

# Elks Tampa 708 Elksize



Official Publication of Tampa Elks Lodge #708, Founded 1902  
Published monthly at 3616 W Gandy Blvd, Tampa FL 33611  
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## Moving Forward

Whew, we made it through the first month! Not to say there weren't a few bumps along the way or times we veered off the path we thought we forged. This is to be expected at the beginning of the year as we transition the leadership team and everyone is trying to get their bearings and figure out "what the heck am I supposed to do now?" I am very excited about the group of leaders you elected and those appointed this year. The level of excitement and willingness to participate and share has been contagious. And I am equally excited with the members! So many people have given great feedback, advice, or offered to help wherever they are needed. Don't worry, I will be calling you!



Now that we are all installed, I want to thank everyone who helped plan, decorate, set up, clean up and participate in installation. Shelagh Gombarcik, Loyal Knight, provided the green table cloths and napkins and set up the head table to look so lovely. She also directed the setup of the other tables with the ivy and white. Brenda Stokking purchased and donated the Ivy and led the efforts to create the center pieces for each table. Brenda was supported by Susie Harlow, Sue Moore, Tommy Moore, Melissa Bertoch, Bonnie



Exalted Ruler Theresa Matthews

Quire, Rick Smith, Rosa Luer, Hailey Matthews, Rita Smith, Nan Quire, Nancy Keesler, and Nelson Grahn. Bob Norton, also known as my "consigliere", helped guide me in my acceptance speech, symbolism of the Ivy, and famous, pertinent quotes. Lynn Brown worked in the kitchen preparing appetizers for the cocktail party, set up the appetizer station, and supported the volunteers who served the meal. Rita Smith recruited Candy Venable, Bonnie Quire, Brenda Stokking, Donna Halsey, Debbie Osterbrock, Laura Jones, Sue Moore, Bonnie Quire, Lena Ferris, Patricia Jankiewicz, Lisa Snyder, Shelagh Gombarcik, Nan Quire and Nancy Keesler PER to prepare and donate appetizers. Thank you all, they were delicious! All in all a lot of people worked very hard to make this a special night for all the incoming officers. I want to thank Steve Harmon, PDDGER, and all the PER's who installed us; Vic Thomas, Brian Brantley, Nancy Keesler, Frank Sellers, Don Moon (from Brandon Lodge), Rick Schneider, and Richard Florance. We also want to give a shout out to Jane Moon, President of Florida Ladies of the Elks (FLOE) for installing our Ladies Auxiliary. Finally, a big Thank You to Jerry Reid, also from Brandon Lodge, who designed and created the program for me (I only revised it 7 times). I do apologize if I have left anyone out. That was definitely not my intention.

Join us at 3:00 on Mother's Day as your new officers perform the Elks Mother's Day Ceremony. It will be followed by Afternoon Tea hosted by Loyal Knight, Shelagh Gombarcik. I am sure she would appreciate any offers to help. Mothers will be free, other than mothers are \$6.00.

In March, before we were even installed, most of the incoming officers met to help prepare a business plan for the year. We did a brainstorming session to discuss the priorities of Tampa 708 this year. We looked at the activities/programs/behaviors, we want to **start** doing, **stop** doing, and **continue** doing. This was a great start to figure out what is important to our members. We also took the time to review what we perceive to be our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Completing these exercises helped us focus on where we felt we would get the biggest return on our investment (time, energy, money, etc.). Thank you to the officers who participated in these exercises and offered a lot of great ideas and suggestions. Our next step is to create a Business Plan. Why a Business Plan? Yes, we are a fraternal organization, but we are also a revenue generating business that needs to practice sound business tactics if we want to make sure we are around for the next 100 years! This business plan will allow us to "**plan our work**" and then all we have to do is "**work our plan**". Some areas of our plan involve



