



LODGE OFFICERS:

EXALTED RULER - Paul DeLand
LEADING KNIGHT - Rita Smith
LOYAL KNIGHT - Paula Rousselle
LECTURING KNIGHT - Suzanne Moore
SECRETARY - Rick Schneider, PER
TREASURER - Laura Jones
ESQUIRE - Melissa Bertoch
INNER GUARD - Edie Hanley
TILER - Richard Florance, PER
CHAPLAIN –Crystal Johnson
5 YEAR TRUSTEE - Wendy Hall
4 YEAR TRUSTEE - Bob Orcutt
3 YEAR TRUSTEE - Tommy Moore
2 YEAR TRUSTEE - Courtney Weil, PER
1 YEAR TRUSTEE - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER

House Committee Chair

Camden Lynn - camdenlynn07@msn.com

House Committee Members:

Wendy Hall, Jacquie LoCicero, George Hilficker
Tommy & Suzanne Moore,

Bar Managers

Courtney Taylor Weil - 813-484-0123
Wendy Hall - 813-500-9433

Hall Event & Rental Chairman:

Jacquie LoCicero - 813-245-6458

Elksize Editor:

Georgia Hilficker
georgiahilficker@gmail.com

Tampa Web Address - Tampaelks.com

Club Hours:

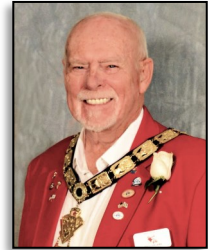
Mon - Thursday 4:00pm - 11:00pm
Friday 4:00pm - 12:00am
Saturday 4:00pm - 11:00pm
Sunday 4:00am - 9:00pm

Lodge Secretary email:

elksecretary708@outlook.com

A Message from Your Exalted Ruler, Paul DeLand

Paul DeLand, Exalted Ruler



FIRST! Thank You, each and every one.....Details elsewhere in this edition of Elksize! Your participation/performance/dedication for the Grand Lodge Convention was no less than phenomenal!

SECOND! Membership growth is going well, however to meet my goal of 100 new members this Lodge year, we will have to remain as active in the next 5 months as we have for the first 5. There are **AWARDS** for bringing in new members...6 have already qualified for them, and at least 20 members have qualified for the GER's Membership Award Certificate, six for the GER Award Pin and one member needs only an added member to receive the Elks Membership Watch! Details on awards in a separate article!

THIRD! In this edition you will see an announcement of great importance as we unveil a redo of our kitchen food production, both in type and methods of providing fine dining for our members/customers! Led by our kitchen leader, Georgia Hilficker, who has put in many hours planning this new kitchen operation...the result will be more people involved, and no one having to "dedicate" their lives to the kitchen. You have already experienced the massive cleaning/re-tooling and set up of the kitchen. Get ready now to enjoy the fruits of Georgia's and several others labors. **HAVE FOOD FROM THE KITCHEN....YOU ARE GONNA LIKE IT!** This will be detailed also elsewhere in this edition.

Finally....can you feel it? The excitement.....? For the first time I can remember, and my memory of the Lodge is coming on 30 years, we have a **POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH** for the year, and it is only 5 months in! Marvelous Job by our members bringing in others to our fellowship, and especially to **PER CHRIS MILES** and his Membership Committee! Keep it up! Remember my Theme matching both State and Grand Lodge Themes.... "I New Member!" every one of us knows at least one person who would enjoy and fit into our Lodge....Bring them in for a visit....great times are **BUCs** game days for food and sports!

