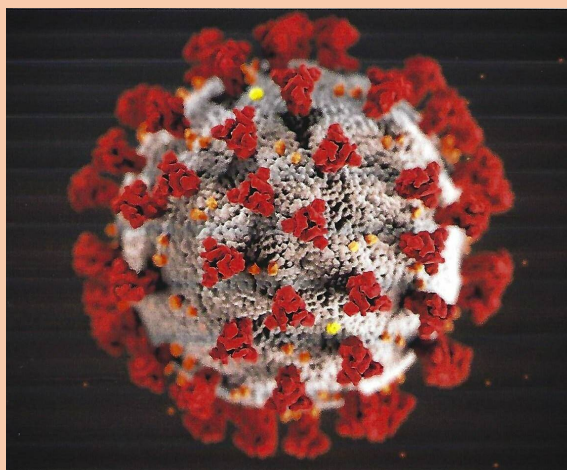


Coronavirus

Lodge Temporarily Closed!



The above is a graphic representation of the microscopic appearance of the actual coronavirus (COVID-19)

Effective Friday, March 20th, 2020 the Governor shut down many businesses, including Tampa Elks Lodge #708 Lounge, Dining room, and Hall. The secretary and treasurer are conducting necessary business and are available to take emails/calls. It is unclear if Regular Meetings will be conducted or if a Special Meetings will be set. If a meeting takes place special precautions will be made and capacity will be limited as required by law. Please call, and check TampaElks.com and Facebook for the most up to date information. Please write to Marty Quire (mquire@tampabay.rr.com) to be added to our email distribution list. These closings affect all WCD Lodges. The end point of this is not known as we go to press. For our members with needs, food, supplies, etc.....please see below!
Be Safe! Miles

*See Page 3 for communication from the Grand Exalted Ruler.

*All calendar events, and plans and attendance for both the FSEA Annual Convention and the Grand Lodge as presented in this publication are subject to change.

*Please read and heed the ER's message on page 4 regarding our Lodge and its current operation.



ELKS CARE-ELKS SHARE!!!

MEMBERS WITH NEEDS! READ THIS!

We have formed a small team of helpers to assist our members with needs during this emergency situation. The Lodge office will NOT be open regular hours so please use one of our numbers to contact us so we can assist you with food needs, or other personal needs and we will be available as best we can.



Paul DeLand—813-376-5401

Shannon Wheatley—727-772-3446

Courtney Weil—813-813-484-0123

All assistance is, of course, entirely confidential!

My Fellow Lodge Members....if you feel you could offer assistance by helping, or wish to donate to our small fund....please call one of us!



LODGE OFFICERS:

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE:

CHAIR—Shannon Wheatley
Members: Wendy Hall, Candy Venable,
 Paul DeLand, Sue Moore,
 Jacquie LoCicero & Tommy Moore

LODGE COMMITTEES:

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

Reminder!!!

**Please pay your
 dues for 2020-
 2021 year.**

**While we are
 closed for the
 terrible virus
 which confronts
 us, our expenses
 continue as do
 the needs for our
 charitable giving!**

Thanks!



P.O. box 5159, Torrance, CA 90503-5159 • Phone: (310) 534-2012 • Fax: (424) 328-0508
E-mail: rlidger1920@gmail.com

Robert L. Duitsman
Grand Exalted Ruler

March 20, 2020

A Fraternal Organization

All,

Various Local Lodges are requesting information pertaining to being open or closed. As a reminder, Local Subordinate Lodges are Chartered under the 501(c)(8) umbrella of the Grand Lodge and governed by the Constitution, Statutes and Laws of the Order.

The day to day operations are overseen by the Lodge Officers, the House Committee and membership as governed by said Constitution, Statutes and Laws of the Order as well as complying with local, county, state and federal laws, executive orders, mandates, rules and ordinances. Of which, most are different for each Lodge or Lodge location. In instances of this nature, Local Lodges must also comply with any local, county, state and federal public health mandates, directives and announcements as well as using common sense during these trying times.

Attached are suggested recommendations for the Local Lodges to follow and offer guidance on other items. ***For further guidance, assistance and direction, please contact your State Sponsor.***

Grand Lodge hopes each Local Lodge and State Association has implemented the following CDC guidelines on practical ways to prevent the spread of infection:

1. No shaking hands, hugging, knuckle bumps or high fives.
2. Keep a safe distance from others. Six feet when possible.
3. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
4. No soap? Use hand sanitizer (60–95% alcohol based).
5. Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose, and mouth.
6. Cover your cough or sneeze into the bend of your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
7. Stay home when you are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Encourage others to do the same.

