

Volume 2019 Issue 5 – August 2019 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





P Visit

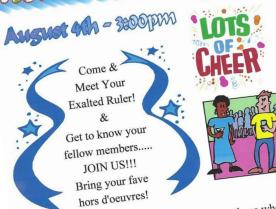


Rudi Masi, Sr., PDDGER, VPAL Tells the story of Our Veterans' trip to Celebrate the 75th anniversary of D-Day in France. (Page 3)









GAMES! - Lots of socializing & a time for those who have been busy to join us for fellowship!



RSVP to: Candi Suhrheinrich 813-835-5658



Calling All Epicurean Elks...



Bring us your impressive dishes, or just come with an appetite and a donation Come see our new Cook Book!!!!

...trivia...trivia...trivia...





LODGE OFFICERS:

EXALTED RULER - Chris Miles LEADING KNIGHT - Bob Orcutt LOYAL KNIGHT - Taylor X. Taylor **LECTURING KNIGHT - Camden Lynn SECRETARY - Rick Schneider, PER TREASURER** - Laura Jones **ESQUIRE** - George Hilficker **INNER GUARD** - Shannon Wheatley **TILER**— Nikki Murphy **CHAPLAIN** - Betty Orcutt **5 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Tommy Moore 4 YEAR TRUSTEE—Courtney Weil, PER **3 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER 2 YEAR TRUSTEE—Theresa Matthews, DDGER 1 YEAR TRUSTEE - Bob Suhrheinrich **DISTRICT LEADER** - Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER LODGE ADVISORS - Steve Harmon, PDDGER THERESA L. MATTHEWS - PDDGER, WCD

HOUSE COMMITTEE:

CHAIR—Shelagh Gombarcik
Members: Wendy Hall, Candy Venable,
Courtney Weil, Sue Moore,
Shannon Wheatley, Jim Dreby

LODGE COMMITTEES:

Hall Activities—Jacquie LoCicero
Auditing Committee—Chair, Melissa Bertoch,
Bonnie Atwood
Elks National Foundation—Shelagh Gombarcik
Harry Anna Trust Fund—Taylor Taylor
Entertainment—Linda Reid
Veteran Services—Patty Jankiewicz
Elksize Editor—Paul DeLand



Bob Oreutty Elk Officer of The Month!

Bob Orcutt, OOM. He and his wife Betty have been in the kitchen helping to organize and keep it clean. They have reduced inventory and for the first time in quite a while we have good budget numbers, with a reasonable cost of goods sold. In addition, Bob and Betty prepped and prepared almost everything for the WCD VP visit in July. While they couldn't be there because they were attending their daughter's wedding, all our guests raved about the food and many took home togo boxes because it was so good.

Patty Janklewicz, Elk of The Month

Patty Jankiewicz, EOM. Patty not only chairs our Veterans Services Committee and events, but also helps with pretty much all ticketed events where she helps to check guests in and offer prize tickets. She also participates in many of our regular events like Lodge General Meetings, Tuesday Movie Night, Queen of Hearts on Thursdays, Friday Dinners, and Gourmet Club. Patty not only attends special and regular events but is there many times a week to support our Kitchen and Lounge.



Florida Elks Participating in the 75 Anniversary of D Day

By Rudi Masi, Sr., PDDGER, VPAL



Sixty Florida Elks and Caretakers including six WWII Elk Veterans traveled to Normandy as part of the Florida State Elks Association partnership with Historical Programs to participate in the 75th Anniversary of D Day Commemoration and Festivities. They represented 18 Lodges and 8 Florida Districts. Florida Elks were easily recognized as they traveled in D Day theme shirts and hats. The majority of the group traveled out of Orlando on Delta Airlines to Atlanta. Delta recognized Florida Elks traveling to Normandy for D Day festivities in the terminal to a standing ovation. Florida Elks were permitted to board the plane before the other passengers. Upon arriving in Atlanta, the group changed to Air France. Air France announced the

Florida Elks in the terminal to another rousing standing ovation, had our group board the plane first, and upgraded our WWII Veterans to First Class. During and after the flight, all members of the Air France Flight Crew requested and had their photographs taken with our WWII Veterans.

Upon arrival in Paris, the group traveled by tour guided bus to their hotel in St. Lo, France. This city was completely destroyed by Allied bombing during WWII to avoid loss of life as the Germans refused to leave despite leaflets being dropped on the town advising everyone to get out or the city would be bombed.

