



## **LODGE OFFICERS:**

**EXALTED RULER** - Rita Smith  
**LEADING KNIGHT** - Camden Lynn  
**LOYAL KNIGHT** - Paula Rousselle  
**LECTURING KNIGHT** - Edie Hanley  
**SECRETARY** - Laura Jones  
**TREASURER** - Christopher Miles, PER  
**ESQUIRE** - Melissa Bertoch  
**INNER GUARD** - Kara Stout  
**TILER** - Richard Florance, PER  
**CHAPLAIN** –Crystal Johnson  
**1 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Courtney Weil, PER  
**2 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Tommy Moore  
**3 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Bob Orcutt  
**4 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Wendy Hall  
**5 YEAR TRUSTEE** - Doug Grant

## **House Committee Chair**

George Hilficker - georgehilficker@gmail.com

**House Committee Members:** Wendy Hall, Jacquie LoCicero, April Holtzman, Bonnie Atwood, Daniel Armentrout, and Rodney Kayton

## **BAR LEAD & INVENTORY CONTROL**

Dee Cisneros, PER

## **KITCHEN MANAGER**

Georgia Hilficker

## **Hall Event & Rental Chairman:**

Jacquie LoCicero (tampa708rentals@yahoo.com)  
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  
"Open Early for Bucs Games"

**Lodge Secretary email:**  
tampa708secretary@outlook.com

## **A Message from your Exalted Ruler, Rita Smith**



This month we really need to get moving on the Community Investment Grants. This is money that we apply for from Grand Lodge in Chicago to use for helping our community in Tampa. The most successful grants are when we join hands with a community partner. Besides our well-known work with Club Chivalry and our Veteran Activities, we have had successful grants when partnered with the Busanski Senior Center, The Centre 4 Girls, Stepping - Stone Community Center, Coleman Middle School, SE Guide Dogs, Open Arms Ministry, Bridgeprep K-8 Charter School, Black Dagger Military Hunt Club, and even the Humane Society.

The grants are meant to be used for actively serving your community – not just writing a check. As Jim O'Kelly, the head of The Elk's National Foundation that issues the grants says, "Our grants come with volunteers!"

So I am asking – what is YOUR passion? Do you do hands on volunteering with an organization that could use more volunteers? Have you given small checks to a local charity for years and always wished you could do more? From a one-time event to a series of project days, we have grants that need ideas.

Almost any 501C3 charitable organization can be considered as a partner. Talk to me! Personally, I prefer the Elks be the Big Fish in the Small Pond, but as you can see from the above list, we are flexible.

Look for me at the Lodge, or drop me an email to arrange coffee. Let's do some good in the neighborhood!

In Your Service,  
Rita Smith

## Your 2022-23 Committees

Americanism - Richard Florance, PER (rhflorancel0@gmail.com) Chairman

Army of Hope - Daniel Armentrout, Chairman (Odannyboy@aol.com)

Auditing Committee - Melissa Bertoch, Chair (missbertoch@gmail.com)

Robert Bordonaro, Sue Dortch

Communications Commando - Theresa Siebert, PER (Tampaelkads@gmail.com)

Community Activities - Melissa Bertoch (Missbertoch@gmail.com)

Drug Awareness - Jason Brown (CFdad1205@gmail.com)

ENF Fundraising - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER (Shelaghgl@yahoo.com)

ENF Scholarships - Rick Schneider, PER (broric708@aol.com)

Elks Training - Crystal Johnson (palamino79@yahoo.com)

Government Relations - Laura Jones (Tampa708Secretary@outlook.com)

Harry Anna - Edie Hanley(ehanley73@tampabay.rr.com)

Hoop Shoot - Melissa Evener (mevener85@yahoo.com)

Interlodge Visitation - Richelle Nickle (rin0730@gmail.com)

Lodge Activities - Rita Smith, ER (apwurita@hotmail.com)

LOE Liaison - Jacquie LoCicero (Pjlocicero@yahoo.com)

Orientation - Laura Jones (tampasecretary708@outloo.com)

Soccer Shoot - Mike Volpe (mvolpe1980@gmail.com)

& Christien Elkins (christienelkins97@yahoo.com)

Sports - Camden Lynn (Camdenlynn07@msn.com)

Veteran's Services - Jose Remon (joseremon@gmail.com)

Youth Activities - Patty Volpe (Pattyandmrfox@gmail.com)

# TAMPA 708 GOES WEST



**ON SUNDAY AUGUST 28TH AT 2PM**

**OUR LODGE WILL HOST THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT**

**AND YOU ARE INVITED TO MEET AND WELCOME**

**SONJA LOPEZ, PER**

**OUR REGIONAL VP WITH A WESTERN STYLE DINNER.**

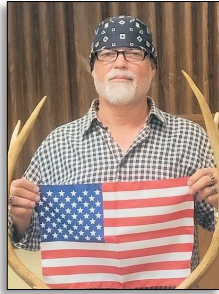
**COME IN YOUR WESTERN GARB AND WITH \$5 FOR THE DINNER**

