

Volume 2021 Issue 4- July 2020 Official Publication of Tampa Elks Lodge #708, Founded 1902 Published monthly at 3616 W Gandy Blvd, Tampa FL 33611

Office: 813-831-4280— Lounge: 813-839-8928

We're Re Opened!

WE'RE HAVING FUN, SOCIALIZING (SAFELY) AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS!





As we went to press with this issue the rules about operation, both of the Lodge and the Bar, were in a state of flux. Your House Committee urges you stay in touch via either the Lodge website:

Tampaelks.com

Or email blasts sent by Marty Quire. Your House Committee is working to protect the Lodge, and continue offering services safely to our members!

> CURRENT RULES ON PAGE 7

Both Baseball & The NFL are about to resume! Check the bulletin board & web site often to catch games at the Lodge on our **BIG** screen.

July 4th Plans - Page 7





LODGE OFFICERS:

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE:

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

LODGE COMMITTEES:

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

EOTM

Elk of the Month: Marty Quire. For those of you who visit us online or check your email, you know Marty is our Webmaster and eBlaster. When you go to TampaElks.com, it's because Marty curates the site. When you get your Elksize it's because Marty sends it to you. When an eBlast goes out to notify you of weekly events, special events, or emergent notices it's because Marty is there to keep you in the loop. In addition, many of the notices are created by Marty. Of course Marty is also there to take portraits and photos during special events and is also known by his KJ title Mardonix. While this surely doesn't cover everything, I wanted to thank Marty for all he does for Tampa Lodge.

OOTM

Officer of the Month: Shannon Wheatley, Esteemed Lecturing Knight. Having only become a member in November 2018 Shannon has taken to the Lodge like a Tampa Fun Boat to water. Shannon along with Courtney, Paul, Wendy, Shelagh and many others helped to organize and deliver food and toiletries to members in need during the initial Corona quarantine. This typifies the motto of her station in the Lodge, Brother Love, which is symbolized by the Antlers of Protection. Shannon is also our House Committee Chairwoman and we should thank her for leading the House Committee in keeping the Kitchen and Lounge open and safe for members

Flag Day Ceremony

Robert Orcutt, head of the Americanism Committee delivered an honorary tribute to our American flag.

Bob opened the meeting by reminding us that the Elks started the tradition of designating Flag Day as June 14th in 1907. It wasn't until 1949 when President Woodrow Wil-



son, an Elk himself, declared Flag Day a National Ceremony. Flag Day is a required observance that all Lodge's must recognize every year.

Bob then called upon Melissa Bertoch, Lodge Chaplain, to read the opening prayer.

Betty Orcutt was then called up to read the history of the past flags dating back to 1607 during the founding of Jamestown, VA when the colonies were still under the flag of England later becoming the flag of the Peoples of America.



Paul DeLand continued the history of the flags and a nation wanting to be free.

The American Flag became a symbol of pride, of courage and a connection to the hearts of every soldier who ever fought in a war to protect it and our Country.

Paul ended with, "only love, true love of our fellow man, can create peace. The emblem and token of that love is the stars and stripes, the symbol of the American way of life."

We welcome our 1st new member initiated since the Covid virus episode began....

Say HI to

Lisa Muchado



Miles



I can't believe it's been another month and the Corona Cloud continues to rain down on Tampa Bay, Tampa Elks, and the Tampa Community. I know most of us thought by now the shimmer of silver lining sneaking through in early June would have torn open by now, allowing us to push into a brighter day.

However, that's not been our luck, and with Corona cases on the rise the Lodge has been forced to take additional measures to try and keep our members safe without having to close our doors. Along with that there have been other changes, including the loss of one of our favorite bartenders, Tony Springer, who unfortunately has moved on to more fruitful employment. We wish Tony the best, thank him for all he has done, and look forward to seeing him soon.

As many may have heard by now, we have also had to mandate additional rules in order to keep members safe, including signing in, temperature screenings, using face masks, and continuing social distancing. However, at least as of the time I write this article we can sit in small groups and enjoy each other's company from a few feet away. In addition, Dee, Georgia, Delana, and the House Committee have been able to keep food service open. Thank you, and all those who contribute to keeping the Kitchen running, including our patrons.