Continued on Page 3

**LODGE OFFICERS**

**Exalted Ruler**  
Theresa Matthews, PLP

**Leading Knight**  
Albert Schnut

**Loyal Knight**  
Shelagh Gombarcik, PLP

**Lecturing Knight**  
Nan Quire, PLP

**Secretary**  
Steve Harmon, PDDGER

**Treasurer**  
Robert Bordonaro

**Esquire**  
Vic Thomas, PER

**Inner Guard**  
Tommy Moore

**Tiler**  
Pat Fennell

**Chaplain**  
Melissa Bertoch

**5-Year Trustee**  
Bob Suhrheinrich

**4-Year Trustee**  
Courtney Taylor-Weil

**3-Year Trustee**  
Sharon Ford

**2-Year Trustee**  
Brian Brantley, PER

**1-Year Trustee**  
Paul Deland

**Grand Lodge Officers:**

**District Advisor**  
Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER

**Lodge Advisors:**  
Steve Harmon, PDDGER  
Mike Pierson, PDDGER

**VAVS Rep for James A Haley**  
Brian Brantley, PER

**LOUNGE MANAGER**  
**James Harlow**

**BARTENDERS**  
Jeffrey  
Katrina

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Accident Prevention**  
Brian Brantley, PER

**Activities**  
Courtney Taylor -Weil

**Americanism**  
Richard Florance, PER

**Athena House**  
Rita Smith, PLP

**Auditing and Accounting**  
Jackie Appel

**Bell Ringers**  
Pat Fennell

**Calendar Girl**  
Bonnie Quire

**Chamber of Commerce**  
Courtney Taylor-Weil

**Convention**  
Brian Brantley, PER

**Community Activities**  
Courtney Taylor-Weil

**Dining Room Staffing**  
Georgia Hilficker

**Elks National Foundation**  
Shelagh Gombarcik, PLP

**Elksize Editor**  
APWURITA@HOTMAIL.COM

**Facebook Page**  
John Weigold

**Fraternal**  
Nan Quire, PLP

**FSEA Elk's Training**  
**Volunteer Needed**

**Greeters**  
Flo Wayne, PLP

**Harry Anna Foundation**  
Albert Schnut

**House Committee**  
Chris Miles

**Kitchen**  
Courtney Weil

**Marquee Manager**  
Jim Shimp

**Mediator**  
David Partlow

**Membership**  
Volunteer Needed

**Music**  
Robert Summers

**Orientation**  
Shelagh Gombarcik, PLP

**Presiding Justice**  
John Redding

**Veteran's Committee**  
Brian Brantley, PER

**Youth Activities**  
Tommy Moore

**Youth Camp**  
John Wayne, PER

**Website / Online Communications**  
Marty Quire

**HOUSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Chris Miles, Chairman**

John Flowers  
Christine Harris  
Debbie Osterbrock  
Rick Schneider, PER  
Lisa Snyder  
John Weigold

**LADIES OF THE ELKS**

**President**  
Suzanne Moore, PLP

**Vice President**  
Susie Harlow, PLP

**Secretary**  
Elma Kelly

**Treasurer**  
Robert Bordonaro

**Chaplain**  
Janette Bennett

**Parliamentarian**  
Lisa Snyder

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

So Christina,  
Do you want to be an Elk?



Christina Sanchez

*Have you invited your friends and family to JOIN the Elks?*

From page 1 reviewing the kitchen, bar service, and the overall organization of your Lodge. You may have noticed changes to the menu, staffing, service, dining room, and kitchen. There are a lot of great members and volunteers who are working very hard to try to deliver delicious meals, in a nice, friendly, environment, with outstanding customer service. Please let them know you appreciate them and as always, we appreciate feedback.

What do a perfect bowling score and one of our top goals has in common? Well, a perfect bowling score is 300 (ask Bill Helsel) and our goal is **300** members by March 31, 2016. We finished last year with 295 members. All we need is plus 5 members. I know that sounds like we could do that in one or two months.

Just last year between new members, transfer/demits into our lodge, and reinstatements we added 45 members to our rolls. However, between non-renewals, transfer/demits out of our lodge, absolute demits, and sadly, deaths, we lost 42 members. We ended up with a membership gain of plus 3. Great job, Tampa 708!

So, now how do we get plus 5 this year? It starts with us! What do you do to make new members and guests of members feel welcome and invited? You may have noticed our Head Greeter, Flo Wayne, greeting people as they came in on the first Friday night of April. We also had "Boston Bob" Norton at the door dressed like James Bond and welcoming everyone. This past Friday, our Lecturing Knight, Nan Quire was there welcoming members and guests as they walked in the door. Everyone and anyone can greet people as they walk in the door. Let Flo know which week you want. Remember the old TV show, Cheers. How does the song go? "Everyone loves to hear their name?"

