



Volume 2018 Issue 9– December 2018
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 - Dee Cisneros
LEADING KNIGHT - Laura Jones
LOYAL KNIGHT - Tommy Moore
LECTURING KNIGHT - George Hilficker
SECRETARY - Rick Schneider, PER
TREASURER - Rita Smith, PLP
ESQUIRE - Sharon Ford
INNER GUARD - Taylor Taylor
TILER - Robert Bordonaro
CHAPLAIN - Betty Orcutt
5 YEAR TRUSTEE - Courtney Weil, PER
4 YEAR TRUSTEE - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER
3 YEAR TRUSTEE - Theresa Matthews, DDGER
2 YEAR TRUSTEE - Bob Suhrheinrich
1 YEAR TRUSTEE - Chris Miles

DISTRICT LEADER - Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER LODGE ADVISORS - Steve Harmon, PDDGER THERESA L. MATTHEWS - DDGER, WCD VAVS REP FOR JAMES A HALEY - Brian Brantley, PER

PARLIAMENTARIAN, F.L.O.E.- Susie Harlow, PLP

House Committee Chair and Bar Manager

Courtney Weil, PER (solidfuture@ymail.com) (813) 484-0123

Hall Event Chairman:

Jacquie LoCicero tampa708rentals@yahoo.com

Lodge email:

lodge708secretary@outlook.com

**Elksize Editor:** 

Dee Cisneros Tpaelksize@gmail.com

Tampa Web Address - Tampaelks.com

**Club Hours:** 

Mon - Thurs 4:00pm - 11:00pm Fri 4:00pm - 12:00am Sat 4:00pm - 11:00pm Sun 12:30pm - 9:00pm





Here we are in December and Christmas. One of my favorite times of year. This is a special time for the many memories I have when celebrating Christmas with my family as a kid. I can remember growing up, with the snow falling in large flakes and a whole houseful of relatives. Us kids would always go outside and play in the snow and come back in cold and wet. Skiing down our streets on homemade orange Hot Wheels tracks or playing football with all the neighbor kids. Lots and lots of presents from all family members, all piled under the tree and my Mom ordering me to go outside and chop wood for the fire, while my Dad laughed at me because she tasked me and not him. But one thing that was most familiar, is that I had my family and those who were important to me, right by my side. It was a great feeling to have and it will neve be forgotten. Just like with my ELK family at #708 and WCD. You have all made me feel so incorporated into your families that I will never forget the warmth and support you have given me. I am alone here in Florida as all my Family are west of the Mississippi and I really don't see them much at all. But it is the closeness that you have provided me which makes me feel at home. This is home to me and you members of Tampa #708 are my family. Thank you for your support, guidance and laughter. May you all have a Wonderful Christmas holiday.

In Fraternal Brotherhood, Exalted Ruler, Dee Cisneros

# **Your 2017-18 Committee Chairs**

December

#### Vacant

Hoop Shoot & Soccer Shoot

**Bonnie Atwood and Melissa** Bertoch, Lisa Hayes

**Auditing Committee** 

**Brian Brantley, PER** 

VAVS Rep to James A. Haley Inter-lodge Visitation

**Rufus Hawkins** 

Community Projects & Activities

Dee Cisneros

Americanism Flag Day

Georgia Hilficker

**Advertising Materials** Web Calendar

Jacquie LoCicero

LOE Liaison Hall Rentals

John Wayne, PER

Youth Camp

Marty Quire

Web and Online Communications

Patty Jankiewicz

Lodge Veteran's Committee

Jodi Allison Ryan

Youth Activities

Rick Schneider, PER

Government Relations

Rita Smith

Grants

Athena House

Army of Hope

George Hilfiker & Betty Orcutt

Membership & Orientation

JROTC

Steve Harmon, PDDGER

Ritual Coach

Theresa Matthews, PER, PDVP

**State Major Projects** FSEA Hospitality Room Gasparilla Chairman

**Tommy Moore** 

ENF Chairman Drug Awareness

**House Committee:** 

Courtney Weil, PER

Chairman & Bar Manager

Jacquie LoCicero

George Hilficker

Laura Jones

**Sue Moore** 

**Tony Cruz** 

Shelagh Gombarcik

John Boelhower



December 31, 2018 ~ 6:00pm

Th's a Dress Up Affair!

