



LODGE OFFICERS:

EXALTED RULER - Tracy Horrell, PER
LEADING KNIGHT - Edie Hanley
LOYAL KNIGHT - April Holtzman
LECTURING KNIGHT - Wendy Hall, PER
SECRETARY - Rick Schneider, PER
TREASURER - Kristie Horst
ESQUIRE - Debbie Brennan
INNER GUARD - Dee Cisneros, PER
TILER - Kim Van Walker
CHAPLAIN – Crystal Johnson
1 YEAR TRUSTEE - Tristan Reiber
2 YEAR TRUSTEE - Norman Benzing
3 YEAR TRUSTEE - Paul DeLand, PER
4 YEAR TRUSTEE - Laura Jones
5 YEAR TRUSTEE - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER

House Committee Chair

Paul DeLand, PER

House Committee Members:

Daniel Armentrout, Dave Riplogle, Janet Hill,
Ruth Levin, Cindy Allen , T Michael Boyle

Bar Manager

Shelagh Gombarcik, PER

Kitchen Managers

Courtney Weil, PER & Georgia Hilficker
(813-484-0123)

Hall Event & Rental Chairman:

Wendy Hall, PER (nini336152@yahoo.com)
813-500-9433

Elksize Editor:

Georgia Hilficker
georgiahilficker@gmail.com

Tampa Web Address - Tampaelks.com

Club Hours:

Mon - Thursday 4:00pm - 11:00pm
Friday 4:00pm - 12:00am
Saturday 4:00pm - 11:00pm
Sunday 12pm - 9:00pm

Lodge Secretary email:
tampa708secretary@outlook.com

Lodge Office Hours: Mon & Thurs 2pm to 5pm

A Message From your Exalted Ruler, Tracy Horrell



The Christmas Season is upon us! I hope that each of you enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving Feast with family & friends!

This year has been a rocky one for many of us, and some of us can't wait for a new year. But I choose to look at this year as a challenge. I believe we are making great strides in helping our community, veterans, and children despite the hurdles, and it has made us stronger as a team of Elks!

I want to thank each of you for all your hard work in helping our lodge membership grow, making events successful, and cleaning up our lodge after the storms. Your great work does not go unnoticed and it is greatly appreciated!

We have had several events recently that were huge successes, like casino night, which will help support the Children's Christmas Party, and a fundraiser smoked turkey breast and smoked pork to help our Veterans. And let's not forget the fun time at our 80s party, and Halloween party, which help benefit the lodge with its projects. More fun times to come!

Please check out the flier in this edition telling you about our ER's Christmas Party on December 13th. All are invited to break bread with the ER with a complimentary dinner, white elephant exchange and music. Don't miss the fun! *And remember to get your tickets for our New Year's Eve Mardi Gras Extravaganza. This is shaping up to be the event of the season! Very Excited!*

They say that friends are the family you choose. I'm so glad to be spending some time with my chosen family this Christmas season.

I hope the magic of Christmas fills every corner of your heart and home with joy, now and always! I wish you love, joy, and peace today, tomorrow, and always. May your family have a holiday season that's full of wonderful surprises, treats, and nonstop laughter. Merry Christmas!

Your 2024-25 Committee Chairs

708 Board of Directors - Chairman of the Board Laura Jones, Tracy Horrell, PER, Edie Hanley, Wendy Hall, PER, April Holtzman, Paul DeLand, PER, Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, Tristan Reiber, and Norman Benzing

Accident Prevention - Tommy Moore (tommoore4109@gmail.com)

Americanism - Norman Benzing, (norm-kim@rtcol.com)

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

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

Drug Awareness - Edie Hanley, (ehanley73@outlook.com)

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

ENF Scholarships - Paul DeLand, PER (dukeofdeland@hotmail.com)

ENF Grants - Paul DeLand, PER (dukeofdeland@hotmail.com)

Government Relations - Rick Schnieder, PER (broric708@aol.com)

Harry Anna - Kim VanWalker, (kmvanwalker@hotmail.com)

Hoop Shoot - Patty Volpe (pattyandmrfox@gmail.com)

LOE Liaison - Paul DeLand, PER - (dukeofdeland@hotmail.com))

Lodge Activities - TBD

Membership Committee - Tracy Horrell, PER (tracywayh@gmail.com)

Orientation - Shelagh Gombarcik, PER (Shelaghg@yahoo.com)

Public Relations Committee - Kim VanWalker (kmvanwalker@hotmail.com)

Ritual Committee - Frank Palladini, PSP, PGE (fjpal56@yahoo.com)

Soccer Shoot - Patty Volpe (pattyandmrfox@gmail.com)

Veteran's Services - Chris Ragusa (ragusachristopher@gmail.com)

Wills & Bequests - Richard Florance, PER (tracywayh@gmail.com)

Youth Activities - Jackie Jacobs, (Jackie.jacobs1086@gmail.com)

SURPRISE! GASPARILLA IS UPON US!