Yours in Elkdom, Paul DeLand, ER

Your 2021-22 Committee Chairs

- ◆ Americanism Committee To Be Determined
- ◆ Army of Hope Shannon Wheatley.... .shannonwheatley1@gmail
- ◆ Community Projects & Activities Melissa Bertoch missbertoch@gmail.com
- ◆ Drug Awareness Education Committee.. Tommy Moore..... tommoore4109@gmail.com
- ◆ Elks National Foundation Certificates Bob Suhrheinrich bob.suhrheinrich@gmail.com
- ◆ Elks Training Committee Christine Harris charris709@gmail.com
- ◆ Elks Website & Web Communication..... Marty Quire mquire@tampabar.rr.com
- ◆ Government Relations..... Jake Slater slater51@me.com
- ◆ Harry-Anna Trust Fund Committee Camden Lynn camdenlynn07@msn.com
- ◆ Hoop Shoot Committee Chris Ragusa..... ragustachristopher@gmail.com
- ◆ Interlodge Visitation Committee..... Rita Smith..... apwurita@hotmail.com
- ◆ Ladies Of The Elks Jacquie LoCicero..... pjlocicero@gmail.com
- ◆ Lodge Activities Committee To Be Determined
- ◆ Membership Committee..... Christopher Miles..... .legalmiles@gmail.com
- ◆ Orientation Committee..... Camden Lynn camdenlynn07@msn.com
- ◆ Co-Chair Shelagh Gombarcik shelaghg1@yahoo.com
- ◆ Public Relation Committee To Be Determined
- ◆ Ritual Committee..... Frank Palladini PSP, GERES..... fjpay56@yahoo.com
- ◆ Scholarship Chairman Rita Smith..... apwurita@hotmail.com
- ◆ Soccer Shoot Committee To Be Determined
- ◆ Sports Committee..... To Be Determined
- ◆ Veterans’ Service Committee..... Kristie Mathews fanoftampa@hotmail.com
- ◆ Youth activities Committee Patty & Mike Volpe..... pattyandmrfox@gmail.com

Gellila Asmamaw

**2021 Most Valuable Student
\$50,000 Scholarship Winner**



The 2022 scholarship contest is underway!
visit erf.dks.org/MVS
To apply before the November 15th deadline.

Welcome Our Newest Elk Members



April Holzman
Sponsored By
Jacquie LoCiccero



Donna Turuc
Sponsored By
Candi Suhrheinrich



George Ruffino
Sponsored By
Anton Kozowski
of Yorktown Elks #2324



Jacob Frost
Sponsored By
Jacob Wszelaki
of Cocoa Beach Elks #2387



Jane Lawler
Sponsored By
Marcy Courier



Jason Brown
Sponsored By
Rick Schneider



Ray Hendricks
Sponsored By
Rick Schneider



Michael Diblasi
Sponsored By
Paula Rousselle



Allissa Diblasi
Sponsored By
Paula Rousselle

September Elk Recognitions

ELK OF THE MONTH...LAURA JONES

This month's Elk of The Month is Laura Jones. Long a stalwart in the Lodge, and often an officer, Laura this time stepped up during her "year off" and when our Co-Bar Managers Wendy Hall and Courtney Weil were out ill she took charge of banks, and providing a continuing operation in their absence. Then we found ourselves without a Treasurer and she immediately stepped in and took charge until we could elect a new Treasurer for the balance of this Lodge year. She has always been there when needed. Now she moves back into the job at Treasurer, but is recognized this month for a ton of volunteer work through our difficult times. Congratulations Laura on many jobs well done!



OFFICER OF THE MONTH...MELISSA BERTOCH

When I was elected ER one of the first to come to me and volunteer for a position was Melissa Bertoch. Now she has done a great job as Esquire, and during our exciting, demanding time for the GL Convention she came forth and spent many hours greeting visitors at the door and announcing them to the Lodge...a very popular move that was commented upon by many as they came to the Lodge. Not one to stop there, Melissa is also a hard worker in difficult times. She organized and did a large portion of the work in patching our parking area with fresh asphalt. Temps in the 90s, and heavy buckets of material did not slow her. It is a great example she (and her trusty assistant Edie Hanley) set for all members! Thanks Melissa for a job well done!



Supporting Reports



Ladies of the Elks:

As we finish the first half of our year, I thought we should **reflect** upon all we have **accomplished**. What have we done, well **buckle up** and enjoy this ride down memory lane.

Our year started out with a **bang!** **April** brought us one of our most successful Walk A Thon's to benefit Children's Therapy Services. **May** started out with the **LOE's Annual Kentucky Derby Horse Race**. Next up, can you say **PIRATE POP UP Jewelry Shop!** The month ended with the **LOE** supporting the Elks State Convention in Orlando.

Your **LOE** was integral in helping support our lodge's efforts to bring the **PRIATE SPRIT** to the state level. Here comes **June** and the **LOE** is still going strong. Father's Day was an afternoon to remember. Not only did we picnic with fellow lodge members, we also invited the **Boy Scouts** who participated in **Flag Day** to join us. Don't even talk to us about **July!** Tampa 708 **KNOCKED** it out of the park with our nine day **PIRATE FEST**. The **LOE** very successfully participated in the lodge's **Pirate Market**. Then came the **LOW COUNTRY BOIL**. Good food, good music and great friends getting together for a wonderful time. **August** has been quiet, we needed to catch our breath. But don't fret, the Ladies have events and happenings planned.