Our first full day in Normandy included a beautiful ceremony at the Brittany American Cemetery & Memorial in St, James, Normandy, France located near the northeastern edge of Brittany. The Brittany American Cemetery lies among the hedgerows in rolling farm country in Normandy near the border with Brittany in France. It is one of fourteen permanent American World War II military cemetery memorials erected by the American World War II military cemetery memorials erected by the American Battle Monuments Commission on foreign soil. The site was liberated on 2 August 1944 by the 8th Infantry Division; a temporary military cemetery was established on it three days later. After the war, when the temporary cemeteries were being disestablished by the American Graves Registration Service, the remains of American mili-



tary dead whose <u>next of kin</u> had requested interment on foreign soil were moved from the temporary cemeteries to one of the permanent cemetery sites, usually the one closest to the temporary location. Our Elk WWII Veterans were on the stage with the American and French Dignitaries. Two of our Veterans, Fred Hall and John Santillo, were on the beaches on D Day. They were featured speakers representing WWII Veterans. French Dignitaries spoke in French and English thanking our nation for the sacrifices made to set them free. It was heartwarming to see each of our veterans being hugged and thanked often with tears by the many attendees. Several bands played music and choruses sang moving songs for this special ceremony.

Later in the day, we visited and toured the very moving D Day Museum and Mulberry artificial harbors in Arromanches, France. Re-enactors from Norway set up live military command post as part of the D Day commemoration.

Thousands of people attended the D Day ceremony at the Normandy American Cemetery & Memorial in Colleville-sur-Mer overlooking Omaha Beach. A memorial in the cemetery includes maps and details of the Normandy landings and military operations that followed. At the memorial's center is *Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves*, a bronze statue. The cemetery also includes two different flag poles which at two different times people gather around the American flags to watch them lower and fold both flags. This not only honors America but all the 9388 people in the cemetery plus everyone who fought in the war. In addition to the dignitaries, our WWII Veterans again spoke with several other WWII Veterans and a member of the French Resistance.



We visited Omaha Beach, Ponte du Hoc, and several other battlefield sites. At each location, there were live military theater of operations and encampments put on by present day military and also re-enactors making for a thrilling experience allowing attendees to re-live the deeds of our Greatest Generation. The featured highlight of the entire D Day Commemoration was the 75th Anniversary of D Day Parade in the first town we liberated, Sainte Mere Eglise. Sainte Mere Eglise was made famous in Cornelius Ryan's book THE LONGEST DAY, which was later made into a movie. The actor Red Buttons portrays Private John Steele, a paratrooper who had his parachute caught on the church steeple. John was shot in the foot and played dead for several hours before being taken prisoner. This small town of around 2,500 residents swelled to over 100,000 as people came from all over the world to witness or be part of the parade and other D Day festivities.

Our WWII Veterans rode in WWII jeeps leading the parade made up of bands and military personnel from all over the United States. Florida Elks marched in the parade directly behind the jeeps carrying two banners. The lead banner was an official 75 Anniversary of D Day banner commemorating Florida Elks participation with the official D Day logo. The second banner carries WWII Veteran signatures, has an American Flag background, and the Elks slogan "As long as there is a Veteran, Elks will never forget them". The parade route was lined with people waving flags, yelling "thank you", and reaching out to shake our hands.

One special event was to have all of the veterans on the trip who served in combat have their photos taken together. This photo represents veterans who fought in WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Gulf War, and Afghanistan.

The trip ended with everyone seeing the sights, sounds, and tastes of Paris. No matter where we traveled in France, our WWII Veterans were treated like famous celebrities as people sought to have their pictures taken with them. Each Veteran and all who attended carry in their hearts wonderful memories brought to us by the sacrifices of many 75 years ago. It is a special blessing to be surrounded by our Elk Veteran heroes and part of the Florida State Elks Association with Historical Programs!







VP Tom Mortka Visits Tampa #7081 (Meets Elroy for 1st Time!)

For quite some time people had noticed that whenever Elroy the Elk was in-the-house, Tom Mortka, VP of WCD, was suspiciously absent! In fact, some people had become a bit enamored of the idea Tom might be Elroy. Tampa Lodge #708 managed to put that rumor to rest July 20th as VP Mortka was greeted at the Lodge room door by none other than Elroy who escorted Tom before the Exalted Ruler Chris Miles. It was a fun night of Elroy and "The Birds" as two macaws stood on their perch in the Lodge Room and made comments all night long....some downright raucous!

The evening also marked the in-district passing-of-the-torch from Immediate Past DDGER Theresa Matthews to Incoming PDDGER Tony Fratello. (see below)







Elroy searching the Lodge Room for WCD VP Tom Mortka...





The New District Banner was displayed by; (at left)...Carl Seibert, COO & Secretary of the Florida State Elks Association, and Theresa Matthews, now PDDGER....(at Right) DDGER Tony Fratello and WCD-VP Tom Mortka.