Each year our biggest fundraiser of the year seems to be forgotten amongst all the festivities surrounding the Holidays. This year is most important as we will be celebrating the

25TH ANNIVERSARY

of the Tampa Elks Lodge 708 Gasparilla Boat Invasion Special!



RIGHT NOW WE NEED PIRATES



willing to invest a few hours, in costume, to visit other Lodges in our area and help us sell tickets. It is fun and helps your Lodge.

Below I have outlined the "Tentative" schedule of visits
Join us for any or all.

Tarpon Springs/New Port Richey - Dec 6th - Departing 5pm

Lakeland/Brandon - Dec 20th - Departing - 4:30pm

Sign up any time on the Lodge Bulletin Board or call
Paul DeLand, PER Gasparilla Vice Chair 813-376-5401





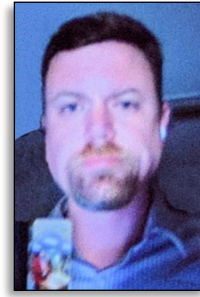
April Kellogg
Sponsor
Lori Anderson



Hayes Greep
Sponsor
T Michael Boyles



Nicole Gomez
Sponsor
Leigh Valenti



John Matthew Thro
Sponsor
Tristan Rieber



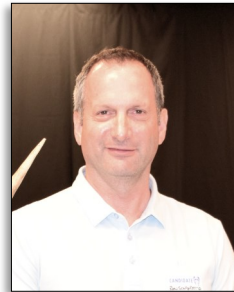
Wendy Bailey
Sponsor
Richard Schneider, PER



Anthony Springer
Sponsor
DC Goutoufas



Brent Woodward
Sponsor
Adam Moore



Clifford Allen
Sponsor
Jessica Hood



Ron Scaperotto
Sponsor
T-Micheal Boyle



ELK RECOGNITIONS

ELK OF THE MONTH...CHRIS MILES, PER

He is not only a PER but is also known as Mr. Fix It around the lodge to many of us. He goes out of his way to help with TVs, sound systems, programming, fixing kitchen and bathroom items, and anything in between. He loves interacting with new members and guests to make them feel welcome and is always ready to promote our Lodge. Please let him know just how special he is!



OFFICER OF THE MONTH...DEBBIE BRENNAN

Debbie is our Esquire and she does a beautiful job at making new candidates feel welcomed, informed and ready to become members of our organization. She lends a hand whether it's in the kitchen, with events, or making up gift baskets to raffle off. She is a true asset to our lodge and I greatly appreciate all that she does! When you see her let her know how much she is appreciated!



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH...JACKIE JACOBS

She is a go-getter! Every year she helps raise much-needed funds to help children in our community have a merry and bright Christmas by holding a Casino Night fundraiser! This year showed us her true grit to get this event off the ground after dealing with the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene and Milton to her own home but that was not going to stop this great gal! The fundraiser was a huge success and I appreciate her style and grace to make it happen! Please give her a big hug and thank her for a job well done!



Supporting Reports



Chaplain's Corner by our chaplain, Crystal Johnson:

"When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves." - Viktor Frankl

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105



Ladies of the Elks:

The holiday Season is in full swing! The LOE Christmas Bazaar is Thursday, December 5th and Friday, December 6th from 6pm-8pm. Come out and enjoy a cocktail or two while browsing what the Ladies have curated for your holiday shopping pleasure. We have handmade items, baked goods, and Gasparilla goodies. Our Gasparilla game has been amped up this year. Stop by and see what the Ladies have to offer to accessorize your Gasparilla experience.

If you are not able to make it to our bazaar, don't worry. The Ladies will have their Gasparilla Market, in conjunction with our lodge, at our Gasparilla Event on January 25th.

Hope to see you around the lodge soon!