What did all this fun add up to? The **LOE** remodeled the ladies and men's bathrooms, repaired the fireplace in the Ladies bathroom, donated to the kitchen renovation, restriping the parking lot (a near future project) and much more.

Without the support of all our lodge members, YOUR **LOE** would not be able accomplish all that we have so far. We intend to keep going and support our lodge in the best ways we can.

September Birthdays Laura Jones 9/11

Executive Board

Jacque LoCicero - President
Shelagh Gombareik - Vice President
Bonnie Atwood- Secretary
Laura Jones - Treasurer
Suzanne Moore - Chaplin
Robert Bordonaro - Parliamentarian

Grant Reports

Club Chivalry News

It is time to register as a volunteer for the 2021-2022 school year.

Even though volunteers were not allowed on campus for the first 30 days of the school year, The Club Fair Day was held on Friday August 20th, and our Club Officers did the recruiting themselves. We limited the Club to 80 members this year, which is twice what we had last year.

This is the link to the volunteer applications:

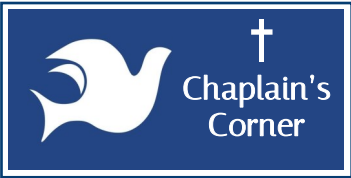
[Volunteer Services / Overview \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/volunteer-services/overview) Under type of volunteer, please choose community member. If, after completing the first couple of pages you get an error message saying you are already a volunteer – you can stop. Approved volunteers from last year's contracted out system – safe visitors – are already approved for this year. The barcode program is not supported this year, but always bring your ID.

Things can change quickly at the local schools, so make sure you are receiving the Tampa Elks email blasts by sending a request to be added to the list to our website and communication guru - Marty Quire. His email is mquire@tampabay.rr.com. By you initiating the contact, his email blasts are less likely to go to your junk file. Rita Smith, Leading Knight and Grant Chairman



THE BEACON GRANT AT WORK

This year's Beacon Grant is being organized by Shannon Wheatly. She is spearheading a morning at Camp Idlewild of Florida on Sept, 18th that includes a water safety class at 9:30am and a BBQ sponsored by the Elks at 11:30am. For more information contact Shannon Wheatly at 1-727-772-3446.



"Pride is concerned with who is right. Humility is concerned with what is right." Ezra Benson

Progress always counts, even when nobody congratulates you.
 "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." Proverbs 11:2

Spotlight Grant Report

Christmas in August

Stepping Stone Community Center



This year's Spotlight Grant was again able to be used for pandemic relief, so naturally we turned to Stepping Stone Community Center. This organization serves families in real need in one of the most economically depressed areas of Tampa. Under the lead of Christina Sanchez, we made a serious impact on 40 students and their families.

For starters, each child was given a pair of name brand shoes and some name brand socks, too. Since Christina is involved with this community center on a regular basis, and knows the children, she was able to get their shoe size and took notes about their preferences, making shopping an adventure. Along with her mom, Trustee Courtney Weil PER, she fought the Back-to-School traffic on Sunday, August 1st during the no tax week at Westshore Mall. Boy, did they come out with incredible bargains! The pair then returned to the Lodge and with the help of a few members that just happened to be there, and gift wrapped and tagged all 40 pairs of shoes. Meanwhile, Leading Knight Rita Smith was tasked with purchasing 40 small toys or gifts with only \$200 to work with. A donation from Jack Johnson brought that part of the project in under budget.

Then, on August 4th, Courtney and her father, affectionately known at the Lodge as Whiz, did the major food shopping necessary to fulfill the third part of the project. - two full meals for each family. The food was prepared the morning of the August 6th party, then everything was loaded and transported from the Lodge to the Community Center. We filled 5 large vehicles!

During the Christmas in August party from 4pm-6pm, a hot lasagna dinner was dished up for each family member. Additionally, each family was given a meatloaf dinner to take home and warm on another night. Also during the party, the students played a game in which they each won a bag of snacks, tried on their shoes and socks, chose their gift from the Santa workshop table, and picked out toiletries from the large assortment we provided. A couple of the older kids even composed a Christmas song. Tampa Elks helping at the party, besides Christina and Courtney, were Leading Knight, Rita Smith, Trustee, Shelagh Gombarcik PER, Lodge youth Activity Chair Patty Volpe, Whiz, and Jan Bertoch.





WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT



On August 1st Tampa Elks Lodge 708 held what is known as a VP Visit. The Dunedin-Clearwater Lodge Officers were co-hosts, so we scrapped our normal Pirate theme and went with Champa Bay to be more inclusive.

