



## **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 Ripogle, 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 4:00am - 9:00pm

**Lodge Secretary email:**  
[tampa708secretary@outlook.com](mailto:tampa708secretary@outlook.com)

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

## **A Message From your Exalted Ruler, Tracy Horrell**



July is here! We will celebrate summer with Patriotism for our Flag, our Country, and the Men and Women who serve in our Armed Forces with family, and friends gatherings, barbecues, parties, games, parades, and oh let us not forget fireworks!

But let's not forget the true meaning of the 4th of July! It is a time to commemorate America's declaration of separation from Great Britain. Our freedom and the democracy that we have been blessed with are a direct product of the sheer determination of our forefathers who worked to establish the United States of America as a free country! We as Elks should take great pride in this heritage!

I will be traveling to Austin, Texas to represent Tampa Lodge 708 for its National Convention! We have lots of meetings and activities that will require my attendance along with voting on new statues or revisions of statues. Voting is important and I will be voting the way Tampa members express how for me to vote on these subjects.

I am looking for someone who has time and can help find projects or community activities in our area worthy of us getting a grant. These grants are free money from the Elks National Headquarters to support a worthy cause or project. I know there are some out there that we can help! If you have an idea let me know.

We all know it's hot outside, so why not come down and enjoy fellowship and a cool sip or two?

There is always something fun going on!

Join Us!

See You at the Lodge...Tracy Horrell, ER

## 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)

## Tampa Elks Win BIG at State Convention Wendy Hall, PER (2023-24)

Congratulations Tampa Elks Lodge #708 members!

It was with a great deal of pride I accepted three important awards on behalf of our Lodge at the 2024 Florida State Convention. These prove our positive progress as an Elks Lodge.

All our awards were in Division IV for Lodges with membership 301-450. We received the 3<sup>rd</sup> place award in the state for percentage of growth in membership' Our 2<sup>nd</sup> award, just as important, was 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the per-member donations to The Elks National Foundation.

Standing out in importance is the third award. We were named an All State Lodge, a high honor indeed.

In addition, Tampa Lodge has been named one of ten finalists for Lodges our size as an All American Lodge. This award will be given at the Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, Texas in July. Be Proud of Tampa Lodge!



## Captain Dale Mabry a Founding Member of 708



Dale Mabry was born March 22, 1891 in Tallahassee Florida to Milton H. Mabry and Ella Dale Bramlett. He joined the US Army Air Service prior to WWI and rose in the ranks to become captain. He survived the war and went on to become a dirigible pilot.

He was the captain aboard the Army Dirigible Roma February 21, 1922. The dirigible crashed in flight and exploded on that day with 34 lives lost which was the greatest amount of airborne casualties to that point in time.

Captain Mabry was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. It is not known exactly when he joined Elk Lodge #708, however, he was an important and founding member of our Lodge. He has several things here in Tampa that have been named for him including Dale Mabry Highway, Dale Mabry HCC Campus, Dale Mabry field in Tallahassee 1941-1945 as well as a restaurant in 1891. This restaurant was featured on national TV after renovations.

Written and contributed by members, Ruth E. Levin/ Norman Jones II

## JULY ELK RECOGNITIONS

### ELK OF THE MONTH...KIM VAN WALKER

Elk of the Month- Kim VanWalker... give her a camera and she goes to town taking pictures at every angle! She always makes us look good and shows how we are truly having a good time at our events. She was instrumental in our having one of the most successful hospitality rooms at the state convention. When you see her give her a big Thanks she certainly deserves it!



### OFFICER OF THE MONTH...EDIE HANLEY

Officer of the Month- Edie Hanley- has that get-it-done attitude! But she is the first to offer help whether it's picking up garbage outside in the back of the lodge, helping clean off tables, or helping the vets find clothing, food, and shelter. Give her a task and you know she will finish the job! I am thankful for her being my Leading Knight! Let's give her a big thank you!



### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH...