Once they come in the door, how do we get them to stay? How do we get them to join? We offer them a great place to visit. Not just the bar and kitchen, but the sociability of the Lodge. Give them the opportunity to support the charities they love and cherish and the ability to give back and share it with like-minded individuals. Next time you come down, greet someone you don't know. You may make a new friend or remember an old friend.

I believe in treating people with respect. You will never find me berating a member or embarrassing anyone. We may not always all get along or even like everyone in the Lodge, but we should always be kind and treat each other with respect. Just think about how you want to be treated and let that guide you.

Until next month I leave you with a quote by Rena Harmon,

"Acceptance. It is the true thing everyone longs for. The one thing everyone craves. To walk in a room and to be greeted by everyone with hugs and smiles. And in that small passing moment, you truly know you're loved, needed, and accepted."

Fraternally,  
Theresa Matthews  
Exalted Ruler





# 2015 State Convention May 21-24

**Every Member of this Lodge or LOE is invited to attend the convention.**

This year's Florida Elks state convention will again be held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort at 1000 w Buena Vista Drive Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. There is a link on the FLELKS.org webpage to register for the convention . Registration is free, but is required. The Convention Hotel Rates are now sold out. There are many other hotels in the area.



Tampa Lodge # 708 will again be hosting a hospitality room in the Casitas area of the hotel. **We are soliciting donations of alcohol, snack foods and mixers.** We are still keeping the pirate theme. However, we will be changing the decorations this year, so if you have Gasparilla items to loan us, please let Convention Chair Brian Brantley, PER, know. If you are coming for Saturday night, bring your pirate gear and giveaway beads.

Please support the Convention fundraisers to help offset this large annual expense.



## **OLD ELK TALES (MYTH BUSTERS)**



Relating to your guests: "First time guest, second time friend, third time member."

**False!**

Elks Statutes do not allow any requirements on how many times a guest can visit and enjoy our hospitality if they are with a member. If you see someone here frequently, or bring someone frequently, invite them to join! Why wouldn't we want them to be a member if they enjoy coming here so frequently?

Did you renew your membership yet?

You will need the 2015-2016 Yellow and White membership card to enter the Lodge.

Don't miss out on another day of fun! If you haven't done so - see the Lodge Secretary to renew today!  
**Credit Cards are now accepted.**

Convention Fundraising Events



Elk's Tooth Mounted in 14 karat Gold  
or  
Elks Hunting Knife in case.  
Just \$5 for 2 tickets See Bonnie Quire  
Drawing Saturday, May 23, @ convention

50/50  
Drawings  
Every  
Friday



Bottle of booze weekly raffles.  
Price varies depending on the Liquor.  
Winner drawn each Friday.

**Theresa Matthews, Exalted Ruler  
Tampa Lodge #708**

April 7, 2015

Rudy Masi, DDGER,

We would like to request dispensation of the meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 per our by-laws. Article IV: Meetings, Section 1 "The regular meetings of this Lodge shall be held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings in each month throughout the year, except in the months of May and November, in which the Lodge shall meet on the second Wednesday.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Fraternally Yours,

Theresa Matthews, Exalted Ruler

**From:** " Rudy Masi, Sr."  
**Date:** April 17, 2015 at 3:41:54 PM EDT  
**To:** 'Theresa Matthews'  
**Cc:** 'Steve Harmon'  
Rudy Masi Sr.

**Subject: RE: Request for dispensation of lodge meeting 5/27/15**

Good Afternoon Theresa,

Your request for dispensation of the May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Lodge meeting is granted.

Enjoy your weekend!

Rudy Masi, Sr.  
District Deputy  
West Central District 2080  
FL State Elks Association



Pictured is PSP Frank Palladini with his youngest daughter Michelle Clayton following his installation of Michelle as Exalted Ruler of Hampton, VA Elks Lodge #366 on March 29, 2015. A total of 23 officers of both Hampton Lodge #366 and Newport News Lodge #315 were installed at the ceremony. Michelle is a former member of Tampa #708. Jeanne Reinhart PER from Largo served as Grand Lodge Chaplain.

(That was the same weekend as the Tampa Installation.)