The room was set up and decorated in advance by Shelagh Gombarcik PER and Sue Moore, with some last minute help from Bonnie Atwood and Melissa Bertoch. The Florida State Elks Association (FSEA) Vice President for the West Central Florida District is Tom Moran, a PER from the New Port Richey Lodge. Tom is following last year's VP program of only having 4 VP visits instead of 8 as in years past. All District Lodge Officers are expected to attend all VP Visits, which is where information about the State President's program and the FSEA is disseminated.

Attendance was light, though we had expected 80-100 people, we had only about 70. The format remains mostly the same. It starts with a social hour as guests arrive. You are met at the door with an invitation to participate in various fund raisers, and to purchase the meal being offered for \$5.00.

Thank you to Sue Moore, Jackie Apple, Melissa Bertoch. Edie Hanley, and Shelagh Gombarcik, PER for working the door. Lodges bring their own appetizers, with the host Lodge providing for the head table. Because August 1st was National Watermelon Day, we had a slice of watermelon at every seat as the guests arrived.

The program starts with the introduction of the head table and dignitaries by one of the West Central District leaders, then finally the VP takes the microphone to introduce his program. This time he introduced our own PER and DDGER, Theresa Seibert. Theresa spoke about how the district had exemplified the President's motto. "Teamwork makes Elkdom Shine." She also outlined some of the FSEA charitable programs like scholarships and the beloved Beacon Grant Match. Following her speech, both Tampa and Dunedin's ER introduced their officers that were present, and then came the traditional roll call of Lodges. Each Lodge is called upon to announce how many officers, members and guests are in attendance. A few announcements are made, thank you gifts are offered to the wife of the VP by the LOE, and dinner is served.

In keeping with our theme, we offered served pulled pork or chicken sliders, coleslaw and Shannon's macaroni and cheese. Dessert was a chocolate chip brownie. Our Club Chivalry students did the serving, Jan Bertoch and Tommy Moore helped me in the kitchen, and a third of the 22 Elks in attendance stepped up to help plate the meal, which only took about 15 minutes. Following the meal, participants are free to leave which allows them to get back home before dark. Rumor has it the visit was a success, though it was not a fundraiser by any account.

Last Month's Festivities & Events

Another summer gone and they are all...



On August 3rd Tampa Elks 708 had the assistance of two community partners, MGM Charity Partners and Happy's Home Furnishings, when they threw a back-to-school party for area children in need. Over 20 volunteers arrived at 5:00 to unpack and set up the school supplies and food, and then to pack the bags with the appropriate supplies for each child based on their school and grade. 63 students came with a parent.

Upon arrival they each received a bag full of material from the Elk's Drug Awareness program, and a fruit snack. Promptly at 6:00 the spaghetti dinner was served to all the children, parents, and volunteers present. During dinner we had 4 different people take the microphone: Tampa Elks; PER Shelagh Gombarcik welcomed all to the Lodge and led the crowd in a prayer. Woogie Bajgier from MGM charity partners explained that the focus of their charity is children and Veterans, same as the Elks. Tampa Elks member Roshaun Gendrett, a professional motivational speaker, encouraged the children present to have their best school year ever by doing just 3 things: "Do your best," "Do the right thing," and "Don't give up." Next a gentleman from Happy's Home Centers spoke about their company's commitment to the families of South Tampa.

After the speakers had finished, and the dinner plates had been removed, each student obtained their personalized bag of school supplies and went to the MGM table to pick out a box of cereal, a box of pop tarts, and 10 snack items. They then went to the Happy's Home Furnishings table to pick up a drawstring backpack, tee shirt, and more supplies.

Tampa Elks youth activities chairmen Mike and Patty Volpe then led the children in playing three physically active games that could be played beside their seat. All the children took turns at the prize table, where they were able to choose additional school supplies, snacks, and even some small toys. By the party's end at 8:00, each child left with at least 3 very full bags of items to make going back to school more successful.

Thank you to each of the volunteers, whether from MGM, Happy's, Tampa Elks Lodge or a friend of a friend. Many hands make light work. The back room was cleaned up and everybody on their way in record time!

