

Volume 2021 Issue 11—February 2021
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





LODGE OFFICERS:

EXALTED RULER - Chris Miles LEADING KNIGHT - Camden Lynn LOYAL KNIGHT - Paul DeLand **LECTURING KNIGHT -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 Seibert, PDDGER **DISTRICT LEADER - Frank Palladini, PSP, PDDGER LODGE ADVISORS - Steve Harmon, PDDGER**

HOUSE COMMITTEE:

CHAIR—Camden Lynn
Members: Wendy Hall,
Paul DeLand, Sue Moore,
Jacquie LoCicero & Tommy Moore

LODGE COMMITTEES:

Hall Activities—Jacquie LoCicero
Auditing Committee—Chair, Melissa Bertoch,
Bonnie Atwood, Robert Bordonaro
Elks National Foundation—Shelagh Gombarcik
Harry Anna Trust Fund—Camden Lynn
Veteran Services—Joe LoCicero
Elksize Editor—Paul DeLand

Elk of The Month

Elk of the Month, Candy Venable: Candy is the primary motivator behind the Gourmet Club (Shelagh is a very close second), along with being it's most creative chef in my opinion. Candy is also our unflappable Editor of the online 708 Calendar, having had a very difficult year and keeping things updated while recovering from hip surgeries. One of my good friends, and not just because of the wonderful habanero fudge that comes around Christmas time, Candy is our Elk of the Month.

Officer of The Month

Officer of the Month, Camden Lynn, Leading Knight: Having taken on the job (and it is a job) of House Committee Chairman, Camden was besieged with many obstacles. However, with the resolve of the HC members behind him we've continued to preserve and work through the challenges. In addition, he took over acting Exalted Ruler during the 3 weeks I was out sick from Corona/Covid. A great thanks to Camden for taking up the mantle during our time of need.



Your Lodge Committees l

- 1. Americanism Committee
- 2. Army of Hope
- 3. Community Projects & Activities Committee
- Drug Awareness Education Committee
- Elks National Foundation Certificates
- Elks National Foundation Scholarships
- Elks Training Committee
- Government Relations Committee
- 9. Harry-Anna Trust Fund Committee
- 10. Hoop Shoot Committee
- 11. Interlodge Visitation Committee
- 12. Ladies Organizations Committee
- 13. Lodge Activities Committee
- 14. Membership Committee
- 15. Orientation Committee (Formerly Indoctrination)
- 16. Public Relations Committee
- 17. Ritual Committee
- 18. Soccer Shoot Committee
- 19. Sports Committee
- 20. Veterans' Services Committee
- 21. Youth Activities Committee

Name

BobOrcutt Linda Reid Camden Lynn Tommy Moore Bob Suhrheinrich Rita Smith Christine Harris Jake Slater

Camden Lynn Chris Ragusa Paul DeLand Betty Orcutt

Need to fill this! Courtney Weil

Shelagh Gombarcik Shelagh Gombarcik

Steve Harmon Need to fill this!

Sandra Lake Patty Jankiewicz

Mike Volpe

Email

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gabsoph@gmail.com peppermintp65@gmail.com pattyandmrfox@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We apologize for the delay in placing this page in the previous issue...

Time and deadlines caused us to overlook the story...It is still quite appropriate and of interest to our readers.







Club Chivalry News



Maddie Dehoyas & Ms. Hand

December 31st is the End of the 2020 Impact Grant Year.