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP

President, Ladies of the Elks

Executive Board

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP - President

Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, PLP - Vice President

April Holtzman - Secretary

Laura Jones - Treasurer

Suzanne Moore, PLP - Chaplain

Ruth Levin - Parliamentarian

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ed Lessard 12/4 - Carolyn Miller 12/22 - Shelagh Gombarcik 12/24

LADIES OF THE ELKS



**THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH
& FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH
TIME: 6PM TO 8PM**

**HOMEMADE ITEMS &
BAKED GOODS**

*Packaged to take to a party
or give as a gift.*

**GASPARILLA JEWELRY,
WREATHS & MORE**

*Grab unique gifts and delicious
treats while you support
the LOE...a great holiday combo*

THE SMASH HIT MUSICAL returns to the Straz Center!



**Join the Ladies of the Elks Tampa 708
FOR AN EXCITING AND MAGICAL EVENING
at the Straz Center in downtown Tampa.**

Tuesday, Jan 28th at 7:30pm

Ticket levels: \$66.64- rear orchestra/front balcony

\$56.92- rear balcony (last three rows)

\$47.20- gallery

50% deposit due at time you make reservation.

If you are interested in attending please leave your name and contact information on the sign up sheet located on the LOE

Board, or you can contact Jacquie at 813-245-6458.

A portion of your ticket fee will benefit
Children's Therapy Services.

Grant Reports and Information

SOCCER SHOOT UPDATE

On Saturday, November 9th, our West Central District held the District Soccer Shoot at Walter Fuller Soccer Fields in St. Pete.

Congratulations to our Tampa Lodge #708 participants that are moving on to the Regional Competition held on December 14th at Florida Elks Youth Camp.

- U8 Girls - Nora Muenzel - Tampa
- U8 Boys - Starlyn Betances - Tampa
- U14 Boys - Alexander Cross - Tampa
- U14 Girls - Savannah Bell - Tampa

We look forward to cheering for them December 14th. Winners of this Regional competition will move to our State Soccer Shoot at a later date.

Patty Volpe, Soccer Shoot Chairperson

A SUNNY AFTERNOON ON THE WATER FOR OUR VETS!

November 2nd hosted 24 transitional veterans on an hour and a half river cruise through downtown Tampa, followed by a riverside lunch.

The Tampa Fun Boat holds 35 people, and we booked the whole boat. Because the owner's wife is an Elk, we get a terrific price. We invited a total of 25 Veterans from the Salvation Army Red Center, New Beginnings of Tampa, and Liberty Manor for Veterans. We also invited 10 Elks active on the Veteran or Children's committees to come along; their job was to sit with Vets at lunch and socialize with them. Rick's on the River, a popular riverfront restaurant, was kind enough to let us leave from their docks. That prevented us having to pay downtown parking prices. Everybody was at the dock by 10:00 – but then one Veteran declined to get on the boat so he and his driver had to leave. As the Grant writer, my job was to be on standby and manage the payments, so when that opening arose, I hopped on the boat.

The Tampa Riverfront is still a work in progress, with the downtown side highly developed for several miles north of the city's center and the west side- not so much. The city center is usually defined as Kennedy Blvd., where the University of Tampa's famous spires overlook the river. The city has recently announced that will change, so it was interesting to see what they have to work with. We also saw some signs of the recent hurricanes, such as a large sailboat that was in somebody's yard on Harbor Island. Towards the end of our trip, we handed out limited menus from which everyone was to choose their meal and then just hand to their server. With that method, we eliminate the confusion of single payer at different tables and also keep closer to our budget.

By the time we returned to the dock at Rick's everybody was ready for some food. The Fish was the most popular menu item, whether fried filet or blackened sandwiches. This was a great way to give the Veterans a break from their normal weekend of doing mostly nothing as the program services are mostly weekdays. You could see them coming out of their shell during the day, and by the end of lunch we were pretty much friends.

Rita Smith, Freedom Coordinator



Grant Reports and Information



VETERANS COMMITTEE REPORT

As you may know, our Tampa Elks 708 Lodge Veterans Committee serves both honorably discharged US military veteran members of Tampa Elks 708 as well as non-member veterans that are in transitional housing in local shelters.

The Lodge Veterans Committee meets every month on the second Monday at 6:30pm, is self-funded, and operates on Elks National Foundation grants, charitable donations, and committee fundraisers. This year's fundraiser was the sale of smoked turkey breasts and Boston Butts that were prepared in the lodge parking lot and picked up on Wednesday, November 27th....just in time to enjoy at our Thanksgiving gatherings. A huge THANK YOU to those who supported this fundraiser!

