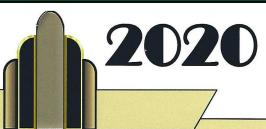


Volume 2019 Issue 9 – December 2019 Official Publication of Tampa Elks Lodge #708, Founded 1902 Published monthly at 3616 W Gandy Blvd, Tampa FL 33611 Office: 813-831-4280— Lounge: 813-839-8928



ROARING into



New Year's Eve Party

Prohibition Style Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres
Whole Roasted Pig & Beef Carving Station
Mashed Potato Bar
Dessert Stations
Midnight Champagne Toast & Breakfast

1920's / Vintage Attire Encouraged...but not Required.

Dress to Impress

December 31,2019 Cocktails: 6:30pm Dinner: 7:30 – 9:00pm Music/KJ:8:30 pm -12am Share the wealth
Raffle Basket

Tickets:

\$35 per person includes
(1)speciality drink ticket & (1) Raffle basket ticket
Tickets for Sale – Behind the Bar or
from a Designated HC Member

TAMPA ELKS LODGE 708 PRESENTS A CHILDREN'S WONGERLAUD DECEMBER 21ST 11A M TO 10M

DECEMBER 21ST IIAM TO IPM

ENTERTAINMENT.

ICE CREAM MAKING, CRAFTS

A VISIT FROM SANTA

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE FUN AND WILL HAVE A SEPARATE ROOM WHEN LOOKING FOR A LITTLE DOWN TIME.

CHILDREN AGED I TO 14 WELCOME

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT BY EMAIL MOMOFJUSTUS@YAHOO.COM OR TEXT 912-342-3099

> DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS DECEMBER 15TH

TAMPA ELKS LODGE, 3316 GANDY BLYD TAMPA, FL 33629









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



Elk of The Month

Who pulled out the palm tree interfering with our marquee with his his bare hands (and a sawzall), who climbed a 20' ladder to repaint the letters on the roof, who helped install the new drop ceiling in our foyer, who picked up our new Christmas decorations from Dunedin/Clearwater, who is normally sitting next to me at the bar, and who does a whole lot more that I don't have room for for in this article? Yep, it's December Elk of the Month and my best friend Jim Dreby.

Officer of The Month

Our Officer of the Month for December is George Hilficker our Lodge Esquire. George has done a wonderful job this year in indoctrinating our new members during initiation, as well as assisting Laura on the Membership Committee. He of course also helps with numerous maintenance and repair activities around the lodge. You sir are a scholar and gentleman.



A Message from Your Exalted Ruler, Chris Miles

Well I was going to thank everyone who helped with the Mid-Year Convention and the planning, sprucing of the Lodge, as well as the advertising, setting up, prepping, cooking, and cleaning up . . . but as has



been the case throughout this year Shelagh has beaten me to it again! So I'll take the opportunity to say Shelagh deserves a BIG THANK YOU for all the work she put into the Mid-Year Convention and for producing an excellent experience which garnered compliments from members of lodges across the state. I also want to thank Courtney, Tommy, and Wendy for putting in major amounts of time helping with not only the Mid-Year Convention, but in supporting our normal lounge operations. What many may not know are the many hours Shelagh, Courtney, Tommy, and Wendy put in before the Lodge opens to make sure we're ready for business. Thank you for all the work you do that we don't always see, like little **Christmas Elves** working through the night, and us the children who enjoy the presents of your labor.



Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who put on our Pancake Breakfast. Financial supporters, Candi S., Shelagh, Theresa, Linda Reid, George and Georgia, and Laura. And those who had boots on the ground cooking and serving: Tommy, Shelagh, Georgia, Christine & Glenn Harris, and Becky & Brian Sullins.

Adult Member's...

Dec. 14th - 6pm

Lodge will provide Prime Rib...

Bring a covered dish to serve.

Bring a white elephant gift (\$10)

PLEASE CALL TO RESERVE!