Finally, our first Zoom Lodge Meeting went well, so at this point we will continue to broadcast by Zoom for those who are unable to attend due to being out of town, or unable to attend meetings due to health reasons or Corona. There is a flyer in Elksize with information to enter the meeting by the video app or by calling in.

Corona can't last forever, and I can't accept it as our "new normal". So while I hope this Corona Cloud doesn't develop in a Corona Storm as we enter Hurricane season I leave you with a quote from Serenity, "I am a leaf on the wind; watch how I soar"



https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8138314280? pwd=SjBMZzFHRlBya1E5TW0zdWNvbGNXUT09

Meeting ID: 813 831 4280

Password: 124970

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,8138314280#,,1#,124970# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,8138314280#,,1#,124970# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 813 831 4280

Password: 124970

Public Relations Report - Chairperson Shelagh Gombarcik PER. PLP July 2020

Greetings members, I think that a lot of members might know me but for those that don't, I am a Past Exalted Ruler and Past Lady President; I have been a member of this amazing organization for 20 years. I have taken on the role of Public Relations Chair and I am asking all of you wonderful members to be on my committee. I'm not asking you to attend meetings as such...what I am asking is that you PLEASE, PLEASE help us promote the awe-some contributions that this lodge made to our local community and our Nation through Charity and Patriotism. We are back in business and open at 708 not at full capacity yet6, but we are getting there. Covid 19 has been a struggle for us at the lodge and for you all I am sure it has presented many difficulties.

During the shutdown 708 continued to assist those that most needed help in our community and you can be very proud of the fact that we were able to do our part to help those most in need in South Tampa through our Lodge Charities. So, let me share with you some of the areas that we contributed through the SHUTDOWN.

We made 650 sanitary bags that included hand sanitizers, toilet paper, wrapped snacks, individual hygiene products snacks and much more. This project went to the Open Arms Ministry and a Homeless Coalition in Pinellas County. This project was headed up by Courtney Weil PER and her daughter Christina with the help of members that came in to assist and make this amazing project happen.

We participated in a drive thru food drive that also included many cash donations to help the staff that had been laid off along with members and families that had reached out to us for help. This drive continued through the Shutdown and was funded by members of 708.

One of our major projects here at the is Robinson High School Club Chivalry headed up by Rita Smith, helps students that are challenged. As many of know the graduating students from all schools this year missed out on all the wonderful graduation activities that is a right of passage to seniors. Club Chivalry had an impressive number of students that were able to graduate but did not get to partake in the festivities due do Covid 19. Our Lodge had planned a formal dinner for them but because of the Covid it did not happen. We congratulate all on them on there success and wish them all the best for their future. At this point in time we do not know what next years class will be.....but if they are able to attend regular classes....Club Chivalry will be right there to help support them through another year.

Members these are just a couple of the areas that we have been able to impact in our community and we hope that it makes you proud to be a member of this fine organization.....and if it does PLEASE share what we do with your family, friend and neighbors and let this be a source of pride and satisfaction of being and ELK. Please stay tuned as we will be bringing you many more of the admirable activities that we support right here in our Community. Elks Sharing and Caring

Fraternally

Shelagh Gombarcik PLP, PER





Happy July everyone!

Your LOE have been busy this June. We were finally able to have our first, in person, Ladies meeting inside the Lodge and it was a fantastic meeting. Our very own PDDGER Theresa Matthews (Seibert) read our Officers their Oaths of Office which was a very special moment for all. We had a delicious meal prepared and served by Bob Orcutt. We also had a special thank you gift given to our Treasurer Laura Jones for all the hard work she put into straightening out our books and for presenting a very comprehensive yet easy to understand format for her Treasurer's reports. She also met with Jackie Appel to audit the bank accounts and they plan on meeting again in October for a second audit. Thank you Laura and Jackie!

The Ladies decided to approve reserving a table in the Marketplace at State Convention to display the jewelry that the Ladies purchased, and other wares that the Ladies have from donations. The Ladies also voted to have VP Susie Harlow make a \$100.00 Lottery Board to have at convention. With the pirate themed and angel wing jewelry we should do really well.