On Monday, December 14th, Club Chivalry had their annual Christmas Pizza Party. Elk members Carolyn Miller, Tommy Moore, Trustee, Laura Jones, Treasurer, and Rita Smith were all approved to attend, even though getting on the campus can be a bit tricky. We brought in pizza from Slice Pizza, a company that has partnered with Tampa Elks on many occasions. We also brought in sodas this month, as a special treat since they are no longer sold on school campus. The Club Officers served the pizza. After the students ate, they received their Christmas gift - a long sleeved T shirt with the Club Chivalry logo on the front and on the back up by the neck it has our Tampa Elks Logo and says, "Backed by Tampa Elks." The students really like the long-sleeved Tee shirts! We had to dip into our savings account to get them, but with the students having to participate on their own time after school this year, it was not the year to drop the annual Christmas gift. Also, like the rest of us, most of these students are not the same size they were last winter before Covid and they need a new winter wardrobe. Next, both the students and the Elks donned gloves and masks to play a game in which they had to pass a candy cane game piece to the left or right according to the story - which was about a night at the Elks Lodge! It went off without a hitch, and the student that ended up with the peppermint kisses won a \$10 Target gift card. The other students got the candy came full of candy. It was a fun and busy 45 minutes, and a happy ending to an incredibly stressful year!

Happy News: Our Club Chivalry school sponsor, Caroline Hand, was initiated into the Lodge just a few days later. Please thank our new member for all her work if you see her in the Lodge.

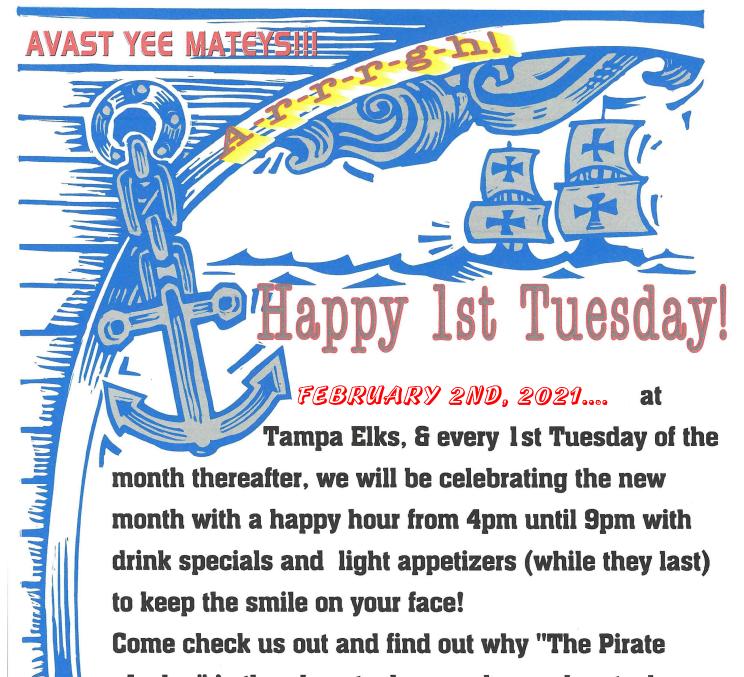
More Happy News: Club Chivalry students Luis Rosario and Humberto Garzaro , both seniors, volunteered to help with our Children's Christmas toy distribution this year. Hard working kids!

We have applied for the Impact grant again next year to continue this program. We have been told the maximum we can receive is \$5000., so please expect and support future fundraising efforts for this program.

Impact Grant Manager



Luis Rosario & Humberto Garzaro



Tampa Elks, & every 1st Tuesday of the month thereafter, we will be celebrating the new month with a happy hour from 4pm until 9pm with drink specials and light appetizers (while they last) to keep the smile on your face!

Come check us out and find out why "The Pirate Lodge" is the place to drop anchor and restock on drink and vittles....!

> Your House Committee sez come on in and enjoy the safe harbor of Tampa Elks #708!

(We follow all CDC & Local guidelines for a safe, comfortable visit)





Well, this second term is coming to an end and next month will be my final as Exalted Ruler of Tampa Lodge #708. We've had a difficult year to say the least, Corona/Covid sickness and related closures, the loss of not only Mid-Year Convention but Gasparilla which if it does go on won't be until the 2021-2022 Lodge Year, and most importantly the loss of members, not only those who have passed on, but those who until the vaccine is available can't take the risk of possible Corona/Covid exposure and who we miss around the lodge.