Volunteer of the Month- Ruth Levin and Cindy Allen- it is hard to pick one and not the other! They are always together helping and stepping up to help cook, prep, and serve food, on any night, when asked! They also help lend a hand when it comes time to set up or clean up the hall, and let's not forget the Elksize. Their passion for learning and sharing ideas will help us grow as Elks. They love trivia, trying new drinks, and cheering on their team on the big screen. Let's all tell them how much we appreciate their time and efforts!



# Supporting Reports



## Chaplain's Corner by our chaplain, Crystal Johnson:

"Every time someone steps up and says who they are, the world becomes a better, more interesting place." - Captain Holt, Brooklyn Nine-Nine Speak up today.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27



## Ladies of the Elks:

This month the Ladies are having their annual Low Country Boil on July 19<sup>th</sup>. This is one of the Ladies' most popular events of the year. Come to your lodge for the good food and stay a little bit longer for live music and cocktails. Tickets are \$25 and go on sale July 1<sup>st</sup>. See your bartender or any LOE board member to get yours. There will be a limited number of tickets available at the door, so make sure you get yours early.

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, the Ladies are bringing back "Painting with a Twist". It's been a moment since we gathered to show off our painting skills. All are invited, bring a couple of friends to join the fun. Reservations are a must for the event, so be on the lookout for more information in the coming weeks.

The Ladies are planning a fabulous Sunday afternoon in February. Join us at The Straz in beautiful downtown Tampa to see the smash Broadway hit Mama Mia! If you are interested in joining us, please leave your name and contact information on the sign-up sheet on the Ladies' board or you can text me (Jacquie 813-245-6458). When group ticket information is available, I will contact you. A portion of your ticket fee will benefit Childrens Therapy Services.

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP President, Ladies of the Elks

### Executive Board

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP- President  
 Shelagh Gombareik, PER,PLP- Vice President  
 April Holtzman - Secretary  
 Laura Jones - Treasurer  
 Suzanne Moore, PLP - Chaplain  
 Ruth Levin - Parliamentarian

## JULY Birthdays

Candi Suhrheinrich- 7/8 - Jackie Appel- 7/15 - Wendy Hall- 7/24 - Elma Kelly- 7/25 - Edie Hanley- 7/30

**THE SMASH HIT MUSICAL**  
 returns to the Straz Center!



# MAMMA MIA!

Join the Ladies of the Elks Tampa 708  
 Sunday, February 2nd @ 2pm

**FOR AN EXCITING AND MAGICAL AFTERNOON**  
 at the Straz Center in downtown Tampa.

More information available when  
 group ticket information is released in July.

If you are interested in going, please leave your name and  
 contact information on the sign up sheet or you can contact

Jacquie at 813-245-6458.

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

# SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR LOE

Painting  
 with  
 a Twist®

# AUGUST 4TH STARTING AT 2PM

# Grant Reports and Information

## 708 ATTENDS A VETERAN'S RESOURCE EVENT



Edie Hanley, Leading Knight and Crystal Johnson, Chaplain, represented Tampa 708 at the Veteran's Resource Event held on May 23, 2024. The event was organized to help displaced veteran's get back on their feet with practices and resources that would assist them in obtaining jobs.

Edie and Crystal were there to inform veterans of services the Elks provide to the community. It was a very successful event with several forms given to the various agencies to help inform them of the Dress for Success Program we offer.

Edie Hanley, Leading Knight and member of the Veteran's Committee

## TAMPA 708 CONTINUES TO SUPPORT "DOGS, INC"

As a puppy raiser for Dogs, Inc (formerly SEGD) once the dog you have raised graduates as a guide dog you never really know if you will see them again.

Well, I had the opportunity to see Max again while working in Iowa. Dean, along with his family, drove 1 1/2 hours to where I was. I was amazed to see how Max used the skills he learned to get Dean in the restaurant. Dean says he and Max are best buds. He trusts him completely. He now has no fear of leaving his house

I have been a puppy raiser for the past 7 years, and our Lodge has rendered support and funds for this much needed program though out that period of time. I'm proud of the support we lend to such a worthy cause and very happy I became personally involved. (For those who ask me all the time, how can you give that dog back? Seeing Max do the job he was born to do makes it all worthwhile!)