I am also proud to announce that we have increased our membership substantially due to the Membership Committee working to get dues caught up, and reaching out to some members who do not have internet access. They also found some members who were eligible for Honorary Lifetime Membership awards. These members included, Ziggy Zeigler, Dave Partlow, Bob Orcutt, Raymond Huffman, Bonnie Atwood (our Secretary), and Jackie Appel. Donna Halsey, our stand-in

LOE

2020-21

Officers

Betty Orcutt President
Susie Harlow Vice President
Bonnie Atwood Secretary
Laura Jones Treasurer
Robert Bordonaro Parliamentarian
Lisa Snyder Chaplain

Chaplain, will be presented her award during next month's meeting. We honor you all for giving a "lifetime" of support to your Ladies Organization. Right now we have a total of 58 members which includes 12 Lifetime Members, 9 honorary Lifetime Members, making that 21 non paying members, 38 paying members of which 6 have not yet paid their dues giving us the total of 58 members. Thank you Theresa, Susie and Laura. Great job!

As a closing I would like to remind all the Ladies of Tampa708 that you are important! Your voice is a gift from God so please come to our monthly LOE meetings and share your knowledge with us.

Our next LOE meeting is July 1st. Dinner is 6:45 and the meeting starts at 7:30 PM. As a reminder, I also need volunteers to sign up for the meals to be served at our meetings. The sign up sheet is on the LOE Bulletin Board inside the Lodge.

Thank you all for your support,

Betty Orcutt

Lady President

Elks Care - Elks Share

S A S A F E



CURRENT RULES—All members coming to the Lodge must wear a mask into the Lodge, sign in at the station at the bar and have their temperature checked by the bartender or a House Committee member. At the bar, please maintain the chairs in their assigned position, and avoid moving them into clusters. REMEMBER: In order to qualify we must purchase a food item along with any alcohol purchase! Masks may be removed while eating or drinking!

BE SAFE AND CHECK CURRENT RULES ON EACH VISIT TO THE Lodge!



Lodge History

Your Lodge, Tampa #708, is the oldest Lodge on Florida's West Coast. Founded in 1902, Tampa was the fifth Lodge founded in Florida with Jacksonville Lodge # 221 the 1st (1st Lodge in each state is called the "Mother Lodge", and all Lodges are numbered sequentially with New York Lodge #1 having been the 1st Lodge.) Tampa Lodge is also recognized as one of the founding Lodges of the Florida State Elks Association (FSEA) which came into existence in Tampa in 1904, later moving to Umatilla where the Elks own a large tract of land housing the State headquarters and the renowned Youth Camp.

Your Lodge holds the distinction of having been home to the most Presidents of the FSEA of Florida Lodges with 11 Past Presidents calling Tampa Lodge home. The most recent, of course, is Frank Palladini who served as State President in 2004-2005.

The early Tampa Lodge was founded by a group of prominent Tampa businessmen, including three Maas brothers (Owners of the Maas Brothers retail stores which existed for decades). The chapter has been located in several places, the topic of a future column!



Editor's Note: Each month we will be highlighting a Lodge Officer to help our newer members, and those who are remote, to better know them.

Camden Lynn – Leading Knight

Born and raised in Perry, Fl and was born into Elkdom.

As a child, I participated in FSEA Soccer Shoot and attended FSEA Youth Camp multiple times as a camper.

Attending Tallahassee Community college and earned an Associates of Arts degree before transferring to University of South Florida focusing on Business Management and Public Health. While at USF, I was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity where I served as chair of events and socials.

Since 2009, I have been running my own business running and planning events in Florida and Georgia. I briefly lived in Atlanta, GA and Fort Lauderdale, Fl before moving back to Tampa in 2018.

Even though I have only been an initiated Elk for 3 years, I have been raised in the Elks on the Lodge and Club side in the North District since I was an infant.

Relatives who are Elks: Susan Lynn - PDDGER, Mike Lynn - Trustee, Chris Lynn, Elizabeth Eastman, Kim Mauldin - Chaplain.

I was Lecturing Knight – Elect at Perry #1851. Lecturing Knight, Leading Knight, and 2 years as Board Of Directors Secretary at Tampa #708.





I attended the Elk's State Convention, where I had the opportunity to hear the report of the Children's Therapy Services Head Coleen Gallant and the Head of the Youth Camp, Nick Miller. To say that the Covid 19 pandemic has had an impact is putting it mildly! The Therapy Services has managed to keep all 51 therapists employed. No therapist will be going into patient hoes until the Governor puts Florida into phase 3 of the recovery. They are working with patients online, by phone, or however they can. They are also taking advantage of their less strenuous schedule to do some continuing education.