Probably our most visible effort, your committee hosts veterans from four different Tampa Bay area shelters for dinners at the lodge. Since February, we've hosted (and paid for) over 100 dinners for these unhoused veterans and shelter staff.

For our annual Flag Day service on Friday, June 14th, we not only hosted veterans from Liberty Manor for dinner, but we also incorporated the veterans into our ceremony. They proudly paraded numerous versions of Old Glory as our Exalted Ruler read this informative and inspirational ritual.



Your Lodge Veterans Committee hosted veterans from the Salvation Army's Red Shield Center at the Florida Elks *Day at the Rays* event at Tropicana Field on August 18, 2024.

As November is National Veteran and Military Family month, we felt that there was no better way to show our gratitude to those who served (or are still serving) than to host a meal for our lodge veterans and their guests. We had over eighteen Tampa Elks 708 military veterans in attendance on Friday, November 8th for a meal planned and prepared (with Chef Courtney's help, of course) by your LVC. The chicken wings, barbequed ribs, twice baked potatoes, smoky coleslaw, Cowboy beans, and banana pudding cake were enjoyed by all!

Tampa Elks 708 lodge members Richard Jenkins and Rick Schneider, PER participated in the Florida Elks *Parade of Heroes* trip to Washington DC from November 8-10, 2024 – an annual tribute to all veterans from WWII up to and including Gulf War veterans at the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War memorials. Rick's participation was funded by the Lodge Veterans Committee.

On Saturday, November 16, your LVC sponsored participation by three of our members and two of their guests for the Florida Elks *Elks on Ice* event at Amalie Arena in downtown Tampa for the Tampa Bay Lightning vs. New Jersey Devil hockey game. They enjoyed great lower bowls seats, and we were happy to recognize their service to our country by supporting their participation.

I am much obliged to the Lodge Veterans Committee members who made this happen.

Fraternally.....Chris Ragusa

Past Events and Projects

TAMPA 708 HALLOWEEN PARTY

A VERY SPOOKY NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL!



Greetings from beyond the Grave. We ghouls had the spookiest time at the Elks Lodge #708 for their annual Halloween party. We enjoyed all the ghoulish food and spooky treats. DJ Caution was the hit of the party with his Karaoke and blood curdling music. We had a successful costume party with a Cheerleader with large...the winner of the best costume. Whomever oversaw the decorating must have gone to our special Inservice "Halloween Party Designs from the Crypt! We thank all you mortals that came and enjoyed it (there was quite a lot of you). We wish you a good year and hope to see you next year!

Signed in Blood, Sir Graves Ghostly



ELVIS WAS IN THE HOUSE

A rollicking group of Tampa Lodge members spent Saturday, November 9th enjoying a night with "Elvis". In an unusual event in which our entertainer Keith "Elvis" Coleman entertained with a musical repertoire, accompanied by a running history of how the musician arrived at different points in his life and even how he accidentally released some songs intended for other musicians of the time.

The show was "sandwiched" in segments around a meal straight from Elvis's often listed favorite foods...an appetizer of peanut butter and banana sandwiches; a main course of meatloaf, green beans and mashed potatoes; and, finished off with banana pudding. The music was accompanied by several dancers who took to the floor enjoying the long popular musical notes. All-in-all, a great night at Tampa #708.

Paul DeLand, PER



Past Events and Projects

CASINO NIGHT™

Raises Over \$3,000 for Kids' Christmas Fund

This year's Casino Night was a resounding success, with Elks members and guests coming together to raise more than \$3,000 for the Kids' Christmas Fund. The event, which featured an exciting array of casino games, generous prizes and lots of great food proved to be an unforgettable evening for everyone involved. Attendees had the chance to try their luck at various casino tables while enjoying food, drinks, and the camaraderie of friends and family. But it wasn't just about the games—there was plenty of excitement off the tables as well, with numerous fantastic prizes given away throughout the night. Among the coveted items up for grabs were two signed Tampa Bay Buccaneers jerseys, Lightning tickets, an iPad, and many other valuable prizes that added to the thrill of the event.