Tracy Horrell, ER



## Past Events and Projects



### FATHER'S DAY PICNIC



The Ladies hosted their annual Father's Day Picnic. It was wonderful to see many of our members stop by and share their day with us. We ate, we played Father's Day trivia, and we enjoyed the company of our fellow members. Thank you to our Ladies who delighted us with their best picnic sides and desserts. Sue Moore, Shelagh Gombarcik, Edie Hanley, Crystal Johnson, Laura Jones and Ruth Levin, your help with our picnic was greatly appreciated.

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP, President, Ladies of the Elks



# Past Events and Projects



## 2024 FLORIDA ELKS STATE CONVENTION



“Together we do **great things**”

Florida Elks Convention 2024, what a wild ride. Florida Elks know how to have a good time, “sharing and caring” for each other, celebrating all the good things Elksdom does for the community around us all. Tampa always has and continues to have one of the biggest and best hospitality rooms at the convention. I can’t tell you the number of attendees that said to me, “we can’t wait to get to Tampa 708’s room, it’s always so much fun”. This years “Jolly Cork’s Dive Bar” didn’t let them down.

Now lets get down to what it takes to have this amazing hospitality room year after year. I can tell you that if I didn’t have the help from Lodge Members, I would never have made it. I consider Patty and Mike Volpe my co-chairs and I could not have been chairperson without them. Those two drove up Wednesday evening with me to help unload the Uhaul and start setting things in place. They knew just what we needed to do, and I’m very grateful to them. They helped me in every way. Mike was behind the bar more hours then I can count, Patty too, “Booty and Booby”, Patty really set that up, prizes and all. “Thank you Volpes”.

Now on to Wendy Hall and Paul Deland, both PERs, thank you Wendy for keeping such good records from last year... that helped sooo much. They oversaw the bar, all the liquor, mixes, set-ups, cups, everything that went along with that. Wendy kept track of everything that was donated so we knew what we needed to purchase. She also set up “The Wagon of Cheer” which was amazing, and really made a lot of revenue for the lodge. She and Paul went and purchased what was needed, and packed up all of the liquor including the Wagon of Cheer. I’m talking beer, soda, water, lemon, limes, stirs, etc. Wendy helped load all this on the Uhaul. Paul, I want to thank you for making the macaroni salad and also helping handle everything with the bar.

April Holtzman and Shelagh Gombarcik, PER, those two got all the decorations together, packed them, didn’t even check into their room, came straight to the hospitality room to decorate. They also sold raffle tickets for days not just a shift. Those two had “Game On”.

Laura Jones, Kim and Norm Benzing, these three sold raffle tickets, counted money, helped with the bar, helped with clean up. Norm was so popular on Friday night’s “Parade of Pirates” he couldn’t make his way back to the hospitality room. People wouldn’t leave him alone; everyone wanted their picture with him. Next year I think he needs to make a grand entrance on his Harley in full pirate garb, and we should charge for photos. Just kidding, but it’s an idea for sure. Thank you to a true Elks family!

Rick Schneider, I have to tell you this man kept me sane, when I was crazy. He told us he was making moonshine, which we all love. He showed up with 600 tubes enough moonshine that I have to say I was taken back thinking to myself, we will never sell that much. WELL! I was so wrong we couldn’t fill the tubes fast enough; people didn’t just buy one they brought them in six packs. Yes that’s right, six packs. He also sold raffle tickets and shine. Thank you so much Rick.

Tommy and Janet Miller, drove down Saturday just to work the hospitality room, and boy they both worked hard that night and in full pirate garb. Janet and Tommy visited every hospitality room bring cheer to all, Janet handed out beads and greeted everyone. They both were instrumental on drawing people in our room for those last minute raffle ticket sales. Thank you to both of them.