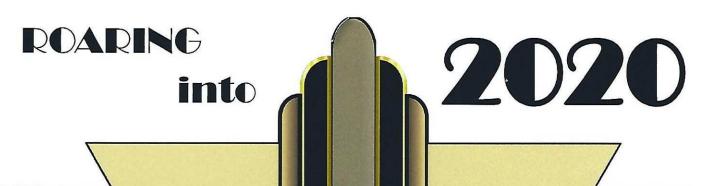
Join us for a fun time!



Elks Memorial Service

Join us
Sunday, December 1st
12 noon
As we commemorate the

several well-known members
who left us in this past year.
Annually we meet the 1st Sunday
in December for this important
Lodge event.



New Year's Eve Party

Prohibition Style Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres
Whole Roasted Pig & Beef Carving Station
Mashed Potato Bar
Dessert Stations
Midnight Champagne Toast & Breakfast

1920's / Vintage Attire Encouraged...but not Required.

Dress to Impress

December 31,2019

Cocktails: 6:30pm

Dinner: 7:30 - 9:00pm

Music/KJ:8:30 pm -12am

Share the wealth Raffle Basket

Tickets:

\$35 per person includes
(1)speciality drink ticket & (1) Raffle basket ticket
Tickets for Sale – Behind the Bar or
from a Designated HC Member



December 5th and 6th from 6pm-8pm Come peruse our many items for your shopping pleasure.

All while helping support your LOE.

Now that's the holiday sprit!



If you would like to donate a new or a handmade item to the bazaar, please contact:

Jacquie LoCicero (813-245-6458) or Sue Moore (813-390-2930)

TENTI KITHE OF GENERAL

It's time to Party like a Pirate and 301N the Fun as we celebrate The Legendary 2020 <u>GASPRILLA invasion Adventure</u> with Tampa Elks 708

Saturday 25th January 2020

- Busses will pick up from selected lodges at 7:00am
- You will enjoy all you can eat breakfast when you arrive
- Lunch and boat invasion viewed from Davis Island waterfront
- Pirate Beads

-All you can eat Dinner back at the Lodge - Live Music and Loads of fan Activities

-Big Screen TV's to watch the Pirates on their floats parading Down The Historic Bayshore Blvd.

All this for \$65.00 per person (Bring a lawn chair)

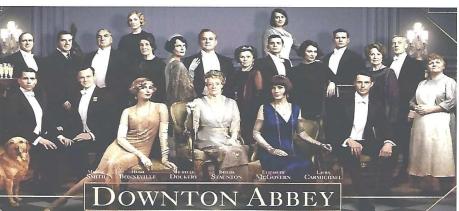
Tickets may be purchased <u>www.tampaelks.com</u>
Look for the "Buy Tickets for Gasparilla" Link
Or checks made out to *Tampa Elks 708* or Booty (cash)I

DRUG AWARENESS

Hello every one. A lot to tell as stated in last months article with our drug awareness program. First, we took 410 coloring books and 410 Red Ribbons for Red Ribbon Week to Lanier and Westshore Elementary Schools. On 10/19/19 Family Literacy Day was held at the Port Tampa Library The Cubs Scouts were there also. It was very good event. Elroy the Elk was present also and was a hit with the kids. Want to thank all of the Elk members helping out and what a great job Jodi and Laura did along with the staff from the Library whom did a great job. On October 30th the Drug Enforcement Agency put on an event at the Double Tree Hotel on Cypress Street for kids in the middle school grades. There were over 500 in attendance. It was very good event. Thanks to Laura Jones, Shannon Wheatley, and Sharon Ford, for helping out at the event. Of course Elroy was present and did a great job of meeting the kids as they got off of the School Buses. Thanks Elroy. Remember: Be A Hero- Just Say No to drugs.

Tommy Moore, Chairman





The Movie, The Family, The Fashions,
The Wit & Wisdom of Downton Abbey
Come and Join For a Fabulous Evening
6pm Curated Cocktails and Hors' D' Oeuvres
7:30pm The Movie

We Will Be Expecting You!