Hollywood Celebrity Costumes & New Year's Attire Encouraged

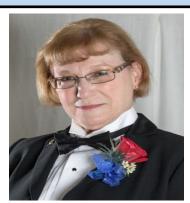
Party Only Ticket \$20 ~ Party Package Ticket \$25

See details on Tampa Elks website or at the lodge.

# **November Elks Recognition**

#### OFFICER OF THE MONTH:

Sharon Ford has been a great supporter of the lodge and becoming a great Esquire. She is quick to lend a hand and has always asked questions to help her in her position. Since taking on the position of Esquire, she has stepped up to the role and has embraced her role and responsibility. Her kindness and need for lodge success shows in her behind the scenes support in setting up areas around the lodge. Although she may have a voice hindrance (so she says...lol) her voice carries in a soft way that she is heard by all. She has expressed concerns about moving the lodge and membership forward and we look forward to her leadership in these and other endeavors.



#### ELK OF THE MONTH:

Donna Morris Donna is one of the quietest but most generous members in our Lodge. She contributes faithfully to the children's Therapy Services, supports our children's parties and other endeavors. She is a regular server at Open Arms Ministry. Donna's October sock Hop raised considerable money for the Lodge, and there were no expenses charged to the Lodge at all. Thank you for making a difference.





Sign up your child by emailing pattyandmrfox@Gmail.com or texting Patty at 941-580-7201 Please donate the following items to the Children's Christmas party:

Wrapping paper (any type), Christmas stickers, Gift Tags, Individually wrapped candy, Scotch tape Gift donations (approximately \$10 in value) for children 8 and older. There will be food, entertainment, cookie decorating, card making, a visit from Santa and tons of fun! A large box will be in the lodge for you to deposit your donations. We are also **selling angels and snowflakes for \$10** that can be decorated and will be hung in the lodge.

Thank you for supporting the Children's Christmas party!



# **Club Chivalry News**

December

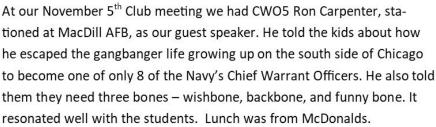
It has been a busy Fall for Club Chivalry, our Impact Grant project at Robinson High School. We got off to a late start this year; the planned club sponsor backed out. Finally, fellow Elk Kristina Chowning got things in order by volunteering to give up her own lunch period to sponsor our Club again this year. On October 15th, we had our first club day meeting where we distributed the T-shirts and school supplies and fed everybody a box lunch prepared by the culinary department.



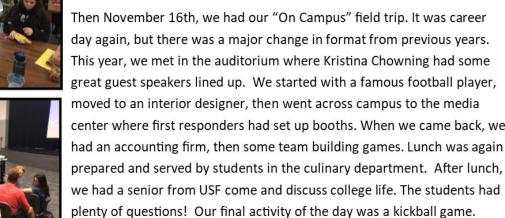


November 2 we held our Night at the Knights game, where Club members in their T-Shirts were admitted to the Football Game free. Again, Mother Nature interrupted our plans with a strong storm system and tornadoes that left half of Port Tampa without electricity late into the night. The game went on, but our attendance was less than expected.













Club Chivalry has been awarded another Impact Grant for 2019!











#### Committee Communications



Hello everyone. Hope you had a good Thanksgiving and enjoyed all of the good eats. Our Drug Awareness event with Lanier Elementary School Fall Festival held on November 3rd was a very good event. The kids had a great time. Plenty of things to do and lots to eat. We as Elks were able to reach out to our community



and let them know what Elkdom is all about. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Remember to give as you can to the Elk National Foundation. It helps us all. Just Say No to Drugs. **Fraternally, Tommy Moore** 



Good day from the Chaplain's Corner. Together we celebrate our faith and fill our spirits with hope. As always, it is my privilege to pray for you or with you. Please send prayer requests, favorite scripture passages, beloved prayers, or reasons/needs for lifting up our brothers and sisters to the Lodge Secretary at

lodge708secretary@outlook.com

It is because of the bible verses that talk about the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem that we have come to celebrate Christmas as Christians.