Tracy and Addison Horrell, both PERs, our chief, our leader, and her side arm. They worked every day in every way, from loading the Uhaul to setting up, to packing up. Tracy worked so hard selling raffle tickets, Addison worked on the Pirate Music, and helped with whatever we needed. They helped set up food, cleaning up, just with everything. They also kept us in the know. Thank you both for leading us.

Tampa Elks LOE sponsored the room for our entertainer Kris Pierce. Without their help we may not have been able to have Kris this year. Thank you LOE for all you do.

Now, a big thank you goes to each Elk that brought a raffle ticket, 50/50, attended the Quarter Auction, donated liquor, soda, beer, food, donated to the Quarter Auction, donated money or time, donation of the Mystery Box and selling tickets. Without each and every one of you we would not have had a successful convention.

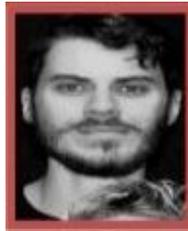
If I have forgotten anyone, I’m truly sorry, because it sure takes an Army. Thank you again to all. Kim VanWalker



# Past Events and Projects



# Past Events and Projects



On Saturday, June 1, the Improvaholics improv musical and short-form comedy troupe put on a show to raise money for the Elks National Foundation. It was a full crowd, and a fun time was had by all with great audience energy and participation. The Improvaholics would like to thank all those, including fellow Elks, who came to watch the show as well as Elks Lodge 708 that has been so supportive over the past years. A special thank you to Betty Orcutt and Susie Harlow for their help welcoming the audience members, collecting the proceed money, providing food, running the 50/50 drawing, and more. An additional thank you goes to Shelagh Gombarcik for setting up the tables and chairs before the show as well as helping take down the tables and chairs after the show. And, thanks to Tommy Moore, who was unable to attend the show, but who still helped set up the tables and chairs beforehand.



The Flag Day ceremony this year was a little different than in the past but beautiful as always!

We were delighted to have it this year on the actual date.

It was equally special as we had the Veterans from Liberty Manor carry the flags as we talked about what period they represented. Our very own Norman Jones helped with the flags as well.

Each year we are thankful for Frank Smith who handles the music and for Chris Ragusa. Chris has so much passion for this day!

Once the service was over, we had the Veterans from Salvation Army join us for a fabulous rib dinner! Courtney really outdid herself!

Tracy Horrell, ER



# Past Events and Projects

## OUR WWII VETS RETURN TO NORMANDY



Thank you for the honor of bringing FL Elks, guests, and especially our WWII Vets to Normandy for the historic 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day.



Our flight out of Atlanta to Tampa last evening was delayed causing us to arrive around 10pm instead of 7:48pm as planned. Despite our tardiness, Tampa Police Department, Tampa Airport, Delta and TSA gave us a wonderful homecoming. Everyone was told to be seated upon arrival and not to leave their seats until our WWII Veterans and their Elk escorts departed the plane. At the gate, there was a Tampa PD and TSA Honor Guards saluting our Vets departing from the plane. They escorted us to baggage claim, collected our luggage for us. They waited while we got our cars, stopped airport traffic, and escorted us to our vehicles including loading luggage for us.



Our Veterans were interviewed by numerous national, French, and international media before, during, and arriving home back at Tampa. I will be sending the clips to Laz. A few photos attached with a 3 Star Army Surgeon General, Secretary of Army with lunch in Bayeux, French Navy Brass meeting our Vets before the parade, and a group photo before lining up for the parade. St. Mere Eglise is a small town of 2,500 people. On parade day there were estimated 120,000 from all over Europe



Fox 13 covered us every day and Mark Wilson is making a documentary that will be broadcast across the nation. Some clips below. FSEA Media Director Laz is also making a documentary of the trip.

Sadly, we lost one of our Veterans, Tampa 708 Malen Griep. Malen fought all over Europe including the Battle of the Bulge and liberating Dachau. Malen's two son's took him back to the States on Friday. He died on Saturday in Bay Pines VA. Malen's daughter Kathy stayed with us and gave his speech for him. An Elk's Memorial Service will be held at Tampa 708. The date has not yet been determined.