Donations accepted for ENE:



Be a part of the Lodge's



Customized Pirate ornament
To be hung on our Pirate Tree
\$15

ALL PROCEEDES WILL GO TO THE LODGE



Show your lodge sprit and order one today.

Ornaments will be given to the purchaser after the lodge's holiday decorations are removed.

Front of ornament

To order your ornament email pilocicero@yahoo.com with your request or call Jacquie at 813-245-6458.



Back of Ornament





Join the LOE for their annual Christmas Bazaar and stay for dinner
Friday, December 6th at 6pm-8pm

Reservations required

Sign up sheet on LOE bulletin board
or call 813-245-65-458 to reserve a spot

Dinner \$20 per person

Braciole

(thinly sliced steak stuffed and braised in a homemade tomato sauce) Pesto Shrimp and Chorizo Skewer Pasta with homemade sauce

Bread with dipping sauce
Italian Lemon Ricotta Cake

Salad



TAMDA ELKS LODGE TEAM



7:30PM, Monday, Dec 9th

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



December 21st-6:30pm Music by MARDONIX

BRING A DISH TO SHARE Come Out and Support Your Lodge

FLOE Conference

In September FLOE held their annual conference in Daytona Beach. The LOE presented Children's Therapy Services with a check for \$2500. During the conference we received several awards including 3rd place for our ad in the FLOE Program. Thank you to Georgia Hilficker for creating an award-winning ad for us. As an added surprise the LOE received the award for Contributing the Most Money Per Capita to the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services for the fiscal year 2018-2019. Thank you to all who brought in their green houses, loose change and supported our events throughout the year. Without you the LOE would not have been able to help support this worthy cause.

For the second year in a row, the LOE made dinner for the families at The Ronald McDonald House on Davis Island. This house is affiliated with TGH and other area hospitals. It is a "home" where a family who has a child in the hospital can stay so that they may be near their child during this difficult time. Our endeavor was headed by Candi Surheinrich. Thank you Candi for organizing this for the Ladies.

The LOE will be holding their annual Christmas Bazaar. This year we are having a two day event, December 5th and 6th. Along with shopping for holiday gifts, the Ladies will also be hosting dinner both nights. The first night will be Not Your Mother's Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup. Homemade tomato soup and gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches will be on the menu. The next night will be a Taste of Tampa. Reservations are required for this dinner. Please see the LOE board for a sign-up sheet or call 813-245-6458 to reserve your spot. The Ladies hope to see you at our bazaar and dinner. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.