The support from Elks members and the community was overwhelming, and the funds raised will help ensure a memorable holiday season for children in need. Thanks to everyone who participated, donated, and volunteered. The event not only brought joy and entertainment but will also make a significant impact on the lives of local kids.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who attended and helped make this Casino Night a truly special occasion. Also, a special thank you to all of our sponsors, the event wouldn't have been a success without all of them. We look forward to next year's event and the continued success of the Kids' Christmas Fund!

Jackie Jacobs, Chairman



Upcoming Events and Projects



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
OUR ER'S
WHITE ELEPHANT
CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY, DEC 13TH - 6:30PM

COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET DINNER
MUSIC BY KRIS PIERCE

BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT
(NOT OVER \$20 PLEASE)

FOOD - FUN - FELLOWSHIP

Upcoming Events and Projects



LET'S DO DINNER AT THE LODGE WITH COURTNEY

DEC 6TH


Friday Dinner
Dec. 6th
**Shelagh and
Tommy**
are in the kitchen

**Fish and Chips or
Tommy's Grits, Coleslaw
and Hush Puppies**
\$11.00
Appetizer: Onion Rings \$3.50
Dessert: ?

Serving 6:30 to 8:00

Sign up by emailing 708meals@gmail.com,
or on the Lodge Bulletin Board

DEC 13TH


PLEASE JOIN US FOR
OUR ER'S
**WHITE ELEPHANT
CHRISTMAS PARTY**
FRIDAY, DEC 13TH - 6:30PM
COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET DINNER
MUSIC BY KRIS PIERCE
BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT
(NOT OVER \$20 PLEASE)
FOOD - FUN - FELLOWSHIP

DEC 20TH


Friday Dinner
Dec. 20th
**Beef's
Pork Chops**

with, Mashed Potatoes and
Gravy and Green Beans

\$16.00

Appetizer:

Shrimp Cocktail - \$5.95

Dessert:

Bread Pudding - \$4.00

Serving 6:00 to 8:00

Sign up by emailing 708meals@gmail.com,
or on the Lodge Bulletin Board by Thurs night.

If you'd like to receive a reminder email each
Wednesday, please send your email address to
georgiahilficker@gmail.com

DEC 27TH


Friday Dinner
Dec. 27th
**Shrimp
Alfredo**

Over Linguine with Caesar Salad
and Garlic Bread

\$14.00

Appetizer:

Crab Cakes - \$5.95

Dessert:

Brownie Ala Mode - \$4.00

Serving 6:00 to 8:00

Sign up by emailing 708meals@gmail.com,
or on the Lodge Bulletin Board by Thurs night.

If you'd like to receive a reminder email each
Wednesday, please send your email address to
georgiahilficker@gmail.com

**PLEASE SIGN UP AT 708MEALS.COM OR ON THE LODGE BULLETIN BOARD TO ASSURE YOUR MEAL!
ONLY A FEW EXTRA MEALS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR WALK-INS.**

**WANT TO GET ON THE REMINDER EMAIL LIST? SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO [GEORGIAHILFICKER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:georgiahilficker@gmail.com)
DINNER SERVED FROM 6:30PM TO 8:00PM**



**Served Mondays 6pm to 7:30pm
All Menus \$8.50 including tax**

**Dec 2nd - Gyro or Greek Salad & a
sweet treat**

**Dec 9th - Philly Cheesesteak and sweet
treat**

**Dec 16th - Meatloaf Sandwich or Chef
Salad and sweet treat**

**Dec 23rd - Cuban Sandwich and a
sweet treat**

Dec 30th - Wings & a Sweet Treat

Sides are subject to change depending upon availability.



QUEEN OF HEARTS

**Donation by 6:45pm
Drawing at 7pm**

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

***Dec 5th -**

**COURTNEY'S
SPAGHETTI
DINNER NIGHT...\$7.50**

***Dec 12th - Shelagh & Tommy
Grill Night**

***Dec 19th - Ruben Sandwich**

***Dec 26th - Shelagh & Tommy
Grill Night**

Upcoming Events and Projects

It's that time again...