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND THE 708 SPIRIT!**

**COCKTAIL HOUR 2PM - MEETING AT 3PM - DINNER AT 4PM**

**OFFICERS TO ARRIVE AT 12:30PM**

# Welcome Our Newest Elk Members



**Anthony Tom**  
Sponsored by  
Paul DeLand



**Kim Benzing**  
Sponsored by  
Laura Jones



**Mike Stirers**  
Sponsored by  
Alan Ecke



**Norm Benzing**  
Sponsored by  
Laura Jones



**Phillip Farley**  
Sponsored by  
Tracy Horrell



**Stacey Farley**  
Sponsored by  
Tracy Horrell

# August Elk Recognitions

## ELK OF THE MONTH... JACQUE LOCICERO

Elk of the Month - Jacquie LoCicero. Jacquie is President of the Tampa 708 Auxiliary - the Ladies of the Elks. She has served as president several times, and she makes it look seamless. Jacquie also is the chairman for the Hall rental committee and interacts with the public on our behalf. This can sometimes be a very time-consuming job. Jacquie's third role in our lodge is that of House committee member, but after attending a couple of meetings it is obvious she is no ordinary member- she runs the meetings. Jacquie also helps in the kitchen when requested, cooks a pasta dinner for our members on the third Wednesday of the month, and in July took on the fifth Friday. Thank you, Jacquie, for all you do.



## OFFICER OF THE MONTH...CHRIS MILES, PER

Officer of the Month - Chris Miles, PER. Chris works long hours at what he likes to call his "Real Job," but he is also the Lodge Treasurer. Having held that office myself, I couldn't imagine having to do all that work at night and on weekends, but somehow, he has not missed a deadline. Unofficially, Chris is the closest thing we have to an IT tech, and just changed out some computers and printers with big cost savings to the lodge. Chris is also the membership chair and does all the new member investigations. Additionally, he is chairing the Bylaws committee, and will be updating our Bylaws this year. Chris holds the Lodge close to his heart, and his devotion is obvious. Thank you, Chris, for all that you do.





## Supporting Reports



Good leadership requires you to surround yourself with people of diverse perspectives who can disagree with you without fear of retaliation.

“Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.” John 13:16



### Ladies of the Elks:

Calling all Anglophiles, Downton Abbey: A New Era is coming to our BIG screen! Join the Ladies on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> for British delights, Downton Abbey trivia, Downton Abbey bingo and of course the MOVIE! British delights start serving at 6pm, with the MOVIE starting at 7pm. Your \$10 donation will benefit CHILDRENS THERAPY SERVICES.

This cinematic event will replace our Pasta on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but just for this month.

Join the Ladies on September 21<sup>st</sup> for Eggroll Ramen Skillet.

Sign-up sheet for **Downton Abbey: A New Era** is located on the Ladies board.

Cheerio, Jacque LoCicero

### AUGUST Birthdays

Vera Wright 8/6 - Lisa Snyder 8/7 - Tracy Horrell PER - Dave Parlow 8/14 - Vera Almstedt 8/28

#### Executive Board

Jacque LoCicero, PIP- President  
 Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, PIP- Vice President  
 Crystal Johnson - Secretary  
 Laura Jones - Treasurer  
 Suzanne Moore, PIP - Chaplain  
 Tracy Horrell, PER, PIP - Parliamentarian

## A NOTE FROM YOUR LECTURING KNIGHT

The Eleven O'clock Toast is something all Elks members, throughout our country, are familiar with and hold dear to our hearts. It symbolizes our remembrance of absentee members. But truthfully how many really do know what the toast says? I am fortunate since many of you are aware that my father Richard, (Dick) Dayes was District Deputy in 1992- 1993 and an Exalted Ruler at the South River Lodge in New Jersey at the age of 32. I grew up as a young child going to Elk picnics, enjoying the Children's Christmas parties with their visit from Santa, and even waiting on Lodge tables as young as 13. My daughter, Crystal (fourth generation Elk) has been fortunate to have similar experiences at this lodge.

What is my concern? I feel that when a member passes away, the family or loved ones', may not be aware of the protocol at our Lodge. If the family would like the Lodge to be aware of the passing of their loved one, they will need to contact the Lodge secretary and advise him/her of the passing as well as the time and location of the visitation or funeral, should there be one.

Furthermore, the Elks have a beautiful ceremony that is performed by the Lodge officers, if the family requests it. My grandfather, Harold (Happy) Dayes was the chaplain at the South River Lodge, and he was active in the Tampa Lodge in the 1980's. When he passed away, the Elks were there for my family, and several members even took time off from work to be there. I can recall my father saying how impressed he was that so many members cared.

I recognize that everyone grieves in a different way, and it is a personal choice if you would like to have a service performed at the Lodge or not. However, I can tell you from personal experience that we are there for you and more than willing to be supportive in your time of need. (You may be referred to the Hall Rental Chairman to find an open date.)

Sincerely,  
 Edie Hanley , Lecturing Knight



## Grant Reports

### A SCHOLARSHIP FOR DR. CHOWNING

On Wednesday August 23 Tampa Lodge 708 voted to award a \$400 scholarship to Kristina Chowning, PHD. Kristina is the 708 member that put together Club Chivalry at Robinson High School. The scholarship will help her to attend a special “invitation only” course to become a certified educational trainer. This training will certify her to train other educators on the processes outlined in her recent Doctorate dissertation.