With the Lodge open and meetings going live- donations have poured in. I received a full house of coins from Betty Orcutt, Robert Bordonaro, Laura Jones, Bonnie Atwood, Carolyn Breit, and Patty Jankowicz and I had one, too. Sharon went around and collected coins from members on 3 different occasions, and turned that money in. Jack Johnson donated the cash equivalent of a house, and Donna Halsey, who has been our top supporter for years, turned in a whopping 16 houses worth! She budgets a certain amount each moth for this charity,

The 365 money need to be turned in prior September 1stm, so if you have a bank at home, please work on filling it up and getting it turned in!

Rita Smith

365 Chair

FLOE Conference coming in September.... Details in August Elksize



On-Going Calendar







Soon!!! We are eager To resume!



Lodge Business and Programs



Partners in Progress or PIP

Platinum Investors \$100+

Fennell, Jerrye, Patrick & Cheryl 7/21 Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 7/21 Appel, Jackie 7/21 Palladini, Frank 2/21 Schneider, R & J 2/21 Suhrheinrich, Bob & Candace 1/21 Miller, Scott & Beth 10/20 Florance, Richard 11/2021 Waldbart, Mark 8/23 Bertoch, Melissa 2/21 Atwood, Bonnie 2/21 Smith, R 2/21 Miles, ER, Chris 2/21 Jones, Laura 2/21 Brennen, J. 3/21 Edwards, Bill 5/21

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

McLaughlin, Susan & Mark 10/20

Silver Investors \$21-\$50

Lake, Sandra (Member) 10/20 Lake, David & Carol 10/20 Tuttle, Peggy 10/20

Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20

Wheatley, Shannon 2/21 Buikema, Douglas & Carol 10/20 Piser, Carol 10/20 Lynn, Camden 2/21





July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S M T W T 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30	5 6 12 13 2 3 19 20 9 10 26 27 16 17	Aug 2020 T W T F S 1 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	7:30p - LOE Gen. Mtg. 6:45p - Dinner	Open Grill Night by Dee Queen of Hearts - Donate by 6:45p	Grill Night 5:30-8pm	4 July 4th At 708
5 Pancake Breakfast 9am - 12 Noon	5:30-8:00p Georgia's Panini Monday 6:30p - House Comm.	7 7:15pm BOD 7:30p - Movie Night	7:30p - Lodge Meeting Membership Comm. 6-7p	Open Grill Night by Dee Queen of Hearts - Donate by 6:45p	10 Grill Night 5:30-8pm	11
QUARTER AUCTION 1:00 -4:00PM	13 5:30-8:00p Georgia's Panini Monday	14 7:30p - Movie Night	15 VETS Comm. 6:30pm	Open Grill Night by Dee Queen of Hearts - Donate by 6:45p	17 Grill Night 5:30-8pm	18
19 New Member Orientation 4pm	5:30-8:00p Georgia's Panini Monday 6:30p - House Comm.	21 7:30p - Movie Night	22 7:30p - Lodge Meeting	23 Open Grill Night by Dee Queen of Hearts - Donate by 6:45p	24 Dinner w/Vets 6:30pm Grill Night 5:30-8pm	25 Seminole/Largo Joint VP Visit 5pm at Largo
26 5:00pm Gourmet Club w Mediterranean Theme	27 5:30-8:00p Georgia's Panini Monday	28 7:30p - Movie Night	29	Open Grill Night by Dee Queen of Hearts - Donate by 6:45p	31 Dinner 5:30-8pm By Shelagh and Jacquie	



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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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
Shannon Wheatley 6/2022
Jerrye, Patrick & Cheryl Fennel 6/21
Pat & Marilyn Fennel 6/21



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

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

\$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!

Friends of 708

OUR CURRENT SUSTAINING SUPPORTERS

Marty Quire Bonnie Quire Linda Reid Theresa Matthews Bonnie Atwood
Nanette Quire Mr & Mrs Orcutt Sharon Ford Richard Schneider Jacquie LoCicero
Christopher Miles Mr & Mrs Suhrheinrich Susie Harlow Steve Harmon
Lisa and Bob Snyder Pat & Marilyn Fennell Bill Deen Candy Venable Chris Ragusa
Mr & Mrs Hilficker Shannon Wheatley Camden Lynn Laura Jones LOE 708

OUR CURRENT ONE-TIME 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 P & M 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.