

Volume 2019 Issue 12– March 2020 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



Exalted Ruler's Year-End Message, Dage 4

Saturday, March 7th, 2020

AWARDS NIGHT

Join in recognition of our achievers....

Details on Page 3

Saturday, March 28th, 2020

INSTALLATION

Support our new officers for the 2020-21 Lodge Year Details on Page 3



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 -

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,
Rob Loryea

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

Officer of the Month is Bob Suhrheinrich.

Bob is our Accident Prevention Chairman and I can assure you there isn't a light bulb that's out, a battery back up that's not working, or hazard on the floor that misses his eye. Of course Bob and Candi are active in Lodge Events and Candy (prior Elk of the Month) is our Cuban Sandwich making Queen! Thank you Bob for keeping us safe.



Elk of the Month is Paul Deland.

Of course it'll be no secret to Paul as he's our Elksize Editor and will know before anyone else. Many may not know that years ago our Elksize won the FSEA's Bulletin Competition, and then 1st in the Nation with Paul as Editor. While there is a lot of work that goes into the Elksize, Paul has also helped in major events, comes in for dinners, and attends Lodge meetings regularly. Of course next year he will be an officer and is assisting with bar management. So a big thank you to Paul.



Lodge Bulletin Board



Elks Care - Elks Share

Installation Saturday, March 28th, 2020 6pm

Come and see your Officers for 2020-21 given their Obligations!

Exalted Ruler's Message!

Another year has flown by. I'd like to say it's been easy, but we've lost a number of long time Elks who made major contributions to the Lodge. They are all sorely missed, not just for what they had done for the Lodge, but for the people they were, for the good times we shared, and the knowledge we must wait the rest of our lives in order to share time with them again. Here is "To Our Absent Members".

We've also struggled to keep things running with fewer members attending events, fewer members coming in on a regular basis, and fewer members able to help due to age, injury, time, or desire. Ultimately, while we need volunteers to keep the Lodge charities and its facility functioning, it is of little consequent without our members' patronage to make it all worthwhile.

Fortunately, these challenges have given members a chance to renew their involvement and passion despite their other commitments and responsibilities. Here are some examples. Courtney and Shelagh with the help of Jim, Tommy, Nikki and Wendy have spent countless hours keeping our Bar and Kitchen running smoothly.

Shelbie, Rob, Taylor, Doug and others volunteered to bartend during the slow summer months saving on employee costs.

Shelagh, Tommy, Bob, Betty, Rita, Doug and others have cooked meals throughout the year, and Georgia and Shelagh made panini's to sell on Mondays. Without them we we simply would not have been able to serve food. I also want to thank Bonnie and others for serving the food.

To start the year off Shannon came in on her Birthday with her family to help plate and serve food cooked by Courtney for the Officer Installation, other's helped as well, but it's an example of someone going above and beyond.

Courtney headed up our State Convention Committee last year with major help from Shannon, Paul, Wendy, Nikki, Candi, Jerry, Betty, Susie, and many many others who made it successful and fun.

Shelagh helped organize a group to march in the Tampa Veterans Parade, which was our inaugural year in the parade. The hearts of many veterans were touched.

Sharon, Tommy, and Sue and other ran the Lodges annual Thanksgiving Dinner when Lynn fell ill.

Nikki, Alyssia, Courtney, Taylor, and other's hosted New Year's Eve which was well attended and had great food and music.

Theresa and Frank again chaired the Gasparilla Event with help from almost every officer and a gaggle of members, making it one of the most successful and profitable ever. Courtney, Rita, Patty, their families and others have served the homeless at Hyde Park Presbyterian every month and Thanksgiving.

Jacquie, and others have helped make money with Hall Events, a major source of income.

Marty, Dee, Jerry, and Bill have run our monthly Karaoke Birthday Parties.

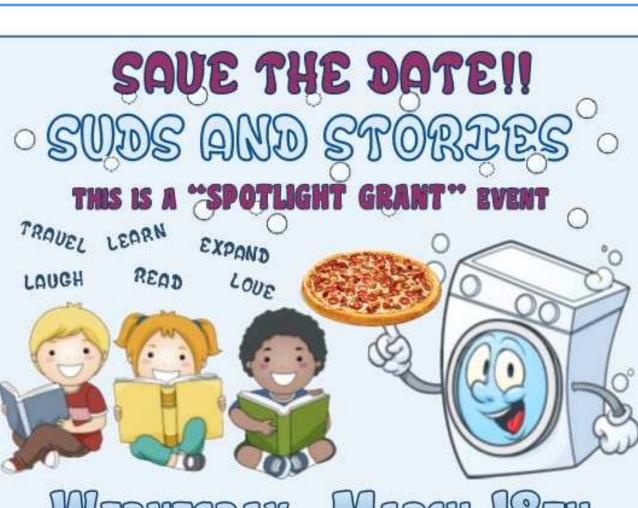
Paul has edited our Elksize, with Bonnie, Rita, Susie, Shelagh, Elma, Sharon, Laura and other helping to fold, tab, label and deliver to the post office for mailing.