FLOE Program Ad By Georgia Hilficker



Ronald McDonald House Crew



FLOE 2019 Conference





House Committee Report for FSEA Convention Lodge Activities

I am happy to report to you that the activities planned and executed for the FSEA convention were a great success. We have many people to thank but mostly the wonderful House Committee that worked so hard make our lodge a great place to come to on: Thursday QOH night, Friday Steak Night and the Saturday " Taste of Cigar City" event featuring all the amazing food offering that we are so famous for here in the Tampa area, along with first class entertainment all hosted in a wonderful Tampa style setting. The activities required a herculean effort by the house committee with Shannon Wheatley who came to support in every area necessary and donated the wonderful Zuppa soup. Jacquie Locicero (LOE President) for making items for sale Pirate Mugs and Christmas ornaments, she also cooked and donated the awesome Picadillo Empandas, helped in the kitchen and was a constant supporter. Wendy Hall who made, donated and sold chances for the amazing pirate hat, she also sold the 50/50 raffles and helped in all areas of the lodge. Candy Venable for cooking and donating the Italian comfort food Orancini and was good council for me. Courtney Weil for the traditional 1905 salad and assistance with the bar and wait staff ensuring we provided the best service we could give to our guests. Candi Surheinrich for cooking and donating delicious Calda Callego soup and her support of the event. Doug Grant for cooking the amazing steaks...we sold over 100 and for helping in what seemed like Hell's Kitchen. Rita Smith for working on Friday in Hell's Kitchen. Tommy Moore my wingman who helped with everything that he could from setting up the events to hanging decorations and who cooked with me for 3 nights in a row, we would not function without him. Susanne Moore the Ambassador of happiness who worked tirelessly to set up and decorate our lodge, she also provided the fabulous baskets that where raffled and for selling lodge merchandise and acting as hostess for our lodge. LOE ladies Bonnie Atwood who helped to sell merchandise and tickets. Laura Jones for acting as cashier and front of the house ticket sales along with constant phone duty as reservations came in. Dee Cisneros for cooking the yummy chicken picatta and working in Hell's Kitchen on Friday. Bob Orcutt for cooking the fabulous mojo pork and tenderloins. New incoming members Deanna and Steve Arnon who had baptism by fire in the kitchen, wELKome to our lodge you where awesome. Georgia Hilficker for designing the awesome Tampa map flyers. Paul Deland for help with flyers. Betty Orcutt, Susie Harlow and Lisa Snyder for organizing and selling the always fun Booty and Booby. For All the volunteer waitstaff that came to serve our guests: Melissa Bertoch, Bonnie Baker, Davelyn Kerwin, Alyssia Anderson and Shelbie Rizzi Martinez who also made and donated some gorgeous centerpieces. Jimmy Dreby for helping make our lodge look good along with Doug Grant, Nelson and Jessica for helping get the Breezeway completed before our guests arrived. Bartenders Tony and Jessica worked hard to make sure are guests had awesome cocktails and last but not least our ER Chris Miles for all the stuff I asked him to do including buying the new talking Pirates.

All These events that we featured showed the Florida Elks what we can do here at #708. It was a show-case for all the foods that we are famous for in Tampa and the traditions that we are proud of ARRGHH pirates. I hope that I didn't leave anyone out of the list as I am so grateful to all of you for all the support and thankful that it's over.

Shelagh Gombarcik
House Committee Chair







On November 18th, Club Chivalry met for their monthly Club meeting. The Tampa Elks provide refreshments and a guest speaker for this meeting. It hard to find good speakers, but John Flowers volunteered and did a great job engaging the students and teaching them about his career in sports and television. We are still learning what the students like in the way of refreshments, so we bring chips and something sweet-a chocolate and non-chocolate variety and let them choose. Same with the drinks. We try to offer a variety. To do so take a little work. Luckily, we had great volunteers this month. Bonnie Atwood, Elma Kelly, Carolyn Miller, And Christien Elkins joined John and me. They say many hands make light work, and it sure proved true at that meeting! Besides the speaker and refreshments, we raffle off two \$25 gift cards each meeting- one at the tardy bell and one at the end. The timing is to encourage the students to arrive on time and stay until the bell rings. Our next meeting is December 9th, and we will do Pizza.

The very next day, on November 19th, the students went on a field trip to Steinbrenner's Legend's Field. Tommy Moore and Linda Peterson helped chaperone the trip, and they both gave it glowing reports. The bus left the school at 9:30, so at 9:15 we offered the students juice and muffins to tide them over. We also put a case of water and some cookies on the bus to be enjoyed later. Since it was a school bus, they could not eat on the bus. Once at Legends Field, they learned there are more sports career choices besides being a player. Minor league left fielder Ben Ruta hosted the students and signed autographs. They met trainers, physical therapists, dietary and nutrition experts, logistical experts and more. They didn't just watch Ben Ruta take batting practice, the Yankees opened 6 batting cages and let the students air out the bats against live pitching by trainers. The tour also included the locker rooms, gym and training rooms- including the hot and cold therapy tubs. They also got a glimpse of the VIP room with its food and liquor service. Of course, the gift shop was open and a few kids bought a trinket. Each student was presented with a bobblehead to commemorate their visit. Both Tommy and Linda thoroughly enjoyed themselves and commented on how the students are so polite, thankful and well behaved.

The week still wasn't finished. On Thursday the 21st we had our annual "On Campus" Field trip. I tell you about that next month!