Article Submitted by Rita Smith, Leading Knight



Last Month's Festivities & Events

Hope you had as much fun as I did at the **LADIES OF THE ELKS LOW COUNTRY BOIL**

*We came together for good food,
good music and great friendships.*



On Friday, July 30th the LOE hosted their annual LOE Country Boil. After lots of hard work and planning it finally came together in great fashion. The night started off with a stop to check in with Georgia Hilficker, she made sure all was good with our reservations. A big shout out to the volunteers from Club Chilvery, they kept order to our crazy. Next up was our ambassador of happiness, Sue Moore. No one can sell a 50/50 raffle like she can. The kitchen was in tip top order with Joe LoCicero and Tommy Moore in the kitchen, what could go wrong. Rounding out the event was Shelagh Gombarcik, making sure we all stayed on task. Thank you to all who helped make this Low Country Boil a success. Without your support your LOE would not be able to do all it does. *Jacque Lo Cicero, LOE President*



Upcoming Events and Projects

Save the Date and
Don't be Afraid to Join us for a
HALLOWEEN PARTY

Hosted by: Paula Rousselle, Julie Wooley, & Efi Ruffolo with
a Ghostly Group of Others
October 30th, at 7:30pm



Upcoming Events and Projects



LET'S DO FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AT THE LODGE

SEPTEMBER 3RD

**CHICKEN
FRIED
STEAK**



WITH MASHED POTATOES,
PEAS AND CARROTS AND A
DINNER ROLL...INCLUDES
WHITE BEAN & HAM SOUP

\$12.00 TAX INCLUDED

SIGN UP AT TAMPAELKS.COM OR ON
THE LODGE BULLETIN BOARD BY THURSDAY
NIGHT TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL

SEPTEMBER 10TH

**SLOW
COOKED
BBQ
RIBS**



WITH BAKED POTATO,
CORN ON THE COB AND
GARLIC BREAD...INCLUDES
BROCCOLI CHEESE SOUP

\$15.00 TAX INCLUDED

SIGN UP AT TAMPAELKS.COM OR
ON LODGE BULLETIN BY THURSDAY
TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL.

SEPTEMBER 17TH

**SMOTHERED
PORK CHOP
W/ONION
GRAVY**



WITH MASHED POTATOES AND
FRESH GREEN BEANS WITH A
DINNER ROLL...INCLUDES
SPLIT PEA SOUP

\$13.00 TAX INCLUDED

SIGN UP AT TAMPAELKS.COM OR
ON LODGE BULLETIN BOARD BY THURSDAY
TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL.

SEPTEMBER 24TH

**FRIED
CHICKEN
FAMILY FAVORITE**



WITH MAC & CHEESE,
COLE SLAW AND A HOMEMADE
BISCUIT...INCLUDES
VEGETABLE SOUP

\$11.00 TAX INCLUDED

SIGN UP AT TAMPAELKS.COM OR
ON LODGE BULLETIN BOARD BY THURSDAY
TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL.

DINNER SERVED FROM 6:30PM TO 8:30PM - DESSERTS (WHEN AVAILABLE) ARE EXTRA - PIZZAS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE \$10

GRAND OPENING THURSDAY SEPT. 2ND

PARTY WITH THE "QUEEN" THURSDAY NIGHTS



Sept 2nd - Reuben Panini with White Bean and Ham Soup



Sept 9th - Pressed Mojo Pork Sandwich w/grilled onions

& Swiss Cheese served with Spanish Bean Soup



Sept 16th - Tuna Melt with Portabella Cream of Mushroom Soup



Sept 23rd - Grill Night with Shelagh - Burgers and More



Sept 30th - Pressed Cuban Sandwich with Black Bean Soup

(All soups are made from scratch by Georgia)



Sandwich and Soup \$9.50 - Grill Night Separate Menu - Pizza \$9.00



Upcoming Events and Projects



What is Army of Hope and why is it important?

Since its inception, Army of Hope has raised over \$600,000 and distributed over \$500,000 for families of deployed military members. The help you give through the Florida Elks' Army of Hope allows the military members to safely concentrate on their duties without worrying about their families at home. The Army of Hope also assists returning veterans with costs to re-establish their civilian life after deployment.

Examples of assistance include:

School lunches, Medical and dental emergencies not covered by insurance, , Minor home repairs (plumbing, painting, etc.), Auto repairs or transportation when needed, Lawn mowing, landscaping, A/C and major appliance repairs, Clothing and shoes. The families of Florida active-duty military personnel, military reservists, Coast Guard, National Guard and/or their dependents are eligible. Active-duty members stationed in Florida with their dependents qualify as Florida residents.

Save the Date

October 24, 2021

Elktoberfest Fundraiser
1:00pm - 4:00pm
810 16th Avenue SE
Largo, FL 33771

Volunteer

We need you!