**Mission of the Partners In Progress**

**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's long term 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**

Horrell, PERS, Addison & Tracy  
6/2015  
James, Howard 3/2016

**SILVER INVESTORS \$21 - \$50**

Osterbrock, Debbie 11/2015

**BRONZE INVESTORS \$10-\$20**

*YOUR NAME HERE?*

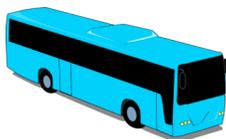
**PLATINUM INVESTORS - \$100+**

**Fennell, Pat & Marilyn 3/2015**  
**Green, Cindy and Bob 3/2015**  
**In Memory of Fennell, Jerrye and Patrick 3/2015**  
**Pickenpaugh, Vernon and Betty, PLSP 3/2015**  
**Schneider, PER, Rick and Jan, 3/2015**  
**Wright, Vera 3/2015**  
**Smith, Rita 4/2015**  
 Appel, Jackie 5/2015  
 Palladini, PSP, Frank & Ebba Jean 6/2015  
 Brennan, John 8/2015  
 Suhrheinrich, Bob 9/2015  
 Suhrheinrich, Candi 9/2015  
 Thomas, PER, Victor & Berniece 11/2015  
 Palladini, Debbie & Durant, Rose 3/2016  
 Walbart, Mark 6/2016  
 Deese, John and Kathy 4/2016  
 In Memory of Ebba Jean Palladini

**From:** Rita Helsell  
 Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015  
 2:36 PM  
**To:** Treasurer 708  
**Subject:** ELKS VISIT

The committee of our "Trip-To-Nowhere" would like to sincerely thank you and your members for the wonderful reception and lunch we had at your lodge Sunday, April 12, 2015. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated and meeting and greeting new friends made our day. Lunch was delicious. Hoping to include your lodge in another one of our trips as we continue to raise money for our charities.

Rita Helsell



**Be an SOB!**

**(Smiling ole Booster)**  
**\$10.00 per year helps offset**  
**the cost of the Elksize.**



**Vernon and Betty Pickenpaugh 4/2015**

In Memory of Charlie Fiveash 5/2015  
 Donna Morris Halsey 7/2015  
 Christopher Miles 11/2015  
 Howard James 3/2016  
 Bob and Candi Suhrheinrich 9/2016  
 John and Kathy Deese 4/2016  
 Debbie Osterbrock 11/2016  
 In Memory of Harold Siddens, Linda & Richard 3/2018  
 Vera Wright 3/2018



**Line Dancing now on Thursdays!**

Get Your Groove On, Get Moving!

Instructor Donna Morris Halsey makes it look so easy, but you can sure work up a sweat!

A minimum \$2.00 donation helps offset the AC bill.

**First two Thursdays in May**

**6:30 PM**

**Sunday Funday  
Wii Bowling  
New Tournament each Sunday  
Play until you lose.**

**4:00 most Sundays  
2:00 Third Sunday each month**



**Tuesday Dinner and a Movie**

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👒 **Taco Tuesday (Except May 5)** 👒

👒 5:30-7-30 👒

👒 Beef and Chicken 👒

👒 Taco and Nacho Bar 👒

👒 Please make a donation 👒

👒 Proceeds go to ENF 👒

👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒👒

**May Movies**

- 5/5 No Movies = Cinco de Mayo
- 5/12 The Wedding Crashers - Susie Harlow
- 5/19 The Help - Shelagh Gombarcik
- 5/26 The Hours - Theresa Matthews

**\$2.00 Trivia  
Thursday, May 14th  
7:00 PM**



**Hosted by  
Lisa Snyder and Sandra Lake**

**All questions are multiple choice.  
Prizes are awarded for each round.  
Come early for the best seats.**

My Loe Family, Friends and Elks,



Well here we are already in the middle of April. I was honored to have the president of the Florida Ladies of the Elks perform the Installation of the LOE officers. Thanks to Jane Moon, FLOE President and all who attended, and especially to those who volunteered to help make the night so special.



Suzanne Moore



Saturday the 4th we held our Easter Party. We had about 23 children and their families. The children colored boiled eggs, played the bunny hop race, and traveled through a bunny tunnel for prizes. The highlight of the party was the silly string attack on two willing fathers. The children sprayed them down! The party ended with a visit from the Easter Bunny and distribution of Easter Candy Boxes..



Saturday the 11th we held our annual Yard Sale. We arrived at 6:30 am to set up for our sale at 8AM. We had great weather and a lot of things to choose from. Thanks to

Lisa, Susie, Brenda, Sandy, Debbie, Tommy, Miranda and all those who came to help set up and break down. Also thank you to those that made donations or made purchases. I think it was a success!