And of course Rick and Laura are in the office weekly to take in income, get it in the bank, document everything, and make sure the bills are paid.

I only have so much room in the Elksize so I know I've left out events and failed to name everyone who participated, volunteered, and performs the daily tasks it takes to run our Lodge. But I want to thank you all for making it happen. This month we'll have our Membership Appreciation and Awards Night March 7th (look for the flyer). Please RSVP as soon as possible, it's good food, good fun, good friend, and free for members (nominal charge for significant others), so I look forward seeing you ALL there.

Miles 813-495-2308





WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH 9am to 11:30am & 1pm to 3:30pm

We need Volunteers...

Laundry Assistants, Story Tellers

and Book Distributers.

For more information contact Rita at apwurita@hotmail.com or call Susie Harlow at 813-205-1762

We also need plastic hangers!
Please drop off your hanger donation to the
Lodge in the bin provided.



Calling All

Epicurean Elks...

A Taste of Eastern Europe



Sunday March 29th, 5:00 pm

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

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

House Committee Report

As we come to the close of our Elk year 2019/20 l would like to thank you the membership for your continued support of the lodges social quarters. Without the revenue from this area of the operation we would not be able to sustain our lodge and it's building for the membership to help and give back to our local community.

As I hand over reigns of this committee to a new administration I would like to give you a "State of the House" report if you will: We have tried to bring you new offerings in the beverage area with our draft beer selections to include local craft beers and the domestic favorites. Responding to requests for something other than our house wines, we are carrying some nice varietal wines along with the lighter flavored seltzer's that our so popular. The fresh fruit frozen drinks are always available; check with the bartenders...they take pride in creating a special cocktail for you.

The Kitchen has been a challenge as we try to bring you quality food offerings at reasonable prices with volunteer kitchen help; but our kitchen is clean and Health Dept approved. Stay tuned as we will be trying new concepts and in order for them to be successful will need your support.

As we faced some financial challenges earlier in the year due to the loss from Entertainment income we had to scale back the live music that we where providing on Friday's. We try to provide live music on Fridays at least twice a month; Brad Seigel has been a favorite in the lounge and Kris Pierce when he's available. We will bring you good entertainment but we have to act responsibly with the lodges money and not spend hundreds of \$ on a Band unless we have a room full of people to support them.

Are big screen is part of our entertainment and when it comes to sports we have the largest TV screen in South Tampa; so please come and watch all your sporting activitie at your lodge...bring a friend.

You can look forward to some new events in the coming year while still enjoy the standards like birthday bash with Karaoke, Trivia night, Cooking Club, Movie night.

The Elk members that visit us from other lodges around the country are very complimentary on the appearance of our lounge and dining room area and I hope you agree with them as we take pride in ambiance in the social quarters and to add to that we have updated the breezeway outside with new paint, plants, lighting and furniture. You can sit outside and enjoy the Florida weather ... you can even bring your pooch to the porch; no messes though!

The House Committee members has done an amazing job of running just about everything from cooking to cleaning to setting up and tearing down, organizing activities, fundraising, donating time and treasure, Midyear Convention, NY Eve to name a few and support for the lodge committees. We owe the following members a great deal of gratitude for all the time they have spent helping make 708 a great place to come and share fellowship and enjoy community:

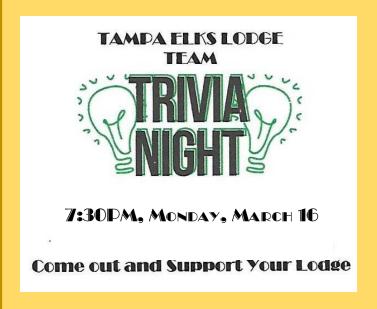
Courtney Weil - Bar Manager, Shannon Wheatley, Wendy Hall, Candy Venable - Calendar Girl,

Jaquie Locicero- Hall Rental, Suzanne Moore and Nikki Murphy THANK YOU!

The lodge social quarters is good but not without it's challenges and as we start a new year with a new House Committee we leave you in good hands that are ready for an exciting 20/21!

So members it's been an honor to have served my lodge and you the members whom I am blessed to be able to say are my friends and I will continue to serve this great organization that is my heart!

Fraternaly, Shelagh Gombarcik PLP. PER House Committee Chair







March 6th-6:30pm

BRING A DISH TO SHARE Come Out and Support Your Lodge







Club Chivalry Field Trip to Orlando Luminaires At Relay for Life 2019

If you see Dee Cisneros, PER, ask him about the field trip he just chaperoned for Club Chivalry. It was an Educational day- and Magical night! Thank you, Dee. for your 15 hours of service! Thank you also to Jacaqui LoCicero, PLP, LP and Shelagh Gombarcik, PLP, PER for helping at last month's Club Meeting.