2 Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Luke 2:14 Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests. Christ is in Christmas and no matter how you celebrate the holiday, know that God loves you and you are in his favor.

As we hurry through the hustle and bustle of the holidays remember, sometime during that busy day of yours, pray and give thanks to the Lord for all you have.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all





Shout out to Michelle and Jose Ramon! They are strong supporters of the Veterans Committee's work with James A Haley and frequently stop in to greet our Veterans when they are in the Lodge. Pictured with Patty Jankiewicz, Veterans Committee Chair.



# **December Birthdays from Carolyn Breit:**

12/8 Jack Johnson, 12/13 Betty Pickenpaugh,12/22 Carolyn Miller, 12/24 Shelagh Gombarcik



# Elks at the Open Arms Thanksgiving

Elks Lodge members actively supporting the 'Open Arms' program at Hyde Park Methodist Church. The program supplies meals and clothing to those in need in the Tampa community, once a month. The money for the charity activity is made possible through the Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant, which assists local community outreach and partnership programs. If you would like to get involved with the Open Arms program or have any questions, please see Rita Smith or Courtney Weil. Come join us...it is addicting to serve.



Save the Date: Open Arms Christmas Dinner: 12/22/18 At 7:45 AM

Our Elk's National Foundation Beacon Grant pays for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners at the Open Arms Ministry for the Homeless. Please join us on December 22<sup>™</sup> to dish out some love and nourishment to those less fortunate.

Our Thanksgiving Dinner for the Homeless at Open Arms went very well. The food was absolutely delicious, and the clients we served were very happy. On Thursday morning, Courtney and I went shopping. It's not cheap to feed a Thanksgiving meal to a couple of hundred people. Some of the groceries went straight to the church, but some of them came into the Lodge to be prepared into casseroles. On Friday, bonnie made an emergency run to Open Arms with aluminum trays so that our buddy Steve could slice and tray the turkey up for us. On Saturday, Bonnie, Courtney and I prepped the food here in the Lodge kitchen, then I made a run to the church to leave the prepared casseroles in the walk in there. At 6am, Courtney was back at the church, cooking up her specialty items to be ready for an 8AM serving time. Our new member Shannon Wheatly helped her in the kitchen. Elma Kelly was there to work with the greeters, making sure all the clients were signed in and had a tray and coffee cup.

Candy and Bob Suhrheinrich, Laura Jones, Donna Halsey and I were joined by friends Doug Grant, Guyton Thompson, Roy Bascami and his wife Leah and son Royce. It was a respectable showing, and there were enough servers so that I could work as a temporary relief when somebody needed to leave the serving line for a few minutes. That left me time to take a lot of pictures.

Rita Smith

## **Special Thank You To Our Members**

December





Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America A Fraternal Organization

#### Jeanne Reinhart, Past District Deputy West Central District, FL - 2080

PO Box 18753, Tampa, FL 33679 Cell: (727) 743-1387 Email: jeanne9343@yahoo.com

November 15, 2018

TO: ER Dee Cisneros and Tampa Members

RE: WCD Army of Hope Fundraiser

ER Dee, I want to thank you and your entire membership for attending and supporting the WCD Army of Hope Fundraiser held at Largo Lodge in October. You, Rita Smith, and PER Courtney Weil attended most of the planning meetings and came to work the day of the event. Also, thank you for selling the 25 tickets that were issued to each lodge. Your lodge also provided a basket for the Chinese Auction, and the Lodge Veterans Committee provided the condiments for the sandwiches. You provided the music and entertainment and PER Courtney did a great job of organizing the games. Sue Moore was phenomenal when she designed and put together 14 baskets for the Chinese Auction and Tommy for putting up with the mess in the house. Thank you also to DD Theresa Matthews for taking time from her busy schedule to attend the event.