Now it is time to get ready for the Elks convention. The Lotto Board is ready and selling, as are many blinky hats and solo cups.

Thank you to everyone for their support and for stepping up when needed.

God's Blessings,  
Suzanne Moore  
LOE President.



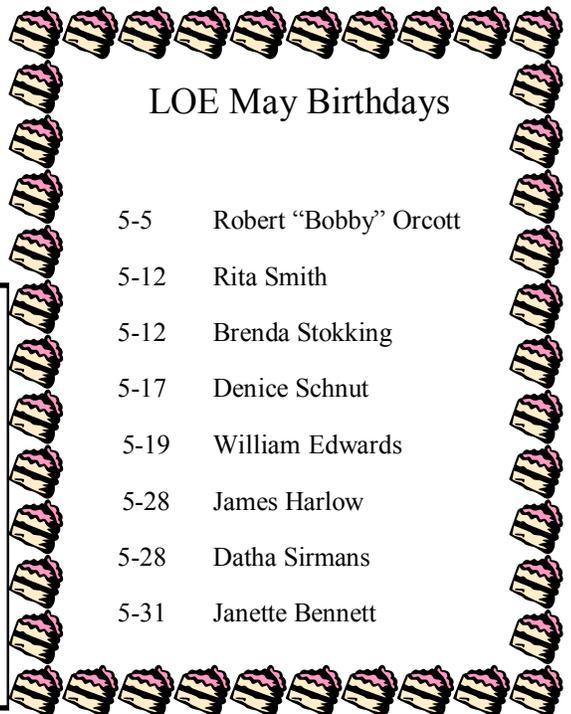
**365 Club**  
Berni Turpin, Chair

Hello 365'ers. We had a great month. We still have some money trickling in from the walk a thon and from the new green houses on the bar and tables. I have collected money and/or boxes from Bonnie Quire, Bonnie Atwood, Donna Halsey, Betty and Vernon Pickenpough, John and Flo Wayne and myself.

If I forgot you please forgive me. Just let me know and I will print it in the next newsletter. Keep up the good work - the kids in need are counting on you!

LOE May Birthdays

- 5-5 Robert "Bobby" Orcott
- 5-12 Rita Smith
- 5-12 Brenda Stokking
- 5-17 Denice Schnut
- 5-19 William Edwards
- 5-28 James Harlow
- 5-28 Datha Sirmans
- 5-31 Janette Bennett



This Month's Premiere Event! Don't miss out!

# Toga Party

Saturday, May 16th, 6:30 PM

Chef Ralph and Donna C.



Shish Kabob Dinner  
Beef and Chicken

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS  
Only \$20.00  
Tickets available at Bar or  
from Convention Committee.



Costume Contest

50/50

Ancient Auction

Dance Music by *Street Life*



Door Prizes

And More!!!!

Classy Belly Dancer Show



## Sing for your Supper

Karaoke and Pot Luck Dinner

Saturday, May 2nd 7:00



Featuring Jerry "Hambone" Reid  
Join your fellow Elks in cooking up some Fun!

## Shaking Saturday

Sat. May 30 6:30 PM

With DJ Chris spinning  
Loud and Proud Style!

DJ Chris & Xtina

All you can eat  
Pasta Dinner  
only \$6.00

Meet and Greet  
with Rebels Rescue Inc.  
A 501(C)3 charity



**Theresa Matthews | Exalted Ruler**

theresalmatthews@yahoo.com

**Steve Harmon | Secretary**

lodge708secretary@yahoo.com

**Robert Bordonaro**

Treasurer708@gmail.com

*Feeling left out?*

Get email updates and event reminders from our webmaster and information distributor,

**Marty Quire.**

Send an email to [mquire@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mquire@tampabay.rr.com) and add Marty as a contact.



# Elks in the Kitchen. . .

Pardon our hiccups!

You might have noticed there's been some commotion, and a bit of confusion in the dining room the past few weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our members. However, we are making changes that we hope will improve the quality of food and service you can expect when you dine here, at your Lodge.

Cleaning the kitchen, setting up a schedule to maintain it's condition, streamlining the computer entry system, training new servers, and improving our menus, are just a few of the things being addressed in this process. We hope you will be patient while we work out the kinks.

As a new Elk, I am impressed with the members that step up to cook on Friday nights and Sunday mornings. We are truly lucky to have such dedicated and talented members. I look forward to working with them over the next year, and hope I can be part of instituting an even more enjoyable atmosphere and cuisine.