TAMPA ELKS PRESENTS A COUNTRY

HUEDUWI

AUGUST 31, 2019

Featuring Special Musical Guests



THE REBEL SOUL BAND



Join Us for a Rootin' Tootin' Good Time! DINNER • DANCING • DRINK SPECIALS

YeeHaw Auction Table, Drawings, Homemade Pie Contest BBQ Ribs, Beans, Tater Salad, Mac n' Cheese, Banana Pudding

CASH BAR @ 6:00 • DINNER @ 6:30 • BAND 6:30 - 10:30 PM

Only \$20 - Get your tickets now!

Purchase conveniently online at www.tampaelks.com or at Tampa Elks Lodge #708 lounge after 4:00 pm 3616 W. Gandy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33611

ALL WELCOME

Fundraiser to Support Veterans in Need For additional info, call or visit the Tampa Elks after 4:00 pm • 813-839-8928

Designed by: impactadweb.com

CLUB CHIVALRY STUDENTS

Are Headed Back to School

Can you donate a 3 inch Clearview

Binder in Black or White?



To succeed, each student is required to have one, but they are expensive!

College ruled notebook paper, pens & pencils, dividers, and portfolios (folders) that have both prongs and pockets are also appreciated and will help stretch our tight budget through December.

Drug Awareness

Hope everyone enjoyed the summer. It sure was a hot one. coming up soon with the Drug Awareness Program . Wii keep everyone informed as to what is next on our list and get the info out so anyone can take part in the program. "Remember: Be a Hero - Just Say No" to drugs

Tommy Moore Chairman



Calling All

Epicurean Elks...



2019 Gourmet Club Finale

Chef's Choice

Sunday, August 25th 5:00 p.m.

Bring us your impressive dishes, or just come with an appetite and a donation

Come see our new Cook Book!!!!



ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Unfortunately, there is much competition on Friday night's related to entertainment, since the Moose and both American Legion's have music/dinner. Because of this, we have not had enough members coming in to cover the cost of having live music every Friday night, or Dinner every Friday night.

Therefore, due to budget constraints, starting in August 2019, we will be changing the Live Entertainment schedule to offer one special Dinner / Dance the last Saturday of each month.

We will have the JukeBox playing your favorite tunes on Friday night's, so we encourage you to come in and enjoy your lodge and bring a friend!

Each month we will have a special themed Dinner with live music related to the Theme, or a Dinner / Live Show.

On Aug. 31st, don't miss our first last Saturday event...the **Country Hoe Down**, with the fabulous **REBEL SOUL** band and lip smacking BBQ benefiting our Veterans Program.

Each Event will have a Theme, so I know how we all love to dress the part, so there will not only be great entertainment and a delicious dinner, there will be some fun activities! Mark your calendars for the Last Saturday of each month, so you don't miss out!

Watch the Elksize for more details each month.



It is that time of year again to help children in our community with school supplies. This year we will be supporting Westshore Elementary by helping their teachers with specific items and some of the students who do not have the ability to purchase the items they need. Below is a list of items you can drop off in the box at the Lodge:

- Items for the School Store (they get these items as a reward if they show positive character traits) these items include small toys, stuffed animals, bookmarks, stickers, etc. You can donate anything that you think a child from K-5th grade might like as a reward.
- Lysol/Clorox Wipes
- Boxes of Kleenex
- Crayola Crayons
- Hand Sanitizer (any size)
- Glue Sticks
- Colored Pencils
- Ziplock Bags (all sizes)

For a full list of school supplies you can go here: http://westshore.mysdhc.org/Resources/Supply_List

There is a large box at the Lodge to collect your donations. Please provide by August 10th since the first day of school is August 12th.

The principal and students at Westshore Elementary are very grateful for your donations.

Chaplain's Prayer

THE HOT DAYS OF SUMMER ARE UPON US AND WE HAVE SO MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR. AS ELKS WE HAVE THE BEAUTY OF OUR PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE US. THROUGH CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE AND FIDELITY WE LIVE PROUD LIVES.

THE LORD OUR GOD ASKS US TO PRAY;

LORD OF THE LOVING HEART, MAY MINE BE LOVING TOO.

LORD OF THE GENTLE HANDS, MAY MINE BE GENTLE TOO.

MAY WE GROW MORE LIKE THEE IN ALL WE SAY AND DO.

LOVE HAS THE HANDS TO HELP OTHERS. IT HAS THE FEET TO HASTEN TO THE POOR AND NEEDY. IT HAS THE EYES TO SEE MISERY AND WANT. IT HAS EARS TO HEAR THE SIGHS AND SORROWS OF MEN.

THAT IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE.

AS MEMBERS OF A VERY UNIQUE ORGANIZATION MAY WE CONTINUE OUR WORK OF LOVE THROUGH GOD, THROUGH OUR CHARITIES AND GOOD WORKS.

LORD OF THE LOVING HEART, KEEP US FAITHFUL TO OUR OBLIGATIONS.