Tampa 708 2024 Children's Christmas Party

DECEMBER 21ST – 12PM TO 3PM

AGES 1 THROUGH 17

**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED – RSVP MANDATORY
TO PATTY AT 1-941-580-7201**

**MEMBER GIFTS OF TOYS, PRIZES AND MONETARY
DONATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAN THE EVENT
11AM TO 4 PM ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT.**

JACKIE JACOBS COMMITTEE CHAIR

PLEASE CONTACT PATTY AT THE NUMBER ABOVE



Lodge Business and Projects



NEW YEAR'S EVE MARDI GRAS EXTRAVAGANZA AT TAMPA 708

**TUESDAY, DEC. 31ST
7:30PM TO 12:30PM**

FABULOUS COCKTAIL HOUR

SHRIMP COCKTAIL, ESGARGOT, SMOKED FISH SPREAD, CRAB & BACON HUSH PUPPYS

DINE UNDER THE NEW ORLEANS STARS

STARTING WITH SHRIMP GUMBO - CARVING STATION: FILET

BUFFET: COCONUT SHRIMP, CAJUN FRIED CHICKEN, FRIED OKRA, CAJUN POTATOES,

RED BEANS & RICE, CAJUN CORN ON THE COB AND CAJUN CORN BREAD

DESSERTS: BENIGETS, PRALINES, KING CAKE AND BANANAS FOSTER

**GUEST SINGERS, COURT JESTER, TAROT CARD READER, CRYSTAL BALL TELLER,
WANDERING PALM READER AND A SPECTACULA**

NEW ORLEAN'S MARTI GRAS BAND



WEAR YOUR MARDI GRAS BEST – A KING & QUEEN WILL BE CROWNED



\$70 PER PERSON

ASK YOUR BARTENDER FOR TICKETS

**SCHAFF-WALL
MARDI GRAS BAND
THEY'RE THE REAL DEAL!**

BUCCANEER WATCH PARTY AT 708



**COME JOIN OUR WEEKLY TAILGATE PARTY &
CHEER THE BUCS ON TO A WINNING SEASON**

(SIGN UP TO HOST A PARTY OR BRING A DISH TO SHARE)



DOORS OPEN EVERY SUNDAY AT 12 NOON

2024 BUCS SCHEDULE

DEC 1ST - CAROLINA PANTHERS - 4:05PM

DEC 8TH - LAS VEGAS RAIDERS - 1PM

DEC 15TH - LOS ANGELES CHARGERS - 4:25PM

DEC 22ND - DALLAS COWBOYS - 8:20PM

DEC 29TH - CAROLINA PANTHERS - 1PM

Lodge Business and Projects



2024 MEMORIAL SERVICE

It's time to recognize the members we lost in 2024. Please join our officers as they gather to commemorate their passing.

**December 1st at 3PM
In the Lodge Hall
To Our Absent Members:**

Robert C. Norton

Born 1936

60yr Member

Ms. Carolyn J. Breit

Born 1938

10yr Member

Malen Griep

Born 1926

4yr Member

Robert Bordonaro

Born 1949

17yr Member



— **Lynn Brown** —

has requested Life Membership.

She has completed all the requirements for the honor. A vote will be held at the December 11th General Meeting.

Lodge Business and Projects

HELP NEEDED...I could really use some help to break down the New Year's Eve decorations after the event. If you would be available to assist please let me know. After working on this large an event, there isn't much energy left for the breakdown, so I would really appreciate you help! georgiahilficker@gmail.com

WHAT'S NEW AT YOUR LODGE BAR

It's **BUCS** ARE BACK!

Enjoy the games on the **BIG SCREEN** with friends!
GAME SPECIALS INCLUDE **SMOKED OLD FASHIONS & MANHATTANS**

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS FOR **JESSICA'S UNUSUAL DRINK SPECIALS - OPEN KITCHEN MARGARITA** TUESDAY WITH **KRISTI** FOR A SPECIALTY MARGARITA - FOOD AVAILABLE

CRAFT COCKTAIL WEDNESDAYS W/KRISTI-DELICIOUS CONCOCTIONS - FOOD AVAILABLE

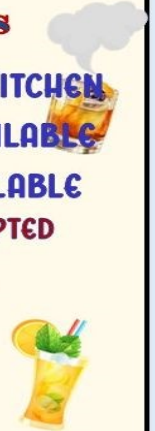
FOOD AVAILABLE ON TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS BY KRISTI - DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

DEE CISNEROS, PER, IS AT THE BAR SERVING UP DELICIOUS DRINKS

FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NIGHTS

AND THERE FOR OUR BUCCANEER "WATCH PARTY" AT EVERY BUC'S GAME!