**About our Servers.**

You may or may not be aware that we have lost, and will be losing, some of our servers to college or the service. Since I am in charge of staffing, I have been actively seeking replacements. I recently recruited two new high school students working toward their community hours, and to help defray their college expenses. I would ask you keep in mind that these kids are volunteers, and most have never waited table. The only income they derive for their efforts is your kind gratuities. Please consider that we cannot keep good people if they do not feel appreciated.

Thank you so much,  
*Georgia Hilficker*



## Calling all Soul Food Lovers!

Elks Lodge #708  
Friday, May 8th. 6pm



- Appetizer - Fried Green Tomatoes.....\$3.50**
- Main Course - Served with a Garden Salad & Corn Bread**
- Fried Catfish, Mac & Cheese & Fried Okra.....\$9.95**
- Ribs with Mac & Cheese & Fresh Collards .....\$12.95**
- Dessert -**
- Homemade Sweet Potato Pie..... \$2.95**
- Homemade Peach Cobbler..... \$2.95**



Since Sweet Tea is the drink of the south, why not ask the bartender for a SOUTHERN STYLE LONG ISLAND ICED TEA!

**IN THE KITCHEN: COURTNEY WEIL, GEORGIA HILFICKER AND LAURA JONES**



# Volunteers Needed To Serve The Homeless!

Tampa Elk's Lodge partners with Hyde Park Methodist Church to feed up to 250 men, women and children every Sunday Morning. It is a very well run production, and only lasts about 2.5 hours, but it takes a large crew to prep, serve and clean up.

I suggest you ask Courtney Taylor Weil when the next time she is scheduled to run the Kitchen and let her show you the ropes. You will be amazed and want to come back often.

This is our ongoing Beacon Grant Project and is supported by the *Elks National Foundation*.



## Calling all Gourmets and Foodies

We has another superb turn-out at the April Gourmet Club meeting. If you missed it, you missed out on Coq-au-Vin, Chicken Paprikash, Chicken and Dumplings, Arroz con Pollo and much more...even Chick-o-Stix pie! Don't miss next month, May 17th at 5:00 pm, when we celebrate MEAT. Bring your best beef, pork, lamb, bison, veal, rabbit, or even elk (yikes) dishes. And, as always, bring your recipes for our cookbook - either bring them with you, or email me at chodgson2@verizon.net. Those of you who'd rather eat than cook - come anyway and join us for good food and, of course, trivia.  
Candy Venable



### ALEXIS AND COURTNEY'S ITALIAN DINNER

#### APPETIZERS



Caprese Salad with Balsamic Glaze \$4.25



Italian Wedding Soup \$3.50



#### DESSERT

Italian Cannoli with Chocolate Chips \$3.75

#### MAIN COURSE

Dinner Served with Salad and Garlic Bread



Spaghetti & Meatballs \$9.95



Chicken Parmesan with Spaghetti \$11.95



Fettuccini Alfredo \$10.95

## Hot Dog!

### Wienie Wednesday

\$1.00 Hot Dogs on Meeting Nights

6:15- 7:15



+ 1 hour after the Meeting

The Kitchen has been emptied, cleaned and reorganized. Thanks to all the volunteers. Please help it stay that way.





Tuesday May 5 6-9 PM  
 Special Mexican Buffet - Only \$6.00 - Bring your Friends  
 Games and A Mexican Costume Contest



\$3 Corona



\$3.5 Sangria



\$4. Margarita

# What's the Buzz?

**Bonnie Quire** is the official "Calendar Girl" for this lodge year. We would love to have you plan an event or book the hall, but you must check with Bonnie on available dates.

She is at the Lodge most Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays, or you can call her at **813-831-0606**.



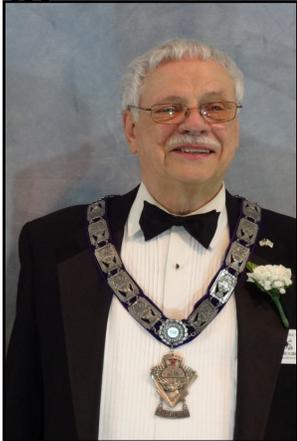
Mark McDonough has accepted a job in China!

We thank him for his many hours of volunteer work on behalf of Tampa Lodge #708.