IN THIS WE PRAY, AMEN

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, BETTY ORCUTT, LODGE CHAPLAIN 2019/2020





Ausust 4th - 3200 pm



&

Get to know your fellow members.....

JOIN US!!!

Bring your fave hors d'oeuvres!





GAMES! - Lots of socializing & a time for those who have been busy to join us for fellowship!



RSVP to:

Candi Suhrheinrich

813-835-5658



TAMDA ELKS LODGE TEAM



7:00PM, Monday, August 19

Trivia Mistress Candy Venable Come out and Support Your Lodge TAMPA ELKS LODGE



August 24th
KJ-Dee Cisneros

BRING A DISH TO SHARE Come Out and Support Your Lodge

365 Club

To date, the members of Florida Ladies of the Elks, (FLOE) combined, have donated \$429,099,07 to the Harry Anna Trust fund to support the Florida Elks Youth Camp and The Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services. Tampa Elks Lodge has been a big part of that, with the LOE Auxiliary donating \$2000,00 or more each year,

You can explore both of these Major Projects on the Florida Elks website FLELKS.org. I can guarantee you will be impressed. The Youth Camp invites 320 Florida Children a year to spend a week "unplugged" at camp. The Therapy Services is offering physical and occupation therapy to Florida children in their home. They operate 26 mobile units and each Van visits about 20 kids a week!

You can make a difference in the life of a child by simply filling up one of the green housed around the bar, or writing a check designated 365 club and turning it into any LOE Officer, or simply writing your name on the edge of a \$5.00 (or Higher) dollar bill and sticking in a house.

I will be listing current donations next month – be sure to turn yours in by August 15th to be mentioned. Rita Smith

Your Elksize Editor Sez: I have been asked by our Exalted Ruler to insure delivery of the Elksize in time for the 1st of each month! That means I must stick to a HARD AND FAST monthly deadline for articles of the 15th of the month. Please help me keep this time by submitting your articles thru the Elksize email.

tpaelksize@gmail.com

I do not want our members to miss any Elks News! Thanks!

Paul DeLand, Editor

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+

In Memory of Tom Stanton from Mrs. Helen M. Stanton 9/19 Osterbrock, Debbie 4/19 In memory of Fennell, Jerrye & Patrick 7/20 Johnson, Jack 5/19 Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 7/20 Edwards, Bill (PER/PLP) 6/19 Walbart, Mark 6/19 Appel, Jackie 7/20 Conners, Barbara 12/19 Rick & Jan Schneider 12/19 Gombarcik, Shelagh 12/19 Smith, Rita 12/19 Moore, Tommy & Sue 12/19 Quire, Kim & Marty 12/19 Snyder, Robert & Lisa 12/19 Robert Norton & Brenda Stoking 12/19 Palladini, Frank 1/20 Suhrheinrich, Bob & Candace 1/20 Florance, Richard 11/2021

Waldbrat, Mark 8/23

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 12/2019

Silver Investors \$21-\$50 James, Howard 3/2019

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

Elks Care - Elks Share



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
M T W T F 1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26 29 30 31	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 20 21 9 10 16 17	Sep 2019 W T F S S 1 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	HOT GRILL Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	Dinner - Check Bulletin Board	VP Visitation Tarpon Springs 1719	Member Mingle 3:00pm
Jessica at Bar serving Panini HOUSE COMM. MTG. 7PM	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie LOE Bd. Mtg. 6:30pm	LOE General Mtg. 6:45pm	HOT GRILL Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM Gasparilla Planning Mtg. 7:15pm	Dinner - Check Bulletin Board	Teen Back to School EventDetails TBA	I I
/ 2 Jessica at Bar serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie Lodge BOD 7:30pm	7:30PM LODGE MTG.	HOT GRILL Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	Dinner - Check Bulletin Board	5pm VP Visit NPR	18
/ 9 Jessica at Bar serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie	VETS Comm 7pm	HOT GRILL Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	23 Dinner - Check Bulletin Board	24	New Member Orientation 4pm 5pm Gourmet Club
26 Jessica at Bar serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie	7:30PM LODGE MTG.	HOT GRILL Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	30 Dinner - Check Bulletin Board	3 / 6:30pm Hoedown	



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS

Friends of 708

Mary Quire Bonnie Quire Linda Reid Theresa Matthews Bonnie Atwood Nanette Quire Betty Orcutt Sharon Ford Richard Schneider Christopher Miles Robert Suhrheinrich Susie Harlow Steve Harmon

Lisa and Bob Snyder

This local program focuses solely on improving our lodge through generous member donations. **All members are encouraged to sign up for the "Eleventh Hour Pledge".** Your recurring pledge of \$11 a month will help maintain our lodge.