Pictured L-R is Douglas Grant, Lodge 5 year Trustee, Doctor Kristina Chowning PHD, and Camden Lynn, Leading Knight.



## Club Chivalry News

It's hard to believe the schools are getting ready to reopen. The most important thing that a Tampa Elk can do to get ready is to register and get approved as a volunteer. Every volunteer must be approved before being allowed on any school campus! It took about 10 minutes to fill out the registration form. There are a few changes – like the chance to click “all district schools” instead of naming each one individually. I highly recommend that you choose that. In the last two years, Tampa Elks have spent time at Robinson HS, Coleman Middle, and Westshore, Lanier, and Dale Mabry Elementaries. That is in addition to Holy Trinity Lutheran School and Bridgeprep Charter school. Who knows what opportunities we will find to improve our community this school year?

This is the link to the registration form – this year it is being managed by Raptor.

<https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/NTc0MTplbiIVUw=#>

Immediately upon submission, I received an acknowledgement email.

They predict a 2-4 week wait before you receive an approval, so let's start this now!

In Your Service, Rita Smith

## GETTING TO KNOW THE ELKS ARMY OF HOPE

For those that are unaware of the Army of Hope, AoH, let me give you a brief overview of what this section of the Elks is about. When a service member is deployed and a need arises with those left here at home, the AoH can step in to help. This assistance can be for things like providing phone cards to contact their loved one, provide funds for home repairs such as plumbing and painting. Or auto repair and transportation when needed. Lawn mowing, landscaping or sprinkler repairs. The list goes on of what the AoH can step in and help with. To be able to provide those funds the AoH is having their annual fundraiser, Oktoberfest, to be held on Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Largo lodge. See Daniel Armentrout for \$5 admission tickets. There will be baskets raffled off, turkey shoot hosted by Chris Miles, beer truck, German food and music, corn hole contest and much more! Come out and support this great service that the Elks provide to help our service men and women and their families.

Daniel Armentrout, Army of Hope Committee Chairman



## Lodge Reports

### National Convention Report Rita Smith – Exalted Ruler



*All roads lead to Atlanta  
this July 2022 for our  
National Convention*

It was my honor to serve as your representative at the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta from July 2<sup>nd</sup> -July 6<sup>th</sup>. The statutes make attendance mandatory. Once you have attended a convention as an ER, you are forever considered a member of Grand Lodge and eligible to vote. Members who have not yet attained the rank of ER are excluded from certain sessions of the Convention.

Shelagh Gombarcik, PER accompanied me. I had accompanied her when she was the ER in 2017.

Traveling on Friday was as bad as predicted; our arrival in Atlanta was 5 hours later than expected and we had not eaten. After checking into the hotel, I practically ran to a little restaurant on Peachtree Blvd for some dinner. Sweet Georgia's Juke Joint's food did not disappoint, though the service was under par.

Saturday night we attended the Wonderful West Central District Deputy's ER Dinner at historic Mary Macs in Midtown. Besides the Exalted Rulers from each of the 8 lodges and District Deputy Tom Moran and his wife Cindy, other dignitaries from our District were in attendance. PSP's Frank Palladini and Rudi Masi with Dolly, State COO Carl Seibert and DDGER Theresa Seibert. DDGER Tony Fratella, with Marilyn and Isabella, DDGER Jeanne Rinehart, DDGER Joanne Matos with Robert were all included. We had a private room, a delicious buffet dinner and a history lesson on the restaurant, chosen by Rudy.

Sunday morning we got down to the convention center plenty early so that we could register and go through the exhibits before Opening Ceremonies. There were less displays but more vendors, and within a couple of hours I had my hands full and my wallet empty. The opening ceremonies were just that – a string of Ceremonies, broken up a bit with videos from Elks National Foundation. It was open seating, so I made sure to get a front row seat. It only lasted two hours, but it was very impressive.

The next three mornings I had to meet DDGER Tom Moran in the lobby by 7 AM to board a bus for the convention, which starts at 8 each day. The most important part of the convention is the voting on Resolutions. They are presented on Monday, voting is done Tuesday, and results are released on Wednesday. For the first time in years, all 11 resolutions passed. *The most immediate change that will affect our lodge is that effective August 5<sup>th</sup> the Secretary and the Treasure are part of the Board of Directors.* The other 10 have been read at the lodge meeting and will be printed in the forthcoming State and Grand Lodge magazines. They are also available at Elks.org.

The convention sessions were over by noon each day - but then there were some top-quality classes available. Shelagh and I each took advantage of those. My favorite was the All-American Lodge Contest A and the Americanism essay contest class. Shelagh concentrated on ENF classes.

Most afternoons I opted for napping instead of sightseeing. It was unbearably hot, and just attending the convention took 2 miles of walking each day. In the evening, the Florida State Elks Association kept us busy with hospitality rooms and the Florida Dinner. We watched the fireworks at Centennial Park through the Hotel room windows on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I have been to a lot of big conventions in a lot of cities. This was my 5<sup>th</sup> Elks convention. The part that Elks could control – The actual convention and related events – were well run with a good mix of business and braggadocio. The downside was that the city was not prepared for the influx of visitors, resulting in long lines and longer wait times for dinner tables. And we know why they call it Hotlanta!