However, we've struggled through the year as best we could and with the light at the end of the tunnel approaching I can only hope for a better next year. February means elections and new leadership. A chance for members to take on an office, a committee chairmanship, or even just to be a part of a committee. Without a full slate of officers and Chairpeople the Lodge cannot function. In February/March as we close the year we'll also be busy with our Member Appreciation and Awards Dinner, Officer Installation, Officer Training, Gourmet Club, and many social events. During this time we will still continue to have orientations and initiations, House, 2021, Bar Renovation and other committee meetings. So while the year is closing out, it's not over and we still need your help.

Because things change so quickly, please check our website, look for emails, and give us a call if you have any questions regarding Events, hours, meals, and yes even meetings. Lodge Meetings are still available by Zoom and Candy V. has a clickable link in the online calendar.

I again want to thank all the members without whose support and dedication we could not remain open. I also want to thank those members who support Tampa 708 by simply paying dues and stopping by to have a meal and a drink. I hope to see you soon.

Chris Miles, Exalted Ruler





Hello Ladies, It is February and yet we are still dealing with the effects of the Covid-19 Virus Many of us have been sick and some like my sister, Susie and I lost someone we loved very much. I miss my brother Joe so much. He would have loved some of the events we are planning.

Our February general meeting is on the first Wednesday of the month as always. The date is February 3rd. Dinner will be at 6:15 PM and the meeting to follow at 7:00 PM. Please join us and remember the Lodge requirements of signing in and getting a temperature check and with us in the meeting, social distancing. On February 4th through the 6th is our FLOE Quarterly Meeting at the Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla. Our Grand Exalted Ruler will be introduced at this time. Friday the 5th is our FLOE luncheon honoring the First Lady Stacey Ryan. This is a ticketed event so register online at Elks.org and go to FLOE for more information and to print an agenda for the weekend. On Saturday, Feb. 6th at 0830 is our FLOE General Meeting and immediately following is the Major Projects Meeting to start bat 10:00 AM. There is always good information from the FLOE meeting and the Major Projects Meeting. If you have never attended these meetings you should really try to go. You'll be happy you did. Remember if you are a Lady in your Lodge you are automatically a member of FLOE.

Saturday, February 13th starting at 6:00PM we will be hosting The Tacky Party in honor of Bonnie Quire. Volunteers are needed to help with small tasks or to head up one of our fantastic games. I will be putting up a sheet on our LOE bulletin board to sign up for specific tasks so please support yourselves by doing what you can to help. We will beat this Virus and we will get back to having a lot of fun like the good 'ol days! We all need a good day of fun and laughter so pass the word about our Tacky Party.

Thanks everyone and see you all soon. Always be humble and kind.

Betty Orcutt Lady President LOE 708

Sharon Ford 2/5
Susie Harlow 2/9
Bernie Turpin 2/11

Thank you, Lisa Snyder, LOE Chaplain, 2020-2021



LOE

2020-21

Officers

Betty Orcutt
Susie Harlow
Bonnie Atwood

President Vice President Secretary



TAMPA ELKS LODGE



February 20th—7pm

Be There for the FUN!

BRING A DISH TO SHARE Come Out and Support Your Lodge

LODGE MEETING ACCESS:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8138314280?
pwd=SjBMZzFHRIBya1E5TW0zdWNvbGNXUT09

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

CURRENT RULES—All members coming to the Lodge must wear a mask into the Lodge, sign in at the station at the bar (INCLUDING PHONE #) and have their temperature checked by the bartender or a House Committee member.

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



- Food
- Prizes
- · Fun
- Chinese Auction



Questions or Volunteer Call or Text:

813-410-1873 Melissa Bertoch 813-500-9433 Wendy Hall 813-376-5401 Paul DeLand

Registration closes February 14, 2021

This event is to raise funds for new tables in the dining hall.

Tampa Elks #708

SUPER BOUL SUBSE

February 7, 2021

CHILI COOROFF!

PRIZES!