Safe travels and much future success to you, Mark.



# AMERICANISM REPORT



Richard Florance  
Americanism Chairman

Richard Florance, P.E.R.,  
Lodge Americanism Chairman  
rhflorance@yahoo.com

### EVERLASTING MEMORIES for ELKS

There are four dates during the month of May that bring Elks back to basic tenets of Elkdom. These four events serve as part of our "Elks cultural fabric." Please think, remember, and enjoy these four important dates.

1. May 10, 2015 - Sunday - Mother's Day -- A day to remember the warm, loving, and gentle feelings as well as the kind thoughts, words, and good deeds we gave as well as received. Where might we be without our mothers?
2. May 16, 2015 - Saturday - Armed Forces Day - A day to remember those who heeded the call for America! Where might we be after all the wars we have fought to keep America free, without our valiant Armed Services?
3. May 20, 2015 To May 24, 2015 - Florida State Elks Association Convention - Orlando , Florida - A time to meet, greet, and enjoy the company of fellow Elks. This annual event brings us together to learn about all the good works Elks accomplish. A new State President is elected and installed; State, District, and Lodge Leaders are recognized; and financial concerns of Florida's Elks and their charities are addressed. Attendees will enjoy the hospitality and friendship extended to all by their fellow lodges.
4. May 25, 2015 - Memorial Day - A day for recalling, saluting, and remembering past heroes and to give civilian first-responders the respect they deserve as modern day American heroes. Tampa Elks Lodge will join American Legion Post 5 in honoring our heroes by placing wreaths in the cemetery on Memorial Day. Ceremonies start at 11:AM.



Join us on Sunday May 10th for our  
Mother's Day Ceremony  
And an Afternoon Tea at Your Lodge



Ceremony by Lodge Officers at 3PM  
Afternoon Tea to Follow  
Mothers Free, All others \$6  
All proceeds will go to the Elks  
National Foundation



Do You have the kind of  
Mum that is always giving?  
Then what better way to gift  
than to donate to the Elks Na-  
tional Foundation in her name.  
The gift that  
keeps giving to  
our Children,  
Veterans  
and **Local**  
communities.



Shelagh Gombarcik



# OFFICER OF THE MONTH

### Officer of the Month: Courtney Taylor-Weil

This officer of the month is a dynamo that most of us cannot keep up with. She is forever working at the Lodge, her home, her full time job, her son's school, her volunteer work, and everything else she does. Courtney has been instrumental in revitalizing the kitchen with some great new menu options. Courtney is currently a Trustee, Kitchen Chair, Community Activities Chair, emergency bartender, and absolutely anything else that needs to be done around the Lodge. Courtney has been a huge source of help and support to me in these first few weeks in office. She has some great ideas and more importantly, knows how to implement them. With Courtney working in the capacity of food and beverage leader she is helping to implement a lot of cost effective and non-traditional ideas all with the hope of increasing profits and charitable donations for the B.P.O.E. I thank Courtney very much for all her service to Tampa Elks and look forward to a great year with her!



# ELK OF THE MONTH

### Elk of the Month: Georgia Hilficker

This lady just became an Elk in the month of March. She is the Mother of an Elk as well as the sister of an Elk. She hit the ground running and focused on what joining a charitable organization is all about. Georgia came in right as I was assuming the role of Exalted Ruler and has done nothing but offer helpful suggestions and assumed the tasks related to these suggestions. Georgia is not one to tell everyone what they should do, but one to show what can be done. If she comes up with an idea, she has a plan behind it. She is not afraid of hard work as well as the expense related to it. She has designed some great theme menus along with Courtney Taylor and Laura Jones. Georgia is in charge of volunteer staff recruiting and training. Georgia also designed a cleaning schedule for the kitchen and re-designed the table numbers and processes for the servers, bussers, and cashiers that are much more productive and make sense. Georgia has proven to be a breath of fresh air and a tremendous asset to Tampa Lodge 708 in the very short time she has been a member. I look forward to an awesome year with Georgia's spirit, enthusiasm, and knowledge of the business.. Thank you , Georgia!