I was so proud of all of the WCD Lodges for pulling together and working together to make this a very memorable and profitable event. We did clear over \$5,000 plus received another \$2,000 check as a donation.

The Army of Hope is one of the Elks' projects that does not get much attention but which is sorely needed by our deployed military families. With the funds that we raised, many of our local military families will benefit throughout the year.

Once again, thank you for your support and your dedication.

Fraternally,

Jeanne Reinhart, PDD

#### **WCD DD Visit**

Our very own Theresa Matthews will be making an Official visit to the lodge at 4pm Wednesday, Dec. 12th. She will be going over matters subject to the lodge, meeting with Lodge Officers at 6pm and after, will have enjoy a delicious Spaghetti dinner. After dinner, we will flow into our regular Wednesday night General Meeting at 7:30pm. Hope everyone will be able to attend our General Meeting.



### **Special and Upcoming Events**



It's time to
Party like a Pirate
with Tampa Elks 708!
Saturday, January 26th

Buses will pick up from selected Lodges at 7am

#### You will Enjoy:

- . All you can eat breakfast
- A bagged lunch and a great view of the Boat Invasion from the Davis Island waterfront
  - . Pirate Beads
  - . Games, Activities & Prizes
  - Big Screen TVs to view the parade as it marches down historic Bayshore Blvd.
    - . Live Music
    - . All you can eat dinner
      - . And More

All this for \$60,00 per person!
(Bring a Lawn Chair)

Tickets may be purchased at www.tampaclks.com

### **Special and Upcoming Events**



Your Tampa LOE presents the 2018



December 13th, 6pm

Come Christmas shop and peruse the holiday treats while assisting the many charities your LOE supports.

Now that's the Holiday Spirit!

If you would like to donate to the bazaar please contact Jacquie LoCicero at loetampa708@yahoo.com

# **Special and Upcoming Events**

# HOLLYWOOD New Year's Eve Party

# Tampa Elks Lodge #708

December 31, 2018

It's a Dress Up Affair

Hollywood Celebrity Costumes & New Year's Attive Encouraged

New Year's Eve \$20 ticket includes the following:

- Festivities & Social start at 6:00 p.m.
- Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Chicken di Capodanno, vegetable medley, rice pilaf, Caesar salad, roll & dessert
  - Tampa Rhythm Section Band starts at 8:00 p.m.
    - Champagne Toast at Midnight
    - "First Breakfast of 2019" around 12:30 a.m. biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs & sausage



Package \$25 Ticket\*

#### Includes everything above PLUS:

- Become one of the "Hollywood Stars of 708" receiving a 'Walk of Fame'
   Star with your name to place near the red carpet
  - Picture taken on the red carpet and posted on the New Year's Eve
     "Hollywood Stars of 708" Board
    - · Picture featured in the January Elksize

\*(Limited supply of "Hollywood Package Tickets" so buy early!!)

Reserve your seat today.

Tickets on sale at the bar now til Sunday, Dec 23.

# **Special and Upcoming Events**Tampa Elks 708 Hosts Congressional Medal of Honor Convention Meeting and Dinner

Did you know the City of Tampa has been honored to be selected to host the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients Convention in October 2019? This is due largely to the fact that Tampa is one of the most patriotic cities in the nation with a long history of supporting our Veterans.

When I heard about this through my work, being a strong supporter of our Veterans myself, I knew this is also something the Elks would want to be part of in supporting our nation's most honored heroes. I also knew that there were other fraternal organizations that would want to help, so I got busy with putting something together to get the word out.

On Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, our lodge hosted a complimentary Cocktail Reception, Dinner & Meeting, and invited delegates from other charitable and fraternal organizations who also have a commitment to our Veterans, to learn more about how they can help make this one of the most memorable conventions ever for these incredible *Heroes*.