## Past Festivities and Events

### Everybody loves Christmas – even in July!

The Christmas in July party, brought to you by the Lodge officers, was a success. You may not be aware that the dues we collect each April don't stretch much farther than paying our utility bills. Activities like the Luau which will fund our children's programs, the Veterans' Committee's fundraisers, which enable us to care for our Vets, and the Elk Fundraisers, which provide enough to keep our mandatory programs like flag day and Elk's Memorial Day afloat, are all necessary to the success of the Lodge. Thank you to those that participated by purchasing tickets. Our sales team consisted of the bartenders, Trustees Bob Orcutt and Doug Grant, Inner Guard Kara Stout, Loyal Knight Paula Rousselle, Secretary Laura Jones, and Youth Chair, Patty Volpe. Despite low initial numbers, we ended up selling out prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> and had to turn some members down.



Kitchen manager, Georgia Hilficker, started her shopping and cooking on Wednesday. She was in that kitchen for 3 days! She lined up members to help bake the pies, and I thank Laura Jones, Teil Allen, Candy Venable, and April Holtzinger for supplementing the 5 pies that Georgia baked. They all were needed and enjoyed!

Friday night, Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, took the lead on decorating. She is the pro, and probably the only one that knows how to add a skirt to a table! She had Doug Grant up and down that ladder hanging curtains. Georgia added some bling. The room looked great- but not too fussy. Doug Grant set up and Kara Stout decorated the Christmas tree. Edie Hanley, sorted out and arranged the door prizes. Crystal Johnson rolled cutlery. Kara Stout filled salt and pepper shakers. Everybody put out tablecloths, centerpieces, and chairs. On Saturday, Richard Florance's added an additional table.

On Saturday, Georgia put the finishing touches on the meal. April Holtzinger spent most of the day helping, and Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, also came in early to help. The dishwasher, Steve Kraft and the server, young Ismeny Ramirez were important pieces of the kitchen crew. House Committee Chair George Hilficker was volunteered he was the meat carver, and he did a great job.

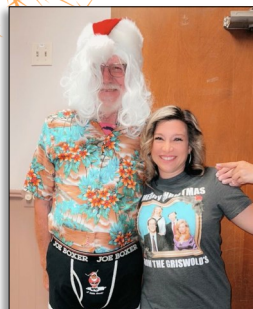
Almost every Lodge officer brought in door prizes. The front office was buried in them prior to the event. There were so many, we came up with a game to disburse them. Were you there? Were you Naughty or Nice? Trustee Bob Orcutt put his own spin on what Summer Santa should wear. He was shocking, but funny. There were a lot of laughs, and a lot of pictures taken. Melissa Bertoch and Doug Grant had a champagne basket they had put together to raffle. Laura won it but donated it back and it was auctioned to Joe Malone, netting \$50. Edie Hanley sold the "no give back" 50/50 tickets. The winner, Eric Church, walked with \$145.00.

Dinner was impressive. It tasted every bit like it took three days and a large crew to prepare. There were enough choices that everybody could fill their plate and their bellies. I savored every bite.

As soon as the line for the dinner buffet was clear, the Elvis tunes started. This deaf girl was told by many that our performer had a perfect Elvis voice. I was surprised everybody didn't stay for the whole show- but we know that eating turkey makes you sleepy.

Clean up is never the most fun. Besides Shelagh Gombarcik, PER and April Huntzinger who broke down the buffet, Christien Elkins put away the round tables, Tiler Richard Florance, PER, collected the salt and pepper shakers, Esquire Melissa Bertoch took home tablecloths to wash, and then on Monday night, Trustee Doug Grant took down the curtains, the last of the tables, and removed the now boxed tree.

The left-over prizes will be utilized at our next Lodge fundraiser: A Quarter Auction on November 20<sup>th</sup>.





## Past Festivities & Events

### ALOHA E NA MAKAMAKA

(Hello my friends)! On Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, we had a Luau at the lodge. It was a joint fundraising event for four different youth committees. They are Drug Awareness, Soccer Shoot, Hoop Shoot, and Youth Activities. Each Committee Chair did their part to ensure the success of the Luau, and a Success it was! We had 113 people in attendance!

By now, I am sure you have heard about the Luau and how much fun it was. It took many hands but felt like light work, because of an amazing team. I am going to brag on them a little bit!

Tristan Reiber found us the perfect entertainment. The Kokomo Chris & Julie Marie show was spectacular. If your legs were not on the dance floor, then your eyes sure were!

Shelagh Gombarcik & Evelyn Hemingway spent a couple of days giving the lodge a Luau makeover with decorations that took you away to island time. It looked beautiful and made for great photos!

Susie Harlow was all in on boosting our fundraising efforts! A basket of cheer was raffled off and we had a Hawaiian auction. The force is strong with her. You look into her eyes and your wallet just comes out!

Jason Brown oversaw the 50/50 and DDGER, PER, Theresa Siebert won the 50/50 which was \$250. She graciously donated a portion back to our fundraising efforts.

Crystal Johnson was our MC for the night, she was on hand for door prizes and announcements as needed. The entire Evener family was in the house, before, during, and after the event. Melissa Evener help with last minute decorations the night before the Luau. Chris Evener, her husband, was a beast in the kitchen preparing the ribs and their daughter, Elise, was in the kitchen using her current skills as a BBQ joint kitchen manager to get the ribs and chicken prepped and plated. The Evener boys, Caughlin, Kolton, and Konnor were your servers and table bussers. They all stayed after to help get the lodge back in order too.