1ST PLACE - \$50
2ND PLACE - \$25
TASTER'S CHOICE AWARD
\$10 BAR TAB!

RULES!

MUST HAVE CHILI AT LODGE BY 4PM...

BLIND JUDGING BEGINS AT 4:15PM

TASTER'S CHOICE AT 5PM

SIGN UP IN ADVANCE WITH RITA

TEXT- 813-431-3020

BRING CHILI IN CROCK POT!

KITCHEN DOOR OPEN FOR QUICK DROPOFFS!

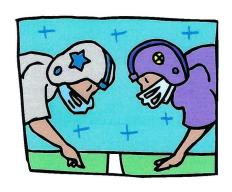
KICKOFF - 6:30 PM



Halftime Super Sundae Bar! Halftime Super Puppy Bowl Bring a Dish To Share!

Whether you come for the game, the food or the commercialsYou are bound to have a great time!!!

In a safe environment!







THESE RULES ARE FOR BARTENDER & ALL MEMBERS ATTENDING....WE MUST CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH RESPECT AND CAUTION TO INSURE WE REMAIN OPEN!

- 1. Must sign in upon entry (House Committee & BOD assist in making sure sign in process is completed... Friendly Members may help...)
- 2. Sign-in must have name/phone number. No service without both.
- 3. Plastic glasses will be used to assist sanitation.
- 4. Masks when not sitting/eating
- 5. Bartenders must wash hands every 30min.
- 6. Bartenders must wipe down bar top/tables when customer leaves. Members are encouraged to help by wiping down their tables if Bartender is busy
- 7. Antibacterial wipes/sanitizer for bartender
- 8. Bartenders must appropriately wear masks all the time. This means over the mouth and nose. They can go outside to take a break as needed. Members are asked to be tolerant of bartender breaks.
- 9. Bar spacing will begin again. Only served in numbered spaces!10. Add temperature to sign-in sheet.

YOUR COOPERATION AND STRONG SUPPORT WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED! WE'LL SEE YOU SOON AT THE LODGE!

YOUR HOUSE COMMOTTEE

Tampa Elks Do Christmas Right

For several years, Florida State Elks Association has partnered with Walgreen Stores to collect toys for distribution to the needy in the West Central District. This year, Tampa was assigned to work with 15 stores within the city. Due to the great increase in on-line shopping due to the pandemic, we had no idea if this would be successful this year. We also had no budget, since ENF declined to offer the Promise grants we have in past years counted on t pay for party food and supplies.

On December 15th, Tampa Elks were dispatched to collect the Toys from the stores. Laura Jones, Jeremy Elkins, Christien Elkins, Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, Paul Deland, Wendy Hall, Tommy Moore, and Rita Smith all had store assigned. By the end of the day, Youth Activity Chairs Patty and Mike Volpe had counted 924 toys that arrived from Walgreens. That was in addition to the dozens of toys Tampa Elks had donated. The youth activities committee was overjoyed, because they had a whole lot of families that had asked for help.

The Volpe's had developed an excellent Covid safe plan.

On Saturday December 19th and Sunday December 20th, the toys were displayed in the lodge room. From noon until 8pm. 4 families per hour were preregistered to come Christmas shop for their kids. They were not permitted to bring the children with them, but instead were each allowed to pick out three gifts, plus a stocking stuffer, for each of the children they had registered. Then, they were able to wrap the gifts right there with supplies donated by various Elks and then load them into their car in an opaque bag, Santa ready! In this manner, Tampa Elks were able to provide a good Christmas for 68 families with a combined 253 children. They did this with minimal staffing: the Volpes, Richelle Nickell, Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, Candi Suhrheinrich, Legacy Scholar Evan Watts, two high school volunteers from Club Chivalry(Impact grant project), and non-Elk helpers Heidi and Paul and Theresa Bravo. Just 11 people were needed to provide staffing for 16 hours, as opposed to 30 Elks for a 3-hour party!