Lawrence Martin Major General Ret. – CEO MOH Convention

Major General Lawrence Martin (USAF Ret.) CEO of the Convention Committee and his .team presented the background and goals of the convention and their planned convention agenda. All organizations were invited to support this event through raising much needed funds and through volunteering to help during the week with the many activities, dinners and grand ball.



Gary Littrell presenting Medal of Honor Recipient signed book to Dee Cisneros, Tampa Elks Exalted Ruler

The Tampa Elks were well represented with most officers in attendance, as well as Florida Elks State Representation with Carl Seibert, COO and Victor McClellan, President of FL State Elks Charities. There were also several dignitaries of the Loyal Order of Moose, VFW, American Legion, and several other organizations interested in helping like MGM Friends, MacDill Alliance, etc. The message was very well received, and the promise of donation support from all organizations was very encouraging.

There are only 74 surviving Medal of Honor Recipients, and they will be spending part of their time during the busy convention week visiting schools to spread their message about patriotism, heroism and always doing your best.

It was our great honor to have Gary Littrell, one of the Medal

of Honor Recipients, at our dinner to talk about how much this convention means to these heroes. Lawrence Martin shared Gary's story of exceptional heroism before he introduced him, and his selfless act of saving so many lives under intense fire, was incredible!

The MOH Convention committee is a 501c3 non-profit organization, and it relies on the help and support of local charitable organizations such as the Elks for helping raise funds and volunteers. This will be a highly publicized convention, and organizations like the Elks who provide significant support, will definitely be recognized.

Please spread the word to all organizations/philanthropists you know to generate more enthusiasm in making sure Tampa is the best convention these Heroes have ever had! To find out how you can help or volunteer, please contact Linda Reid, at lindamom@tampabay.rr.com



Gary Littrell Medal of Honor Recipient

The Tampa Elks showed their best colors and the event went very smoothly, so big thanks to all who helped decorate and setup, and to Courtney for the delicious meal!

Fraternally, Linda Reid – Veterans Support Champion

# **December Live Entertainment**



#### Friday Live Music - 12/7 from 6:30 to 10 pm in the Lounge

Double Trouble is a high energy couple, who play all of your favorites from Oldies, Rock n Roll, Blues, Country, and everything in between. Mark may even bring out his big upright Bass, fondly called Chubby, and will entertain us with some slapping good sound



#### Friday Live Music – 12/14 from 6:30 to 10 and Friday Food Truk

Rukkus is a fun versatile duo that plays great dance, rock, classic, and country music from the 70..s, 80..s 90..s, and the current billboard charts today. Tree Dog Roots will be serving food from both Celtic and German heritage from their food truck during the evening.





#### Adult Christmas Party - 12/15 in the Lounge

Adult Christmas Party – Saturday 12/15 Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm Special Live Music from the Dazzler Duo starting at 7:00, back by popular request! Get ready to have some Holiday Fun and Dance the night away!



#### Friday Live Music - 12/21 from 6:30 to 10 pm in the Lounge

The Double Shot Trio band will entertain us with Country, Classic Rock and 70/80's.



#### Friday Live Music - 12/28 from 6:30 to 10 pm in the Lounge

JK Crum Entertainment is a fun and entertaining Duo in the Tampa Bay area, playing top 40 Country, Oldies, and Rock n Roll. They get the crowd involved in their fun and interactive show!

# On Going Calendar





Start off the week socializing with great people and great drinks!



Tuesday Night Movie 7:30 pm With Free Popcorn



# **Lodge Business and Programs**



# Partners in Progress or PIP

#### **Platinum Investors \$100+**

Summers, Robert & Linda 7/18 Drew, Toby 8/18 In Memory of Tom Stanton from Mrs. Helen M. Stanton 9/18 Atwood, Bonnie 9/18 Deen, William 11/2018 Smith, Rita 11/2018 Osterbrock, Debbie 4/19 In memory of Fennell, Jerrye & Patrick 5/19 Johnson, Jack 5/19 Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 6/19 Edwards, Bill (PER/PLP) 6/19 Walbart, Mark 6/19 Appel, Jackie 6/19 Florance, Richard 11/2020

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. Our goal is to increase our overall financial strength determined to secure the future of Tampa Elk's 708 future.