#### Let us talk about the food!

Member Adrian Higgins, purchased, then donated the baby back ribs for the event. His team of cooks included the Soccer Shoot Chairman, Mike Volpe and Chris Evener, the spouse of the Hoop Shoot Chairman, Melissa Evener. They did an amazing job, as the ribs were delicious.

PER, Dee Cisneros rocked out his Hawaiian fried rice and DAP Chairman, Jason Brown and Julie Perry made a mouthwatering pasta salad. Tiler, Melissa Bertoch provided corn on the cob and there was ambrosia salad and Hawaiian rolls to complete the meal. For dessert, member ("Poochie") Sandra Lessard made Hawaiian upside-down cake that tasted was delicious. If you did not get any, my apologies, as I had two pieces.

To say that it was all the food, fundraising, and entertainment that made this a success, would be an outright lie. It was our membership that came together to ensure this was a fun and successful fundraiser for our Lodges' Youth Activities. Member, Tina Higgins held her birthday party during our event, which brought in more attendees. The Veterans Committee brought in the veterans to join us for dinner and fun. Members brought in their friends and families and filled the lodge. It was an amazing night. It reminded me of what we can do when each member does their part to support the lodge.

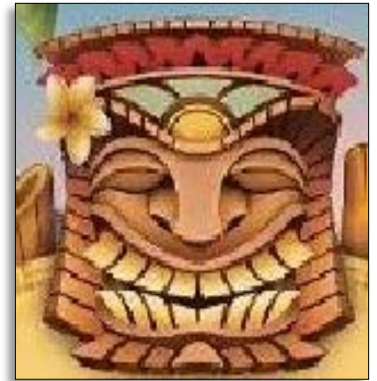
Not everyone has to join a committee to be a part of the magic. Buying tickets, buying drinks at the bar, trying your hand at 50/50, a basket of cheer raffle, and supporting the events our committees hold, is just as needed as committee members. We, as fraternal brothers, and sisters, get to determine how far our reach is. One more hand and our reach goes little further.

Youth Activities (Back to School & Christmas Party) \$900.00

Drug Awareness Program earned \$900.00

Soccer Shoot and Hoop Shoot Committees both earned \$500.00

Submitted by Patty Volpe, Youth Activities Chairman





# LUAU 2022 MEMORIES





# Upcoming Events and Projects



## LET'S DO FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AT THE LODGE

**AUGUST 5TH**



**FISH FRY NIGHT**

WITH FRENCH FRIES OR GRITS COLESLAW, HUSH PUPPIES, & CORN CHOWDER \$16

APPETIZER: FRIED MUSHROOMS \$3.50

DESSERT: LEMON DROP CAKE \$4



ENTERTAINING US:  
**KEVIN HURLEY**

**AUGUST 12TH**



**TENDER CORNED BEEF**

WITH POTATOES AU GRATIN, HONEY CARROTS, BEER CHEESE SOUP & YEAST ROLLS \$18

APPETIZER: CHEESE CURDS WITH MARINARA \$3.50

APPLE CRIP A LA MODE: \$4.00



ENTERTAINING US:  
**TBD**

**AUGUST 19TH**



**BABY BACK RIBS**

WITH BUTTER PARSLEY POTATOES, CORN ON THE COB, BAKED BEANS COLESLAW, AND CORNBREAD \$18

APPETIZER: ONION RINGS \$3.50

DESSERT: CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER PIE \$4.00



ENTERTAINING US:  
**ROGER HARRISON**

**AUGUST 26TH**



**PRIME RIB DINNER**

WITH BAKED POTATO, BRUSSEL SPROUTS, PORTABELLA MUSHROOM SOUP AND CHEDDAR BISCUITS \$22

APPETIZER: FRIED RAVIOLI WITH HOMEMADE MARINARA SAUCE \$3.50

DESSERT: TRACY'S BREAD PUDDING \$4.00



ENTERTAINING US:  
**DEPARTMENT OF DESTRUCTION**



**PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL BE OFFERING HALF A CHICKEN AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE WEEKLY MEAL AT A COST OF \$13.00. IT WILL COME WITH THE SAME SIDES AS THE ADVERTISED DINNER AND MUST BE SELECTED WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION. SORRY, NO LAST MINUTE ORDERS AVAILABLE FOR THIS ENTREE. THANK YOU**

PLEASE SIGN UP BY EMAILING [georgiahilficker@gmail.com](mailto:georgiahilficker@gmail.com) OR TEXT 813-294-6200 OR ON THE LODGE BULLETIN BOARD TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL!