We all need to keep in mind that the health of our Members, spouses, significant others, friends, volunteers and employees is paramount. Let's be vigilant in our efforts to keep one another healthy!

Fraternally and sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Duitsman".

Robert L. Duitsman
Grand Exalted Ruler

CC: Advisory
Endorsed Candidate for GER
Board of Grand Trustees
Grand Forum
Special Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers
GL Committees
District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers
State Associations: Presidents & Secretaries

ER's year-end Message

We have ended the year and begun a new one in what some have called unprecedented times. This is not the case; the United States, and the World, have seen wars, disease, and pandemics before and have fought them, and responded to them, and ultimately survived them.

Recently we have been ordered to take measures to insure the safety of not only ourselves, but our families, and friends. The Governor's Executive Order 20-71 has closed many businesses and gathering spots, which includes our Lodge, for 30 days starting March 17th, 2020. By the time you read this article it is possible there may also be a shelter at home order as well, but I hope it has not come to that.

I am not one to worry too much, and I am certainly one who questions (maybe a little too much), but I hope the "hype" surrounding Covid-19 (Coronavirus) has not panicked you as it has some in our community. Last weekend I went to a store and the shelves were nearly bare. People are hoarding a variety of food and products, including toilet paper! Police were even there because fights had broken out. Being cautious and careful is one thing, however spreading fear to the point of causing a panic resulting in frenzy and hysteria is another. Please don't fall for media hype, but instead prepare reasonably so you're not caught with your pants down. Those at high risk due to compromised immune systems and breathing problems should self quarantine to avoid exposure to the extent possible. However, I believe the rest of us should be fine following basic hygiene principles (like washing hands), staying away from those at risk, and seeking medical attention if you think you may have been exposed. I want to thank all those who have diligently worked to sanitize the Lodge and keep members safe including Paul, Wendy, Courtney, Shannon, Tony, Jessica, Delana, and in particular Trustee Shelagh Gombarcik who has gone above and beyond to keep us safe.

It is my hope the C19 virus will be under control shortly and it will not affect our lives anymore than it has already. As soon as the law allows we will re-open the Lodge to members and help the community. I am confident we will be back to business as usual shortly. Therefore, please keep in mind a community works together and survives together, and to paraphrase Julia Louis-Dreyfus's character from Seinfeld, please "spare a square" for others in your community.

For any Members, LOE, or widows in need during this time I ask you to please contact the Lodge at 813-831-4280 and through Facebook for assistance and we will do our best to respond and help. This may include help picking up and purchasing groceries and cleaning supplies, dropping off meals, or getting you to medical appointments. We'll do our best.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon, and getting back into the normal and hopefully mundane pace of life.

Miles

813-495-2308



On March 3rd, Club Chivalry finally make its annual field trip to the Florida Elks' Youth Camp. In the past, we have been fortunate to spend at least part of the day up in the air, but this year we ran into an insurance problem that grounded the students. It was still a remarkably successful field trip with a lot of team building going on. It was a long day, and I want to thank Betty Orcutt, Dee Cisneros, PER, and Christien Elkins for joining me and our school sponsor, Carolyn Hand, in chaperoning the 41 students that jumped on the bus. Before we departed, we informed the students that there would be no high elements on the rope course, but no student decided they wanted to stay at school. The Ropes course staff did an excellent of of engaging the students; there was some serious team building happening all day long. Before lunch they worked with the entire group of 41 students, after lunch they broke them down into three groups- round robin style. The weather was fantastic, too. This is always one of my favorite trips- the luxury bus with each person getting phone charging outlets makes for a stress-free ride. The snacks were plentiful on both legs of the trip. The meals provided were well received and perfectly planned to accommodate a crowd quickly, and complaints were very few. For the first time, we were the only group at the camp that day. While that made for shorter lines at lunchtime, it also meant that a lot of staff had the day off and were not available to give tours. Overall, it was a successful field trip and accomplished our twin goal of showing off the camp and of building cooperation among the students in the Club. The Club's sponsor, Avid teacher Carolyn Hand, asked me for an application for membership on the way home.