SHELAGH GOMBARCIK, PER, BAR MANAGER



EXALTED RULER

- Rae Ann & T Michael Boyle for the awesome Mimosa and Bloody Mary Breakfast bar. So delicious and loads of fun.
- Dee Cisneros for helping with the breakfast Mimosa Event and making sure everyone has a heads up on the football games.
- Tommy Moore for keeping our monthly inspections and for making sure our Lodge is safe.
- Tommy Miller for bringing in his great decorations for the Halloween Party
- Crystal Johnson and Edie Hanley for the 80's Party...so much fun, thanks for taking that on.
- Norm Benzing for changing the sign and keeping it up to date.
- To our bar patrons, thank you all for your support.

SHOUT OUT

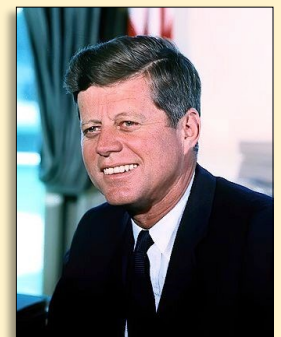
DECEMBER LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 2nd - LOE Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 4th - LOE General Meeting 7pm Dinner 6:15pm
- 9th - Veteran's Meeting - 6:30pm
- 10th - New Member Orientation & Installation - 6:30pm
- 11th - Elks General Meeting - 7:30pm
- 17th - BOD Meeting - 7:00pm
- 18th - House Committee Meeting - 6:30pm

WELL KNOWN ELKS




































John F. Kennedy
American President

Boston, MA
Lodge No. 10



Tampa Elks Lodge #708

DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 LODGE 708 MEMORIAL SERVICE 3PM REFRESHMENT WILL BE SERVED  BUCS vs PANTHERS 4:05PM	2  LOE BOD MEETING 6:30 PM GYRO or Greek SALAD & SWEET TREAT  BAR BINGO! 6:30PM \$3 DONATION	3  MARGARITA TUESDAY FOOD AVAILABLE 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL	4 LOE GENERAL MEETING 7PM LOE DINNER 6:15PM  CRAFTED COCKTAILS FOOD AVAILABLE	5  COURTNEY'S SPAGHETTI DINNER NIGHT \$7.50  LADIES OF THE ELKS THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH & FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH TIME 5PM TO 8PM HOUSEKEEPER LINDA A. BAIER BAND GOODS Prizes to be given away GASPARILLA JEWELRY, BRACELETS & MORE Bring a friend, bring a donation All contributions go to the Elks Lodge #708	6 SHELAGH & TOMMY FISH FRY SEE PG 10  LADIES OF THE ELKS THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH & FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH TIME 5PM TO 8PM HOUSEKEEPER LINDA A. BAIER BAND GOODS Prizes to be given away GASPARILLA JEWELRY, BRACELETS & MORE Bring a friend, bring a donation All contributions go to the Elks Lodge #708	7 HALL RENTAL CPR 9AM-11AM HALL RENTAL AIR FORCE SQUADRON PARTY - 12PM TO 3PM
8  BUCS vs RAIDERS 1PM	9  6:30PM VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MEETING PHILLY CHEESESTEAK & SWEET TREAT  BAR BINGO! 6:30PM \$3 DONATION	10  Orientation 6:30 Installation immediately following  MARGARITA TUESDAY 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL	11 DD VISIT 3PM  CRAFTED COCKTAILS FOOD AVAILABLE  7:30PM GENERAL MEETING DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	12  THURSDAY NIGHTS 6:00 TO 7:30PM BURGERS & FRIES  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	13 RETIREMENT PARTY IN BACK HALL - 5PM 9PM  PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ER'S WHITE ELEPHANT CHRISTMAS PARTY FRIDAY DEC 13TH - 6:30PM COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET DINNER MUSIC BY KRIS PIERCE BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT (NOT OVER \$20 PLEASE) FOOD - FUN - FELLOWSHIP	14
15  BUCS vs RAMS 4:25PM	16 WALGREENS TOY DRIVE PICK UP DAY MEATLOAF SANDWICH or CHEF SALAD & SWEET TREAT  BAR BINGO! 6:30PM \$3 DONATION	17  7:00PM BOD MEETING HALL RENTAL PACK 1381 HOLIDAY PACK POTLUCK COURT OF HONOR  MARGARITA TUESDAY FOOD AVAILABLE 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL	18  HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM  CRAFTED COCKTAILS	19 RUBEN SANDWICH  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	Friday Dinner Dec. 20th Beef's Pork Chops with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy and Green Beans \$16.00 Appetizer: Shrimp Cocktail - \$5.95 Dessert: Bread Pudding - \$4.00 Serving 6:00 to 8:00 <small>*Sign up by emailing 708tampa@elks.org or on the Lodge Bulletin Board by Thurs night. If you'd like to receive a reminder email each Wednesday, please send your email address to georgiahilficker@gmail.com</small>	It's that time again...  Tampa 708 2024 Children's Christmas Party DECEMBER 21ST - 12PM TO 3PM AGES 1 THROUGH 17 LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED - RSVP MANDATORY TO FATTY AT 1-941-560-7001 MEMBER GIFTS OF TOYS, PRIZES AND MONETARY DONATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAN THE EVENT TEAM TO 4 PM ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT. JACQUE ANGLER COMMITTEE CHAIR <small>PLEASE CONTACT FATTY AT THE NUMBER ABOVE</small>
22  BUCS vs COWBOYS 8:20PM	23 Cuban sandwich & Sweet Treat  BAR BINGO! 6:30PM \$3 DONATION	Christmas Eve 	Merry Christmas 	26  THURSDAY NIGHTS 6:00 TO 7:30PM BURGERS & FRIES  QUEEN OF HEARTS DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	Friday Dinner Dec. 27th Shrimp Alfredo Over Linguine with Caesar Salad and Garlic Bread \$14.00 Appetizer: Crab Cakes - \$5.95 Dessert: Brownie Ala Mode - \$4.00 Serving 6:00 to 8:00 <small>*Sign up by emailing 708tampa@elks.org or on the Lodge Bulletin Board by Thurs night. If you'd like to receive a reminder email each Wednesday, please send your email address to georgiahilficker@gmail.com</small>	28
29  BUCS vs PANTHERS 1PM	30 WINES & SWEET TREAT  BAR BINGO! 6:30PM \$3 DONATION	NEW YEAR'S EVE EXTRAORDINARY AT TAMPA 708 CRYSTAL BALL, TAPOT CARDS, AND PALM READERIES, PLUS SURPRISING PERFORMANCES NEW DRINKS COCKTAILS APPETIZER: SHIMP COCKTAIL, CREAMY, SPICED TUNA STEAK, CREAMY BUTTER POPEYE BUFFET: SPICED RICE, JAMBALAYA, RED SAUCE & RICE, CREAMY SPICED CHICKEN, CORN, COCONUT SPICED, CUBAN CORN OTHER: DARTS, PARTY PRIZES, CATERING DONATIONS: 12:00PM TO 12:30PM DECEMBER 31ST 7:00 TO 12:30PM \$10 POT TICKET THIS EVENT IS LIMITED TO 100 GUESTS TICKETS DO NOT HAVE A REFUND 12:00PM HALL RENTAL MAKE YOUR OWN THERE IS A CLOSET UNDER STAIRS				