DINNER SERVED FROM 6:30PM TO 8:30PM

## BAR BINGO

Served Mondays 6pm to 7:30pm

**Aug 1st** – Cuban Sandwich with Chips \$8.00

**Aug 8th** – 3 Pulled Pork Sliders With Chips \$8

**Aug 15th** – Chicken Salad on Croissant with Chips \$8

**Aug 22nd** – Meatloaf Sandwich with chips \$9

**Aug 29th** – Shrimp Salad Hoagie with Chips \$9



## QUEEN OF HEARTS

Donation by 6:45pm  
Drawing at 7pm

**Thursday Nights**  
Served 6pm to 7:30

**\*Aug 4th** – Spaghetti Dinner, w/Salad & Bread \$7

**\*Aug 11th** – Shelagh's Grill

**\*Aug 4th** – Dee's Open Grill

**\*Aug 25th** – Shelagh's Grill



# Upcoming Events and Projects



## SUNDAY DINNER LIKE MOM USED TO MAKE

SERVED FROM 5PM TO 7PM - SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH

BEEF TIPS AND NOODLES \$16

LIVER & ONIONS, MASHED POTATOES WITH PEAS & CARROTS \$16

WEDGE SALAD OR WHITE BEAN & HAM SOUP

BLUEBERRY DELIGHT OR CHOCOLATE SUNDAE

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS AND MENU CHOICES REQUIRED BY FRIDAY AUGUST 12TH

EMAIL [georgiahilficker@gmail.com](mailto:georgiahilficker@gmail.com)

TEXT: GEORGIA AT 813-294-6200 OR SIGN UP AT THE LODGE



JOIN US EVERY MONDAY STARTING AT 6:30PM

MONDAY AUGUST 8TH IS NATIONAL DOLLAR DAY

DONATE \$1.00 TO ENF AND GET A FREE CARD FOR ONE OF THE DOLLAR GAMES



NATIONAL DOLLAR DAY



Calling All Epicurean Elks...

Sunday, August 21st at 5:00 pm

## Chef's Choice

Don't miss the last meal of the 2022 season!

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



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

TAMPA ELKS 708

# HIMES AVE CLEANUP

AUGUST 13TH — 9:30AM

ATTIRE: 3616 W GANDY BLVD, SUNNY TAMPA, FLORIDA

- Hat
  - Gloves
  - Closed Toe Shoes
- Help clean the debris*





# Upcoming Events and Projects

YOUR LOE PRESENTS

## DOWNTON ABBEY "A NEW ERA"



### MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, August 17th at 6:30pm

Featuring British Delights!

Appetizers at 6pm - Movie at 7pm

**\$10.00 Per Person**

Menu: Sausage & Sage Rolls

Coronation Chicken Salad Sandwiches

Caramelized Onion & Goat Cheese Puffs

Orange Cranberry Scones

Lemon & Elderberry Bakes

**Downton Abby Trivia & Bingo**

Sign up sheet on the LOE board

Proceeds to benefit the Children's Therapy Services

0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6

6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
0



In June we voted to allow a container for donations of dog food or other supplies to be distributed to homeless people that still have their pets. That container has arrived, and is right inside the door in our lobby, where it is accessible for the public to donate. The container is only about the size of a backpack to remind us that somebody who is homeless cannot carry around a 40-pound bag of dog food. Next time you are near the pet aisle, consider picking up a small bag or a couple of cans and bringing it to the lodge.

You can donate cash online at [petsofthehomeless.org](http://petsofthehomeless.org) a 501c3 agency since 2008.

## Buccaneer Games!

## Preseason Potlucks!

You know your team is a top contender when they pull three Saturday night preseason games.

Pot luck @7:00 each of these Saturdays:

August 13th—hosting Miami

August 20- @ Tennessee

August 27—@ Baltimore



150" big screen and great A/C.

Bring a dish or a donation.

Let's get this season started!

## Ladies of the Elks

## Pasta on the 3rd

3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

PASTA STARTS SERVING @ 6:30PMISH

We make the pasta, you make a donation to Children's Therapy Services.

**August 17th— Downton Abbey: A New Era**

**British Delights, Trivia, Bingo and the movie**

Apps @ 6pm, movie @7pm \$10 donation to CTS

**September 21st— Egg Roll Ramen Skillet**

(combination of sweet & tender cabbage & carrots with savory pork tossed in ramen noodles)

**October 19th— Philly Cheesesteak Pasta**

Ground beef, onions, peppers, mushrooms, provolone and penne pasta into a delectable creamy new favorite

Pasta served on a first come first serve basis.

When it's gone, it's gone.

Donations benefit Children's Therapy Services



## Lodge Business & Projects

### News from around the bar...Literally

If you haven't noticed, our bar received a partial "face lift". Keeping the spirit of our retro sunken bar vibe, we went from drab to fab. The epoxy resin bar top is extremely durable, easily cleaned, scratch and moisture resistant. For a busy Elks bar, that is a plus.

While the sentiment behind the remodeling of the bar top was genuine, heartfelt, and greatly appreciated, the method of doing it was a bit unconventional. Sometimes it takes a moment to get used to a change. Sometimes change is welcomed and needed. In the end, we have a bar that welcomes our members and guests to sit a moment, have a cocktail, catch up with new and old friends and enjoy your Elk community.

Hope to see you around the bar soon. George Hilficker



### AN IMPORTANT NOTE FOR YOUR KITCHEN

It may come as a surprise to many of our members, but not everyone is kind, or even civil to our Club Chivalry volunteers. Last month we came very close to losing the best server we've had in a long time, Ismeny.