Whether it's set up, activities or take down, we have a place for you to give us a hand at our annual event or other events we do!

Donate

Make a difference

You can still help by donating! Reach out to Shannon Wheatley for more information on how to donate.



727-772-3446



shannon.wheatley1@gmail.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE'S

Pasta on the 3rd

JOIN YOUR HOUSE COMMITTEE
FOR A PASTA DISH ON THE
3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.
PASTA STARTS SERVING @ 6:30PM

July 21st

Italian Sausage Penne Pasta

August 18th

Pasta Bolognese

September 22nd

Puttanesca

Your pasta dish is free to members.

Donations GLADLY accepted.

ETHNIC NIGHT

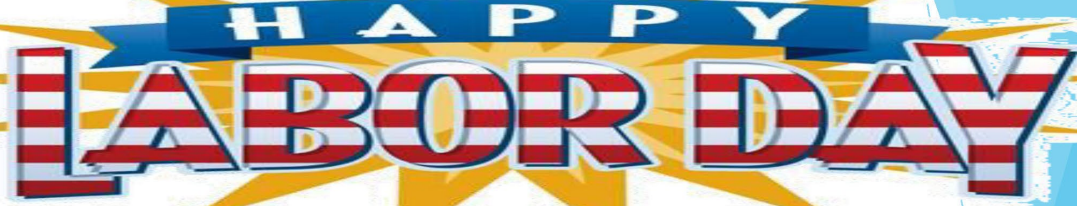
Join us
Sept 28, 2021
California Fare at

*Ciccio's
Water & Flour*

1015 S. Howard Ave.
Carpool from Lodge at 6pm
or meet at 6:30pm
Please RSVP (Text or Dial)
813-410-1873



Upcoming Events and Projects



**HAPPY
LABOR DAY**

ITS TIME TO HONOR THOSE WHO MAKE OUR COUNTRY RUN AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO DO IT THAN CELEBRATING AT TAMPA ELKS #708.

Early Bird Bar Bingo @ 5:30pm

4-5 games, \$1 Donation per card, **Winner Takes ALL**
(Regular Bar Bingo to begin @ 6:30pm)

Italian Sausage/Hamburgers @ 5:00pm

with sides, chips & dessert \$7

Drink Specials @ 5:00pm

Something cold, maybe something frozen, drinks will be amazing



Ladies of the Elks offer us a
...Sunday Afternoon...

2021 Fashion Show

Presented by: Resort Fashions by Tiffany

October 17th - 2pm

\$15.00 includes a

High Tea Luncheon

Tickets may be purchased from Shelagh Gombarcik, PER or Jackie LoCicero, LOE President

Upcoming Events and Projects



TOURNAMENT

JOIN US FOR A HOT NIGHT OF GAMING AND GREAT FOOD

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
6PM COCKTAILS - 6:30PM BUFFET DINNER
7:30PM GAME TABLES OPEN

\$30.00 WILL GET YOU
\$1000.00 IN ELK DOLLARS AND

A BUFFET DINNER BY GEORGIA:

SHRIMP COCKTAIL OR ESCARGOT APPETIZER (SERVED TO YOUR TABLE)
SPINACH SALAD, CARVING STATION W/GRILLED BEEF AND PORK
TENDERLOIN, LOADED MASHED POTATOES, ROASTED VEGGIES
AND YEAST ROLLS - DESSERT TBD

TROPHY FULL OF GAMING TICKETS TO THE WINNER!

SIGN-UP REQUIRED AND CAN BE DONE REMOTELY ON OUR
WEB SITE - TAMPAELKS.COM OR ON THE LODGE BULLETIN BOARD
DEADLINE FOR SIGN-UP FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH.

ANY QUESTIONS CALL OR TEXT GEORGIA AT 813-294-6200

EMAIL: georgiahilficker@gmail.com

Lodge Business and Projects

KITCHEN MAKEOVER!

This past month, Georgia Hilficker along with the many dedicated Elks that give hours to the kitchen, and with the financial support from the LOE, and you, the membership, put together a plan to deep clean, paint, and renovate the kitchen.