Dolly and I are extremely proud of everyone who accompanied our Veterans on this trip. You bonded together and collaborated effectively with one another making the trip delightful. Special thanks to Team Doctor's Dr. Sonia Perez Padilla, New Port Richey #2284, Dr. Kunal "Kuni" Amin, St. Pete #1224, and FSEA Historical Programs Team Members Mary Ducharme, Sebastian #2714, and PDD Fred Jaca, S. Miami/Coral Gables #1676 for the planning and execution of the plan to make this trip successful! Last, much thanks to our Historic Programs Partners for ensuring the sacrifices of those who gave much for our freedom are celebrated and remembered! Rudy Masi, PSP

*For those of you that missed it. Here is the documentary. With no commercials it is 23 minutes long. Highlights our WWII Vets, a few others, and FSEA significantly including the parade at the end. We are even in the credits at the end of the report. The live broadcast will be again this evening at 5:30pm. Copy and paste the link into your browser.*

[MarkWilson Reports:D-Day at 80.Courage.Sacrifice.Liberty.\(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MarkWilsonReports:D-Day%20at%2080.Courage.Sacrifice.Liberty)

# Upcoming Events and Projects

**CHECK OUT  
OUR NEW  
FRIDAY NIGHT  
HOURS**

## All American Diner

### LET'S DO DINNER AT THE LODGE WITH COURTNEY

**JULY 5TH**



Friday Dinner  
July 5th

**Shelagh and Tommy**  
are in the kitchen

**Fish and Chips or Grits  
Coleslaw, Hush Puppies,  
and Dessert  
\$11.00**

Serving 6:00 to 8:00  
Sign up by emailing [708meals@gmail.com](mailto:708meals@gmail.com)  
or on the Lodge Bulletin Board

**JULY 12TH**



Friday Dinner  
July 12th

**Prime Rib**

**Caesar Salad, Twice Baked  
Potato, Fresh Green Beans  
and a Roll  
\$22.00**

**Appetizer:  
Stuffed Mushrooms - \$3.50  
Dessert:  
Peach Cobbler Ala Mode - \$4.00**

Serving 6:00 to 8:00  
Sign up by emailing [708meals@gmail.com](mailto: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 you email address to

**JULY 19TH**

**YOUR LOE BRINGS YOU  
ANOTHER FABULOUS**



**LOW COUNTRY BOIL**

FRIDAY JULY 19TH - 6PM TO 7:30PM  
Shrimp, Crawfish, Clams, Smoked Sausage,  
Andouille Sausage, Corn & Potatoes  
Dessert: Louisiana crunch cake  
\$25.00 a Ticket  
Tickets on sale now!  
The Jim Dohr & Rex Smith Band  
will entertain us!  
BAND STARTS AT 7:30PM

**JULY 26TH**



Friday Dinner  
July 26th

**Chicken Piccata**

**Italian Salad, Angel Hair  
Pasta, Broccoli and Garlic  
Bread  
\$15.00**

**Appetizer:  
Caprese - \$3.50  
Dessert:  
Tiramisu - \$4.00**

Serving 6:00 to 8:00  
Sign up by emailing [708meals@gmail.com](mailto: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 you email address to  
[georgiahilficker@gmail.com](mailto: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 6:00PM TO 8:00PM**

## BAR BINGO

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

- July 1st** - BLT with side & or Salad Trio - Chicken/Tuna/Egg both w/sweet treat
- July 8th** - Philly Cheese Sub w/side or 1/2 Philly Cheese & Cup of creamy mushroom Brie soup both with sweet treat
- July 15th** - BBQ Pulled Pork or BBQ Pulled Chicken Slider w/side or Fried Chicken Salad both w/sweet treat
- July 22th** - Cuban Sandwich w/side or 1905 Salad, both w/sweet treat or 1/2 & 1/2
- July 29th** - Eggplant Parm w/side or Chicken Sandwich w/side or Cobb Salad both w/sweet treat



## QUEEN OF HEARTS

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

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

- \*July 4th** - SEE PAGE 11
- \*July 11th** - Meatball Sub or Italian Sub both w/Fries or Large Anti-pasto Salad on Greens
- \*July 18th** - Fish Sandwich w/ Fries or Open Face Meatloaf Sandwich w/Mashed Potatoes or Chef Salad
- \* July 25th** - Tracy Horrell, PER is cooking!