**Gold Investors \$51-\$99** Bordonaro, Robert 7/2018

Silver Investors \$21-\$50 James, Howard 3/2019 Easterly, Mr. & Mrs. James 10/18

Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20 Bertoch, Mellissa 2/2019

Have something to say? A concern about the lodge? Or just want to be in the know? Come to a General meeting. Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7:30pm.

#### **December LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE**

3rd—House Committee Mtg 7:30pm

4th—LOE Board Mtg 6:45pm

**5th - LOE Mtg 7:30pm** 

11th - BOD Mtg 7:15pm

12th – Elks Gen. Mtg 7:30pm

17th— 2021 Convention Mtg 7pm



# TAMPA ELKS LODGE #708 DEC 2018 Calendar of activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5pm PIP/ Friends of 708 Dinner
2 1pm Bucs vs Carolina 4pm Elks Na- tional Memorial Ceremony	3 7pm Monday Night Football Tailgate Party Redskins	4 5pm Delana's EatsOne Dish Pot Luck 6:45 LOE BOD Mtg	5 6:45pm LOE Dinner \$4 7:30pm LOE Mtg	6 6pm LOE Christmas Ba- zaar	7 6:30-10pm Dou- ble Trouble	8 2pm Army/ Navy Game 6pm House Committee Mtg & Dec Bday
9 1pm Bucs vs New Orleans 2pm LOE Craft Day	10 7pm Monday Night Football Tailgate Party Vikings vs Sea- hawks	11 5pm Delana's EatsOne Dish Pot Luck 7:15pm BOD Mtg 7:30pm Movie	12 9-10:15am MGM Networking Mtg 1:30pm DD Visit 7:30pm Elks Gen Mtg	13 6-8pm CCandi Surheinrich Cu- ban Chicken \$10 6pm F&RDD Music Project	14 6pm Food Truk Friday -Tree Dog Roots 6:30-10pm Rukkus will en- tertain	15 6pm Lodge Adult Christmas Party— Dazzler Duo (Lodge to provide ham & Turkey breast, please bring a side dish)
16 7:30am Open Arms Ministryfeed the homeless 1pm Bucs vs	17 7pm Monday Night Football Tailgate Party	18 5pm Delana's EatsOne Dish Pot Luck. 6:30pm VA Committee Mtg	19 Christmas present wrapping party and Children's party setup (Call lodge for time)	20 5:30-8:30pm Bob O is cooking \$8	21 6:30-8:30pm Steak Night Domiciliary Vets join us 6:30-10pm Double Shot	22 12-2pm Children's Christmas Party Johnny Miles/ Grampire enter-
23 7:30pm- Open Arms Xmas dinner Hyde Park 30 1pm- Bucs vs Falcons1pm	24 7pm Monday Night Football Tailgate Party- 31 6pm New Years Eve Party	25 5pm Delana's EatsOne	26	27	28 James A Haley Vets 6:30-10pm JK Crum Entertainment Cook needed	29



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ORGANIZATION
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TAMPA, FL
PERMIT #32



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





#### **OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS**

Bob & Candice Suhrheinrich 6/2018
Pat & Marilyn Fennel 6/2018
In Memory of Tom Stanton - 9/2018
Rebecca Sullins - 2/2019
Debbie Osterbrock - 4/2019
Donna Halsey- 6/2019
Jerrye & Patrick Fennell 6/2019
Robert Bordonaro 7/2019
Mrs. Helen Stanton,
Bonnie Atwood - 9/2019
Brenda Stokking and Bob Norton 11/2019



Bill Deen - 6/2020
Deborah Cassels 6/2020
Berni Turpin,
In Memory of Robert Connor 7/2020
Bud Cash 11/2020
In memory of
John F. Morris - 3/2021
South Tampa Chamber of Commerce
2/2023
Vera WrightIn Memory of Harold Wright 6/2023

# 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.

Thank you!