In the next month we have our most expensive event – the annual field trip to the Florida Elk's Youth Camp to tackle the Ropes Course and do some team building. This is a great opportunity for these students to learn some new skills and self-confidence, and to get used to helping each other succeed. This trip has also proved to be life changing for some kids- last year two students, a freshman and a senior, came home from the field trip and filled out an online application to be a summer counselor. Last month I attended the Ladies reception for the Grand Exalted Ruler's Wife, it was held at the Smith Conference Center at the Florida Elks Youth Camp. One of the servers came up to us after the luncheon to say, "If it wasn't for Club Chivalry, I would not have this job." To my delight, it was Joseph – the Senior from Club Chivalry that became a counselor. He attends St Petersburg Junior College and on most weekends is called to work at the camp. He was also offered a scholarship from the Florida State Elks Association. We really do make a difference in the life of some children.

On March 9th we have a regular Club Chivalry Club Day meeting. *I need an Elk as a guest speaker* -Are you a Robinson Alumni that went on to a great career? Or do you work in an interesting career that you would like to tell the students about? I will also need some extra help during the meeting. In addition to the guest speaker, we will be handing out refreshments and holding raffles, and demonstrating our Horse Races in preparation for next month's Relay 4 Life.

Save the Date! Relay 4 Life of Tampa will be held at Robinson all night on April 24th. If you can't attend, please purchase a luminary to honor a cancer victim you love and to support one of our Club Chivalry Students. They are available at the Lodge for \$10 each. You can choose either one a student designed, or design your own!

Join Us!

Rita Smith,

Impact Grant Project Manager

apwurita@hotmail.com

813-431-3020

365 Club Report -



365 Club

Do you know that the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services has treated over 9000 children? Most Clients get a six month plan. For six months, the child gets a once a week home visit by a therapist which includes therapy and also training for family members to continue the treatment on their own. This is done at no cost to the families, and we receive no insurance or government support, either. I said WE – because the program belongs to all the Elks of Florida. And it is up to all the Elks of Florida to support this great program. Here in Tampa, the painless way to do that is to drop your loose change into one of the little banks on the tables, then pass it around and ask your friends to empty their change out of their pockets or purse, too. It really adds up!

Thanks to Bill and Doris Edwards for turning in full houses. Donna Halsey made her regular large contribution.

Any Tampa Elk is welcome to take one of the houses home to place it where you empty your pockets each night.

Bring it back when it is full with your name in it to be recognized. After all, it's for the kids!

Rita Smith, PLP

LOE MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

3/6 Tommy Moore

3/8 Sandra Brantley

3/13 Debbie Osterbrook

3/13 Ziggy Ziegler

3/16 Steve Harmon

3/26 Frances Salter



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 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





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pancake Breakfast 9a-12 noon	6:30pm House Comm.	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie	4p - Mixmaster Tony behind the bar	Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	6:30-8:30pm Dinner w/Chef Dave	6:30pm - Awards Banquet
	Jessica at Bar & Georgia serving Panini	Niovie	7:30p LOE Gen Mtg. Dinner 6:45p			
8	9	10	1.1	12	13	14
Daylight Savings Time Begins	7:30p - Team Trivia Jessica at Bar	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations	4p - Mixmaster Tony behind the bar 6:00-7:00p Mem.	6:00pm Bingo @ James Haley 9:00am - Election Equip. Delivered		6:00pm - Bday Bash, St. Patty's Day
	& Georgia serving Panini	Movie 7:15p - BOD Mtg.	Comm. Mtg. 7:30p - Lodge Mtg.	Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM		
					Officer Trainir	ng - Orlando
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	6:30pm House Comm. Jessica at Bar & Georgia serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie 7a-7p - Primary Election in Hall	4p - Mixmaster Tony behind the bar 8:30am - Election Equipment picked up	Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	6:30p-8:30p - Dinner w/Chef Dave	
Officer Training		St. Patrick's Day	9a-3:30pm - Spotlight Grant Event			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4:00pm - New Member Orientation LOE Walkathon	Jessica at Bar & Georgia serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie	4p - Mixmaster Tony behind the bar 7:30pm -	Queen is back. Donate by 6:45PM	6:30pm-8:30pm - Dinner w/Vets	6:00pm - Installation of 2020-21 Officers
			Lodge Mtg.			
29	30	31				
5:00pm - Gourmet Club	Jessica at Bar & Georgia serving Panini	5PM Delana's Potluck til food gone. Donations Movie	2 3 9 10		Apr 2020 S M T W T 1 2 5 6 7 8 9 9 12 13 14 15 16 9 19 20 21 22 23 2 26 27 28 29 30	3 4 10 11 17 18



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



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 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!

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.