# Upcoming Events and Projects

# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

## CELEBRATE WITH OUR DOUBLE HEADER

# BAR BINGO



## 4TH OF JULY Picnic Buffet

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, POTATO  
SALAD, BAKED BEANS & MORE.

# \$7.00

THURSDAY JULY 4TH

BUFFET STARTS AT 5PM

EARLY BIRD BINGO

5:30PM - 6:30PM

QUEEN OF HEARTS 7:PM

**Fun, Money  
and Great Food!**



## Upcoming Events and Projects



### GEORGIA INVITES YOU TO **SUNDAY DINNER AT THE LODGE**

Serving at 5pm  
Sunday, July 7th

**Spanish Olive Salad  
Paella**

w/Shrimp, Scallops,  
Mussels, & Chicken  
Garlic Toast and  
Tres Leche Cake

**Alternative - Rotisserie Chicken  
with all the same sides  
\$18.00**



Please secure your meal by making your reservation and menu choice by Friday, July 5th  
Email - 708meals@gmail.com or sign up on the Lodge bulletin board.  
Proceeds to underwrite the 2025 New Year's Eve Celebration.  
Donations gratefully accepted.



Join Jason & Crystal  
The 2nd Tuesday of the  
Month at 7pm  
for a rousing game of

**TRIVIA**

JULY 9TH

Prizes to winners No cell  
phone Look-ups allowed!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**QUARTER AUCTION**  
NOT YOUR USUAL QUARTER AUCTION SALE

**AUGUST 10TH**  
This one is offering  
**"Sink to Collectables  
& Soup to Nuts"**

Proceeds to benefit the Lodge

**SAVE THE DATE!**

## Upcoming Events and Projects

**YOUR LOE BRINGS YOU  
ANOTHER FABULOUS**



**FRIDAY JULY 19TH - 6PM TO 7:30PM**  
**Shrimp, Crawfish, Clams, Smoked Sausage,**  
**Andouille Sausage, Corn & Potatoes**  
**Dessert: Louisiana Crunch Cake**

**\$25.00 a Ticket**

**Tickets on sale now!**

**The Jim Dohr &  
Rex Smith Band  
will entertain us!**

**BAND STARTS AT 7:30PM**



# Upcoming Events and Projects



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3RD - 12PM TO 3PM**  
**3RD TO 5TH GRADE STUDENTS**

- Wide Ruled Filler Paper
- 3 Prong Folders (Primary Colors)
- Crayola Colored Pencils
- Fiskar Scissors
- Washable Markers
- Glue Sticks
- Spiral Notebooks, wide ruled, 1 subject
- Number 2 Pencils
- Blue and Black Pens
- Pink Erasers
- Pencil Top Erasers

Donations can be dropped into the box at the Lodge, or cash donations should be dropped at the office in an envelope with "Patty Volpe, Back to School Party" written on it.

Donation Cut-off date July 30th

If you would like to volunteer, or to add someone to the attendee list please email Patty  
[pattyandmrfox@gmail.com](mailto:pattyandmrfox@gmail.com).

**Tampa Elks Lodge 708, 3616 Gandy Blvd. 33611**

# Upcoming Events and Festivities

## COME ENJOY YOUR LODGE BAR

Summer's here the heat is on and our **RAYs** are UP!  
Enjoy the games on the big screen with friends and an ice cold brew!