The next week, on March 9th, we had a regular Club meeting. Ms. Hand conducted nominations for officers for next school year. We had a demonstration of our fundraiser for Relay for Life – the horse races! Time passed quickly. Then – schools shut down for spring break, and that was extended for the Convid 19 pandemic.

At this point, our plans for the rest of the year are up in the air. In April we expected to have a Club meeting on April 13th, a senior dinner on April 16th, and the all-important Relay for Life on April 24th. The Relay for Life has definitely been postponed because cancer survivors have poor immune systems. Whether or not schools remained closed is not yet known. This year we only have 13 seniors out of 85 students in Club Chivalry. I can only hope they get to walk across that stage!

Rita Smith

Impact Grant Project Manager



On-Going Calendar



Monday
LET'S GET SOCIAL!

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

MOVIE NIGHT

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
- Connors, 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
- Miller, Scott & Beth 10/20
- 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

Gold Investors \$51-\$99

- Bordonaro, Robert 12/2019
- McLaughlin, Susan & Mark 10/20

Silver Investors \$21-\$50

- James, Howard 3/2019
- Lena L. Farris 9/2019
- Lake, Sandra (Member) 10/20
- Lake, David & Carol 10/20
- Tuttle, Peggy 10/20
- Bertoch, Melissa 10/20

Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20

- Bertoch, Mellissa 2/2019
- Buikema, Douglas & Carol 10/20
- Piser, Carol 10/20

Elks Care - Elks Share



Welcome all to year 2020/2021. The Ladies have a lot of activities planned for the upcoming year. We will be working diligently with the Activities Coordinator so that we have more fund raising events for the whole Lodge. Mainly, we just want to have fun!

Our VP, Susie, will be working with our ER, Chris to ensure that we keep this Lodge hopping. And, with Shannon as HC Chair-person we will have an easy time with our coordinating efforts.

In respect of the covid-19 virus I feel that we should fore-go any events for Easter, whether to Nursing Homes or with the children. Please pray for all who are affected by this terrible virus.

The biggest order of business will be Convention in May. Our plan is to have a Lotto Board and the PopUp jewelry that our PLP, Jacque acquired for the Ladies. Both are great fund raising projects.

Please keep an eye out for events on the Elksize Calendar and Marty's Blasts.

To start April off with a bang we scheduled an Ice Cream social with, a "get to know the Ladies event "for April 4, 2020. I want to have a table setup with flyers and information about the Ladies. Would be nice if we had the Pop Up jewelry there too with several pirate pieces and Angel wings to honor our Lady State President, Adella Ashton.

I hope to see you all at our Ladies meetings which are always the first Wednesdays of each month.

PS, our dues are only \$15.00 a year!

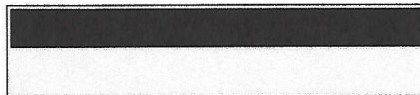
Fraternally yours,
Betty Orcutt
Lady President

LOE
2020-21
Officers

- Betty Orcutt President
- Susie Harlow Vice President
- Bonnie Atwood Secretary
- Laura Jones Treasurer
- Robert Bordonaro Parliamentarian

We kept our calendar blank as nothing is assured during the coming month.

April 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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Elks Tampa 708 size

3616 Gandy Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33611

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAMPA, FL
PERMIT #32



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



Please remember to send any change of address to:
lodge708secretary@outlook.com

In Memory of Tom Stanton - 9/2018
Rebecca Sullins - 2/2019
Debbie Osterbrock - 4/2019
Donna Halsey - 6/2019
Jerry & Patrick Fennell 6/2019
Robert Bordonaro 7/2019
Mrs. Helen Stanton,
Bonnie Atwood - 9/2019
Brenda Stokking and Bob Norton 11/2019
Suhrheinrich, Bob & Candi 4/20



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 Wright-
In 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!

OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS

Friends of 708

**Marty Quire Bonnie Quire Linda Reid Theresa Matthews Bonnie Atwood
Nanette Quire Mr & Mrs Orcutt Sharon Ford Richard Schneider
Christopher Miles Mr & Mrs Suhrheinrich Susie Harlow Steve Harmon
Lisa and Bob Snyder Pat Fennell Bill Deen Candy Venable Chris Ragusa
Mr & Mrs Hilficker Shannon Wheatley Camden Lynn Laura Jones**

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.