There were still a couple hundred toys left Sunday night. Rita Smith and Bonnie Atwood gathered up 80 toys to take to the Christmas tent run by Metropolitan Ministries- one of Tampa's largest charities for families with children. Courtney Weil, PER gathered toys for some minimum wage families that had not been able to register because they were at work both days at our preferred butcher and bakery. Christina Sanchez loaded the rest of the toys into her car and headed up to one of our charity partners, Stepping Stone Community Center. She had the parents that were present come outside and shop her trunk to procure gifts for their children. The remaining toys were left at the center for families in need.

This year was a challenge, but the challenge was met with Elk Ingenuity and Volunteer spirit.







Pictured from Left above, a mother smiling as she picks toy for her children... at center the Elks Antler Room with more than 900 gifts gathered from our partnership with Walgreen's...and Right Elk Wendy Hall pictured with a store employee at one of the present pickups, amid two full bags of toys.



Tampa Elks Do Christmas Right

Once again in our partnership with Open Arms Ministry, Tampa Elks were busy through the holidays helping. Several Elks prepared food, and served the homeless....



Pictured left and right examples of how deep family runs in the Tampa Elks. At Left Courtney Weil, PER and daughter Christina Sanchez..at right are Rita Smith and son Doug Grant.





At left, one of the homeless served arriving for the special meal....at right Courtney Weil shopping for the food to feed a crowd.

Below, Elks Rita, Courtney and Dee Ready for plating the meals for the less-fortunate.



Nominations for officers for 2021-22 are 6b. 10th...Elections, Feb. 24th, if needed



Calling All

Epicurean Elks...



2021 Gourmet Club Kick-off

APPETIZERS

Sunday, February 28th 5:00 p.m.

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

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

On-Going Calendar







We're back! Join us for fine movies!



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 Bertoch, Jan 6/21'

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 Bordonaro, Robert 7/21

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





February 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Bar Bingo, 6:30pm Paninis	Groundhog Day HOUSE COMM 6:30PM 6:30PM - LOE BOD	7:00pm LOE Gen Mtg Dinner 6:15pm	Queen of Hearts 6:45p Open Grill Night 6pm	Carl Williamson Night, Country fried steak 6:30 to 8:30pm	8:00am - 5:00pm Hall Rental
SUPER BOWLII Chili Cookoff. Sundae Bar KICKOFF @ 6:30PM	Bar Bingo, 6:30pm Paninis	B.O.D 7:15PM	Lodge Mtg. 7:30pm 6:00 - 7:00pm Membership Comm.	Queen of Hearts 6:45p Open Grill Night 6pm	Lincoln's Birthday 6:30-8:30pm Lasagna Dinner	6:00pm - LOE Tacky Party
Valentine's Day Special Valentine's Drinks	Bar Bingo, 6:30pm Paninis President's Day	6:30PM HOUSE COMM.	7:00PM VETS COMM.	Queen of Hearts 6:45p Open Grill Night 6pm	19	BDAY BASH 7:00pm 9am - Himes Ave. Cleanup (Meet at Elks)
21	Bar Bingo, 6:30pm Paninis Washington's Birthday	23	24 Lodge Mtg. 7:30pm	Queen of Hearts 6:45p Open Grill Night 6pm	7:00pm - Hall Rental	6:00pm - Talent Show
5:00pm - Gourmet Club 2021 Kickoff		3 4 10 11 17 18	JAN 2021 T. W. T. F. S. 1. 2. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30.	MAR 2021 S M T W T I 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 1 14 15 16 17 18 1 21 22 23 24 25 2 28 29 30 31	5 6 2 1 3 9 2 0	



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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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

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
Robert Bordanero 7/22
Donna Halsey—6/2021
Frances Aberle—8/2021



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

Frances Aberle – 8/2021 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!

Friends of 708

OUR CURRENT MONTHLY SUPPORTERS

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

<u>OUR CURRENT ANNUAL SUPPORTERS</u>

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.