365 Club Report -



Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services is now halfway through it's 20th year of existence. My, have we ever grown! Did you know that Prior to the Therapy Services Florida Elks had a hospital?

The Tampa LOE Auxiliary collects change in the little green houses around the Lodge, and all this change is donated to help Children in need of physical or occupation therapy. The Auxiliary also has done several fundraisers this year: a Kentucky Derby Party, a Fashion Show and the Low Country Boil. Raising money for Florida Elks Major Projects is important to the Auxiliary. It also helps Tampa Lodge #708 bring home a plaque for highest per member donations to the Florida Charities at the Florida convention each year.

We gladly accept bills and checks, also. This month we collected two houses full of change from Diane Meleen. We also collected a house from Patty Jankiewicz and another from Carolyn Breit. Donna Halsey again made a very generous donation at the LOE meeting. Bonnie Atwood also donated. I was out of town quite a bit, but Sharon Ford stepped in and emptied the change from around the bar, and then contributed her own change to go with it.

Rita Smith

LOE DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

12/8 Jack Johnson12/13 Betty Pickenpaugh12/22 Carolyn Miller12/25 Shelagh Gombarcik



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

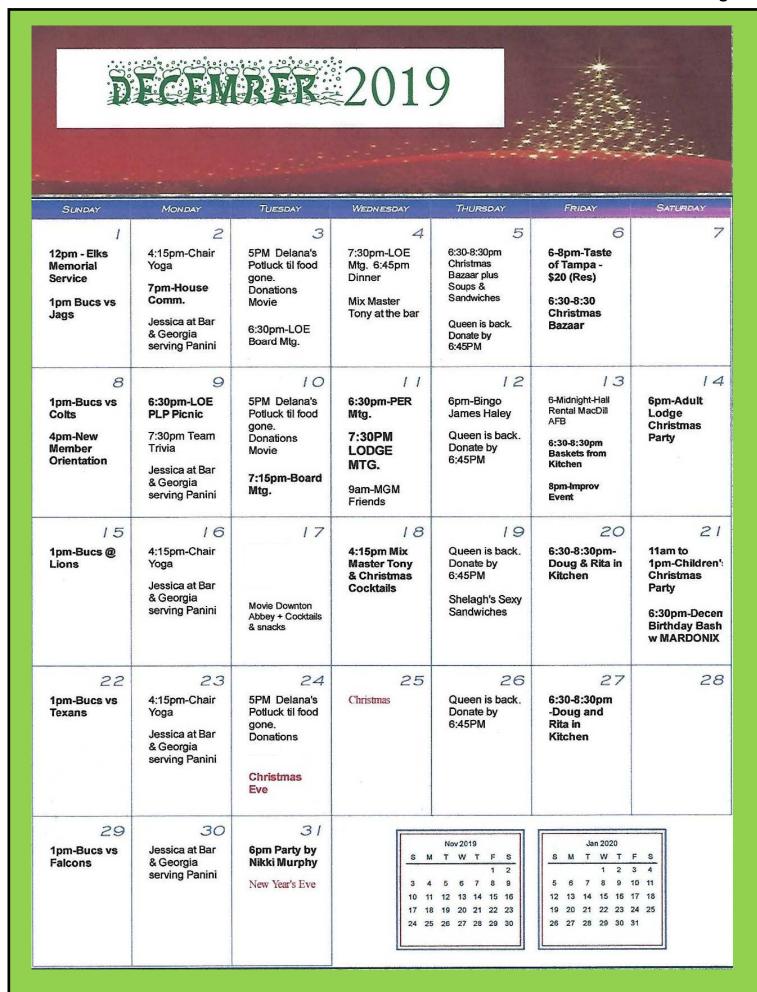
Silver Investors \$21-\$50

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







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



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 Betty Orcutt Sharon Ford Richard Schneider Christopher Miles Robert Suhrheinrich Susie Harlow Steve Harmon

Lisa and Bob Snyder Pat Fennel Bill Deen

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.