I'd like to tell you a little about Ismeny. She is a 17-year-old student with a 4.0 grade average. Last year she took college courses at HCC along with her high school classes, was president of the Spanish club, and was awarded a plaque for her business acumen, all while working 3 nights a week for us and helping to take care of her family. She is working 2 jobs this summer while helping with her little sister, and that's just a portion of her responsibilities.

One more thing I'd like to point out. In a standard restaurant a server is given 4 tables and they will be seated at intervals through the evening. In our dining room 25 to 40 guests sit down within 30 minutes or less and not just at the tables, but at the bar as well. Thanks to Daniel Armentrout we have someone on the register, and to Emily and Leah who help to bus and run food on Fridays, things are getting better.

In the future, please think twice before you criticize, or snap at our servers. They are offering the service they are allowed to offer, and they have no way of controlling what happens in the kitchen. Save your criticisms for me, the person that can do something about them. Just ask to speak with me, or come talk to me when you see me in the Lodge. I'll be happy to speak with anyone that has a concern.

(Text or Call 813-294-6200 or [georgiahilficker@gmail.com](mailto:georgiahilficker@gmail.com))

I truly appreciate your patronage and your support and want to make your dining experience as good as I can make it. I know I can't hit a homerun every time, and that some folks get frustrated with the service or the food, but please drop that on me, not them.

Thanks for listening and hope to see you for dinner soon!

Georgia Hilficker, Kitchen Lead

### VIP VISIT DATES AND TIMES

**All events: Cocktail hour at 2pm, 3pm Meeting, 4pm Dinner**

**Sun. August 14th ... St. Petersburg Lodge**

**Sun. August 21st ... Holiday Isle Lodge**

**Sun. August 28th... Tampa Lodge**

**Sun. Sept. 11th..... Largo Lodge VP Homecoming**



# Lodge Business and Projects

## EXALTED RULER



YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT BUT I'M GLAD YOU DID:

- Adrian & Tina Higgins – donating all the ribs and attracting a crowd to the luau. That sauce...yum!
- George Hilficker –fixed the back bathroom flapper
- Camden Lynn – Exit sign fixed
- Melissa Bertoch – Sunday night dinner assist.
- George Hilficker – Took on the emergency dishwasher job on a busy Sunday dinner.
- Nelson Grahn- cleared the sidewalk by putting items back in the shed.
- Christopher Miles – got my computer online with not just one, but two printers in the office.
- Georgia Hilficker with her helpers – an amazing Christmas dinner in July! (see article for details)
- Laura Jones – 3 orientations in 1 month! (2 were virtual)
- Daniel Armentrout – Friday Nights Host with the most!
- Dee Cisneros and George Hilficker- mop masters, stopping the leak behind the bar.
- Laura Jones, Secretary - For her work in updating the Elksize mailing list...quite a job



## Partners in Progress or PIP

### Platinum Investors \$100+

In Memory of

Waldbart, Martin 4/2023

Fennell, Jerrye,

Patrick & Cheryl 3/2023

Frank Palladini 3/2023

Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 3/2023

Hilficker, George & Georgia 3/2023

Smith, Rita 3/2023

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 and help to increase the overall financial strength of our Lodge.

### Gold Investors \$51-\$99

Bordonaro, Robert 3/2023

### Silver Investors \$21-\$50

### Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20

### AUGUST LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 1st - LOE Board Meeting - 6:30
- 3rd - LOE General Meeting - 7:00 - Dinner 6:15
- 9th - Veteran's Meeting - 6:30
- 9th - BOD Meeting - 7:30
- 10th - Membership Meeting - 6:00
- 10th - Elks General Meeting - 7:30
- 16th - House Committee Meeting - 6:30
- 17th - New Member Orientation - 6:30
- 24th - General Meeting - 7:30
- 24th - New Member Initiation - During General Meeting
- 28th - VP Meeting with Lodge Officers - 1pm