Here's a list of just some of the work that has been completed:

- Painted/Repaired all drywall.
- Removed the chipped paint, and repainted the shelving.
- Removed wire racks at work table and installed new cabinetry.
- Cleaned the melamine walls around dish washing station.
- Cleaned ceiling fans and replaced damaged ceiling tiles.
- Cleaned, painted and repaired drawers.
- Pulled out gas appliances and clean floor and wall behind them.
- Cleaned and painted the area around handwashing sink and bucket station.
- Repaired wire rack by steam table.
- Repaired malfunctioning appliances; sanitizing machine, 2 gas ovens and large griddle.
- Installed a new electrical outlet at work table.
- Reorganized, cleaned and painted pantry
- Cleaned and reorganized freezers and walk-in cooler.
- Replaced some of the old cookware and utensils.
- Repositioning the chest freezer and installed refrigerator in pantry.
- Cleaned all appliances and washed all dishes, bakeware and serving equipment.

We also put together a new food service program for the Lodge that we hope you will enjoy.

You will find menus and pricing on page 9 of this edition.

We are Sold Out!!

In the past you may have attempted to support the Lodge by coming in for a Friday dinner, only to find we were sold out. This is a frustrating situation for our members and the volunteers in the kitchen.

The problem is simple...one week we serve 30 meal and the next only 10. The waste is overwhelming and in order to glean any profit there must be some compromise. The best alternative for everyone concerned is to reserve your meal. This will guarantee you are served and your kitchen doesn't need to worry about over buying. *(Be assured that we will always make a few extra meals, but if you don't sign-up please understand that we may be sold out.)*

For your convenience you can now reserve your meals remotely on the 708 website (tampaelk.com). You may also sign-up on the Lodge bulletin board. Deadline for signing up is Thursday night.

Thank you so much for your patience and support.

Hope to see you at dinner!

Lodge Business and Projects

SEPTEMBER TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS SCHEDULE

Season opener - Cowboys at Buccaneers. Thursday, 9/9 @ 8:20. Come in before 6:45 to play Queen of Hearts, stay for the game. Kitchen open 5:30-7:30. Pizza available all night. *Free Fried Ice Cream available at halftime.*

Sunday 9/19 @ 4:45 - First Division Game - Falcons @ Buccaneers. Tailgate at halftime by Rita Smith, Leading Knight. - Donations accepted. If we are playing the birds expect chicken.

Sunday 9/26 @ 4:45 - Buccaneers at LA Rams - Tailgate at halftime by Paul Deland, ER. Details available soon.

**Come in and enjoy the action on our 150 inch TV. Watch the season begin!
Best Air Conditioned Seats in Champa Bay!**

A SINCERE THANK YOU FROM OUR VP

Re: Vice President Visit, August 1, 2021

On behalf of State President Suzi Simonelli, the Florida Elks Association Officers, and myself, I wish to thank you for the warm welcome extended to my wife and me on our visit to your Lodge. The Lodge decorations were beautiful and made our afternoon more enjoyable. Cindy and I thank you for the gift basket that was presented to us. She has been reading and studying the Recipe Book since we got home. The gift was a lovely surprise and very much appreciated.

The warm hospitality that we experienced at your Lodge makes our District stronger than ever. Please extend my compliments and appreciation to the kitchen crew who worked so hard to prepare the dinner. The food was outstanding and all the members in attendance made our afternoon even more enjoyable.

Please thank the members and their spouses of your Lodge for an afternoon that was enjoyed and will be long remembered.

Thank you for your dedication to the WCD Elks and together let's support State President Suzie Simonelli's Message – "Teamwork makes Elkdom Shine".

Fraternally,

Tom Moran



SEPTEMBER LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 1st - LOE Meeting 7pm - Dinner 6:15pm
- 7th -Board of Directors Meeting 7:15pm
- 8th - Member Committee Meeting 6pm
- 8th- Elks General Meeting 7:30pm
- 21st - House Committee Meeting 6:30pm
- 22nd -Elks General Meeting 7:30pm
- 22nd - New Member Orientation 4pm
- 22nd - New Member Initiation 5pm