# VOLUN "ELK" OF THE MONTH

### Volun'Elk' of the Month: Tim Toraeo

This young man has been a volunteer busser and server here on Friday nights and Sunday mornings for some time now. He always has a smile on his face and is very polite, professional looking and professional acting. Tim is a senior at Robinson High School (my Alma Mater, go Knights!). He is volunteering here at Tampa Elks 708 to help earn money to go to college when he graduates. Tim is also active in Relay for Life and does other volunteer work whenever he can between school, home, and the Elks Lodge. Tim is another fine young man who exemplifies the characteristics we look for in our membership. Tim is a team player who doesn't hesitate to back up his team mates or to jump in and help in another capacity if he sees the need. We look forward to helping Tim reach his goal of attending college and to helping to guide and mold him into a productive, successful, young adult.

- The curtains have been replaced in the back hall area.
- Some of the old curtains are available if you need to make a toga for the May 16th event.
- First come, first served.
- See Susie Harlow, or Rita Smith.



# Tampa Elks Lodge #708



# May 2015

**Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat**

Mother's Day Ceremony and Afternoon Tea <i>Page 13</i> All New Saturday Events <i>Page 9</i> 4th Wednesday <i>Page 5</i>					1 Dinner & Dance Kathy & Paul	2 Karaoke & Pot Luck 7:00
3 8:30-12 Breakfast 4:00 Wii	4 LOE Board Meeting 7:30 BOD Budget meeting 7:00	5 6 -9 Cinco De Mayo Buffet \$6	6 6:45 LOE dinner 7:30 LOE Meeting	7 6:30 Line Dancing \$2.00 6:30 Athena	8 Dinner & Dance Dazzler	9 Hall in Use
10 8:30-12 Breakfast Mother's Day 3:00	11 7:00 House Committee Open Meeting	12 Taco Tuesday Officer and BOD meeting.	13 7:30 Lodge Meeting Wienie Wednesday!	14 6:30 Line Dancing 7:00 Trivia \$2.00 each	15 Dinner & Dance Kathy & Paul	16 Toga Party 6:30 \$20.00
17 8:30-12 Breakfast 2:00 Wii 5:00 Gourmet	18 7:00 House Committee Open Meeting	19 Taco Tuesday The Help	20	21	22	23
Join us at the Coronado Springs Hotel for the Florida Elks State Association Convention Lake Buena Vista FL See Page 4						
24 8:30-12 Breakfast 4:00 Wii	25 11:00 Memorial Day at Post 5 10:30 Athena	26 Taco Tuesday The Hours	27	28	29 Dinner & Dance Carole & Paul	30 Shaking Saturday 6:30
31 8:30-12 Breakfast 4:00 Wii						

Tampa Elks Lodge #708 – Founded 1902

Tampa 708  
**Elks**ize

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IN  
**GOD**  
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We're on the Web!  
[www.tampaelks.com](http://www.tampaelks.com)

**Lodge Phones:**

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Lounge 839-8928

**Lodge Email:**

[lodge708secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:lodge708secretary@yahoo.com)



**Hall Rental Inquires::**  
813-831-0606

## Friday Night Menus & Bands

Tampa Elks Lodge #708 May (No Dinner/ Dance during Convention)

May 1

*Chef Ralph presents:*

Baked Shrimp Scampi  
w/Pasta Served with Sal-  
ad & Bread  
\$11.95

OR

Key West Prime Rib  
Seared and Topped with  
Blue Cheese Butter  
Served with  
Salad, Bread, Potato  
\$14.95

*Music by:*  
*Kathy and Paul*

May 8

*Georgia, Laura & Courtney:  
Presents*

Fried Catfish w/Fried  
Okra \$9.95  
OR  
Ribs with Collard Greens  
\$10.95

Served with Salad  
Macaroni and Cheese, and  
Corn Bread

Peach Cobbler Or  
Sweet Potato Pie \$2.95

*Music by:*  
*Dazzler*

May 15

*Alexis Presents:*

Spaghetti and Meatballs  
\$9.95

Or

Fettuccini Alfredo  
\$10.95

Or

Chicken Parmigiana  
\$11.95

Served with  
Salad and Bread

Chocolate Chip Cannoli  
\$3.75

*Music by:*  
*Keith and Ruby*

May 29

*Rick Schneider Presents:*

14 OZ NY Strip \$14.95

OR

Salmon w/ Dill Sauce  
\$13.95

Served with  
Salad, Bread, Veggie and  
Baked Potato and FF

Strawberries over Sour  
Cream Pound Cake with  
Vanilla Ice Cream \$5.50

*Music by:*  
*Carole and Paul*