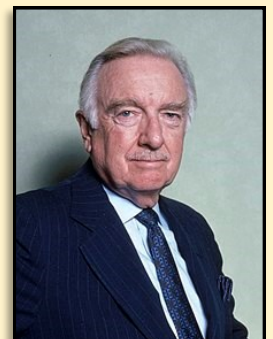
### Honoring Departed Elks

**Walter  
Kronkite**

**1916 to 2009**

**AMERICAN  
BROADCAST  
JOURNALIST**









**St. Joseph, MO  
Lodge #40**



# Tampa Elks Lodge #708

## August 2022

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	<p><b>1</b>  <b>LOE BOD MEETING 6:30 PM</b> CUBAN SANDWICH W/ CHIPS \$8</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b> 6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>Hump Day...2 for 1 Well Drink Specials Loaded Nachos \$6.00</b></p> <p><b>LOE GENERAL MEETING 7PM LOE DINNER 6:15PM</b></p> <p></p>	<p><b>4</b> SPAGHETTI DINNER NIGHT \$7.00 6PM-7:30</p> <p> <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>5</b> SHELAGH &amp; TOMMY FRIED FISH. FRENCH FRIES OR GRITS. COLESLAW. HUSH PUPPIES. &amp; CORN CHOWDER \$16 FRIED MUSHROOMS \$3.50 LEMON DROP CAKE \$4 MUSIC - KEVIN HURLEY</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7</b> <b>Sunday Dinner</b> like Mom used to make 5 to 7pm</p> <p> See page 11 for menu &amp; information <b>WII BOWLING 4:30</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> 3 PULLED PORK SLIDERS W/ CHIPS \$8</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b> 6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>9</b> VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MEETING - 6:30PM</p> <p> <b>7:30PM BOD MEETING</b></p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>10</b> <b>Hump Day...2 for 1 Well Drink Specials Chili Mac \$6.00</b></p> <p>BAR CLOSED DURING MEETING</p> <p><b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING 6PM</b></p> <p> <b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> SHELAGH'S GRILL NIGHT BURGERS AND MORE 6PM-7:30</p> <p> <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>12</b> TENDER AND JUICY CORNED BEEF. POTATOES AU GRATIN. HONEY CARROTS. BEER CHEESE SOUP &amp; CORNBREAD \$18 ONION RINGS \$3.50 APPLE CRISP AL A MODE \$4 MUSIC - TBD</p>	<p><b>13</b> <b>HIMES CLEANUP 9AM TO 12PM</b> See pg 13</p> <p></p> <p>Pre-Season  Bucs V Miami 7:30pm 7:00pm Pot Luck</p>
<p><b>14</b> <b>WII BOWLING LEAGUE 4:30</b> SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS</p> <p>VP VISITATION ST PETERSBURG 2PM</p>	<p><b>15</b> CHICKEN SALAD ON CROISSANT W/CHIPS \$9</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b> 6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>16</b>  <b>HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM</b></p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>17</b> <b>Hump Day...2 for 1 Well Drink Specials</b></p> <p>NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION 6:30PM</p> <p><b>LOE - Downton Abbey Movie Night with British Yummies</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> DEE'S GRILL NIGHT BURGERS AND MORE</p> <p> <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>19</b> BABY BACK RIBS BUTTER PARSLEY POTATOES. COLESLAW. BAKED BEANS. CORN ON THE COB &amp; CORNBREAD \$18 ONION RINGS \$3.50 CHOC PEANUT BUTTER PIE \$4 MUSIC - ROGER HARRISON</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Pre-Season  Bucs V Titans 7:00pm 7:00pm Pot Luck</p>
<p><b>21</b> VP VISITATION HOLIDAY ISLES 2PM</p> <p>Gourmet Club Chef's Choice 5pm</p> <p><b>WII BOWLING LEAGUE</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> MEATLOAF SANDWICH W/CHIPS \$8</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b> 6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6AM TO 8PM ELECTIONS IN BACK HALL</p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>24</b> <b>Hump Day...2 for 1 Well Drink Specials LOADED NACHOS \$6.00</b></p> <p>BAR CLOSED DURING</p> <p> <b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b></p> <p>NEW MEMBER INITIATION During Meeting</p>	<p><b>25</b> SHELAGH'S GRILL NIGHT BURGERS AND MORE 6PM-7:30</p> <p> <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>26</b> PRIME RIB. BAKED POTATOES. BRUSSEL SPROUTS. PORTABELLA MUSHROOM SOUP &amp; CHEDDAR BISCUITS \$22 FRIED RAVIOLI \$3.50 TRACY'S BREAD PUDDING \$4 MUSIC - DEPARTMENT OF DISTRACTION</p>	<p><b>27</b> Hall Rental 9am to 12pm CPR Training</p> <p>Pre-Season  Bucs V Colts 7:30pm 7:00pm Pot Luck</p>
<p><b>28</b> VP Meeting w/ Lodge Officers 1pm to 2pm</p> <p>VP VISITATION TAMPA 2PM</p> <p><b>WII BOWLING LEAGUE 4:30</b> See page 12</p>	<p><b>29</b> SHRIMP SALAD HOAGIE W/CHIPS \$9</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b> 6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>31</b> <b>Hump Day...2 for 1 Well Drink Specials CHILI MAC \$6.00</b></p>			

# Elks Tampa 708 size

3616 Gandy Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33611

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



Ask to join our group on Facebook to receive updates and late breaking news. Tampa Elks Lodge #708



Please remember to send any change of address to:  
[Tampa708secretary@outlook.com](mailto:Tampa708secretary@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.

William Dean - 3/2023  
Vera Wright -  
In Memory of Harold Wright - 6/2023  
Pat Fennell - 6/2024



## Friends of 708

### OUR CURRENT MONTHLY SUPPORTERS

*Marty Quire - In Memory of Bonnie Quire - Bonnie Atwood - Nan Quire  
Mr & Mrs Moore - Sharon Ford - Mr & Mrs Schneider - Christopher Miles - Mr & Mrs Suhrheinrich  
Steve Harmon - Julie Wooley - Paul DeLand - Paula Rousselle - Candy Venable - Chris Ragusa  
Mr & Mrs Hilficker - Melissa Bertoch - Debbie Osterbrock - Shannon Wheatley  
Laura Jones - Ladies of the Elks - Marty Quire*

### OUR CURRENT ANNUAL SUPPORTERS

*R. Florance - K. Higgins - M. Flowers - M. Cooper - J. Nunez - G. Chiani  
W. Odonnell - D. Taylor - W. Dean - J. Johnson - F. Palladini - P. Fennell - R. Millaway*

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.