Elks Tampa 708 size

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Tampa, FL 33611

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



Please remember to send any change of address to:
Tampa708secretary@outlook.com

Support the Elksize and Be an SOB - Smiling 'Ole' Booster

\$10.00 a year defers some of the publication cost, allowing us to direct more of our income to the charities & organizations we support.

William Deen - Richard Florance, PER, - Bob Norton - Sandra Brantley
Vera Wright - In Memory of Harold Wright - Pat Fennell



Friends of 708

*Marty Quire - In Memory of Bonnie Quire - Bonnie Atwood - Thomas Boyle
Mr & Mrs Moore - Sharon Ford - Mr & Mrs Suhrheinrich - Cynthia Edwards
Steve Harmon - Marty Quire - Julie Wooley - Paul DeLand, PER - Paula Rousselle - Kim Williams
Chris Ragusa - Mr & Mrs Hilficker - Debbie Osterbrock - Shannon Wheatley - Jason Brown
Susie Harlow - Laura Jones - Ladies of the Elks - Theresa Seibert PDDGR - Mackinley Zewalk
David Miller - P Jacquelyn LoCicero - Liane Ford*

OUR CURRENT ANNUAL SUPPORTERS

*R. Florance, PER - K. Higgins - M. Flowers - G. Chiani - R. Millaway
R. Norton - B. Deen - J. Martin - S. Mackey - S. Owens - F. Smith - M. Waldbart - E. Clark
C. McMullen - J. Hall - C. Venable - R. Bradshaw - F. Palladini
R. Schneider, PER, In Memory of J. Schneider, Earl Clark*

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.