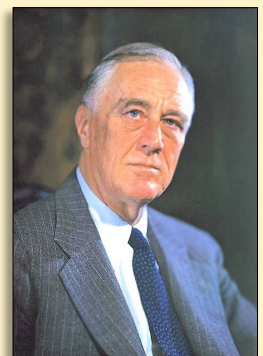
Honoring Departed Elks

Franklin D. Roosevelt

1882 to 1945

**United States President
1933 to 1945**

**Poughkeepsie,
New York
Lodge #275**



Tampa Elks Lodge #708

SEPTEMBER 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| | | | 1 LOE GENERAL MEETING 7PM LOE DINNER 6:15PM  | 2 REUBEN PANINI W/WHITE BEAN & HAM SOUP \$9.50  REVERSE DRAWING RESULTS TONIGHT  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM | 3 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER HOMEMADE WHITE BEAN SOUP COUNTRY FRIED STEAK MASHED POTATOES PEAS & CARROTS \$12.00 SEE PAGE 9 | 4 |
| 5 | 6  Italian Sausage/Hamburgers and sides \$7.00 see pg 11 for details  6:30PM \$3 DONATION | 7  7:15PM BOD MEETING | 8 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING 6PM  7:30PM GENERAL MEETING | 9 PRESSED MOJO PORK W/ GRILLED ONIONS & SWISS ON CUBAN BREAD AND SPANISH BEAN SOUP \$9.50  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM 8:10 pm *Fried Ice Cream at Half Time Bucs v/ Dallas Cowboys | 10 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER HOMEMADE SHRIMP BISQUE BBQ SPARE RIBS BAKED POTATO CORN ON THE COB COLE SLAW \$15.00 SEE PAGE 9 | 11  Vice President's Visit New Port Richey/ Tarpon Springs at New Port Richey 6pm PATRIOT'S DAY |
| 12 | 13 CHOOSE FROM ASSORTED PANINIS AND PIZZAS  6:30PM \$3 DONATION | 14 | 15  PASTA DINNER 6:30pm to 8PM Puttanesca | 16 TUNA MELT PORTABELLA CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP \$9.50  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM | 17 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER HOMEMADE SPILT PEA SMOTHERED PORK CHOP MASHED POTATOES FRESH GREEN BEANS \$15.00 SEE PAGE 9 | 18  President's Visit at New Port Richey 6pm Our Beacon Grant is Sponsoring a morning at Camp Idlewild of FL 9:30am See pg 4 |
| 19  Halftime Tailgate 4.05 pm Bucs v/ Atlanta Falcons | 20 CHOOSE FROM ASSORTED PANINIS AND PIZZAS  6:30PM \$3 DONATION | 21  HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM | 22  7:30PM GENERAL MEETING | 23 SHELAGH'S GRILL NIGHT BURGERS AND MORE  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM | 24 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER VEGETABLE SOUP FRIED CHICKEN MAC & CHEESE & COLE SLAW. BISCUIT \$11.00 SEE PAGE 9 | 25 |
| 26  Quarter Auction Fundraiser for WCD endorsed UP Tom Moran  Halftime Tailgate by the ER 4:45 pm Bucs v/ LA Rams | 27 CHOOSE FROM ASSORTED PANINIS AND PIZZAS  6:30PM \$3 DONATION | 28 | 29 NEW MEMBER ORENITATION 6PM NEW MEMBER INITIATION 7PM 6PM | 30 PRESSED CUBAN SANDWICH WITH BLACK BEAN SOUP \$9.50  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM | | |

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:
elksecretery708@outlook.com

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

\$10.00 a year defers some of the publication cost, allowing us to direct more of our income to the charities & organizations we support.

In memory of John F. Morris - 3/2021
Jerrye, Patrick & Cheryl Fennel - 6/2021
Pat & Mariyln Fennel - 6/2021
Donna Halsey - 6/2021
Frances Aberle - 8/2021



Shannon Wheatley - 6/2022
Robert Bordanero - 7/2022
South Tampa Chamber of Commerce - 2/2023
Vera Wright -
In Memory of Harold Wright - 6/2023

Friends of 708

OUR CURRENT MONTHLY SUPPORTERS

*Marty Quire - Linda & Jerry Reid - Theresa Seibert - Carl Seibert - Bonnie Atwood - Nanette Quire
Mr & Mrs Moore - Mr & Mrs Orcutt - Sharon Ford - Mr & Mrs Schneider - Christopher Miles
Mr & Mrs Suhrheinrich - Susie Harlow - Steve Harmon - Lisa Snyder - Julie Wooley
Paula Rousselle - Candy Venable - Chris Ragusa - Mr & Mrs Hilficker - Crystal Johnson
Shannon Wheatley - Laura Jones - Ladies of the Elks 708*

OUR CURRENT ANNUAL SUPPORTERS

*H. Smith - S. Washington - R. Florance - S. Owens - S. Wheatley - K. Higgins - L. Snyder
J. Megular - M. Flowers - J. Slater - E. Clark - R. Reiselt - L. Jones - V. Bihoral - A. DeQuesada
F. Williams - E. Smith - B. Atwood - J. Wooley - V. Thomas - Mr & Mrs Volpe*

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.