRATULATION RALPHIE! She's on the run again so come in and buy a chance to catch her! Thursdays, tickets sold till 6:45pm - Drawing at 7pm Pot is already over \$600!



## Berni's Household Help -

Help with Shopping, Doctor's Appointments, Cleaning, Watching Older Parents or anything to make life easier. References Available upon Request. 813-831-4270 or 813-244-9867

This is a paid advertisement.





## MAY LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 3rd LOE Meeting 630pm
- 3rd BOD Meeting 6:30pm
- 4th House Committee Meeting 7:30pm
- 10th Officer Meeting 7:00pm
- 10th General Elk Meeting 7:30pm
- 16th VA Meeting 6:30pm
- 25th to 27th State Convention









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Like us on Facebook to receive updates and late breaking news. Tampa Elks Lodge #708





#### **OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS**

Shelagh Gombarcik 3/2017 Rosie & Roger LaChance - 4/2017 Leopold Wiesler - 4/2017 Robert Bordonaro - 5/2017 Mrs. Helen Stanton, In Memory of Tom Stanton - 9/2017 Donna R. Morris - Halsey - 9/2017 Ted Bass - 2/2018 Melissa Bertoch - 2/2018 In Memory of Harold Siddens, Linda & Richard 3/2018 Vera Wright 3/2018



Bud Cash - 4/2018 In Memory of William (Bill) Atwood - 5/2018 Berni Turpin In Memory of Robert O'Connor Berni - 5/2018 Bill Deen - 6/2018 Deborah Cassels 6/2018 Rita Smith - 12/2017 Debbie Osterbrock - 04/2019 John F. Morris - 3/2021 South Tampa Chamber of Commerce 12/2021

## Support the Elksize Be an SOB - Smiling 'Ole' Booster

\$10.00 a year helps to defer the cost of our publication and allows us to direct more of our annual income to the charities and organizations we support.