COME ENJOY OUR SPECIAL DRINK NIGHTS:



MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS FOR JESSICA'S UNUSUAL DRINK SPECIALS - OPEN KITCHEN

MARGARITA TUESDAY WITH KRISTI FOR A SPECIALTY MARGARITA - FOOD AVAILABLE

CRAFT COCKTAIL WEDNESDAYS WITH KRISTI WITH DELICIOUS CONCOCTIONS - FOOD AVAILABLE



SHELAGH GOMBARCIK, PER, BAR MANAGER

# 2023-2024 GOURMET CLUB

THIS MONTH'S HOSTESS IS SHELAGH GOMBARCIK PER

JULY 28TH - 5PM

Elegant party or  
in front of the TV...  
Everyone Loves  
Appetizers!

All Holidays  
call for Appetizers  
Think your favorite  
holiday

APPETIZERS  
Are sooo...  
Much Fun!

## APPETIZERS



APPETIZERS

APPETIZERS

## APPETIZERS

From  
Chips and Dip to  
Escargot the skies  
the limit.



BRING A DISH OR A  
DONATION AND AN  
APPETITE

*Trivia... Trivia... Trivia... Trivia*

# Lodge Business and Projects

## 159th GRAND LODGE SESSION STATE ASSOCIATION & LODGE PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS FOR THE 2024 CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

You can read the entire text on the Elk National Convention Page at [Elks.org](http://Elks.org)

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 4.357 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** To remove the word indoctrination, which has a negative connotation linked to forced acceptance of certain values of beliefs and amend it to the term orientation which is a familiarization with the organization's principles and beliefs.

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 9,170 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** To move the control of the assets from the Grand Exalted Rulers appointed Defunct Lodge Trustees to that of the State Sponsor(s). 2) Lodges and State Associations are both 501(c)(8)s. This change will allow funds to be given to State Associations without placing a restriction on their use if so deemed by the State Sponsor(s).

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 14.020 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** To allow Members the ability to download and print a current membership application directly from Elks.Org.

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 4.232 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER, WHICH STATES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 4.232. The Board of Grand Trustees shall acquire by contract with a qualified insurance company, and maintain in effect, a master comprehensive all risk of physical loss and crime coverage program for the properties and functions of the Grand Lodge, each Local Lodge, and separate corporations organized and existing under Section 16.030 of the Grand Lodge Statutes as they shall require from time to time and shall be available. Premiums for coverage shall be separately assessed against those entities in such amounts and at such times as will be required to provide the coverage requested and in place. Each of said entities shall not be required to participate in the program, The program shall be effective as to each line of insurance coverage for each entity on the annual date its present policy (policies), in effect on the adoption of this Section, expires. Entities choosing not to participate with the Grand Lodge approved qualified insurance company are to provide proof of their all risk of physical loss and crime coverage of their Local Lodge and any separate corporation. The coverage is to be provided by a qualified insurance company, and proof of coverage will be provided to The Grand Lodge if requested by The Grand Lodge.

Each Local Lodge, and separate corporations organized and existing under Section 16.030 of the Grand Lodge Statutes not participating in the contract obtained by the Board of Grand Trustees shall acquire and maintain, with a licensed insurance company in the State where the Local Lodge or separate corporation exists, a policy to cover risk of physical loss and crime coverage. Risks Of physical loss shall include coverage of a minimum of fifty percent of the replacement cost of the property, and replacement cost values must be updated a minimum of once every five years.

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 12.050 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER, WHICH STATES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 12.050. The Secretary of the Lodge shall: /#j Give bond of at least \$5,000 or in a greater amount as may be provided in the By-Laws, unless such coverage is provided through the Grand Lodge insurance program. The proposed amendment would read as follows: Section 12.050. The Secretary of the Lodge shall: /#/ Give bond of at least \$5,000 or in a greater amount as may be provided by the By- Laws, unless such coverage is provided through The Grand Lodge insurance program or another qualified insurance company being used by the Local Lodge.

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 12.060 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER, WHICH STATES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 12.060. The Treasurer of the Lodge shall: /i// Give bond of at least \$5,000 or in a greater amount as may be provided in the By-Laws, unless such coverage is provided through the Grand Lodge insurance program. The proposed amendment would read as follows: Section 12.060. The Treasurer of the Lodge shall: /a// Give bond of at least \$5,000 or in a greater amount as may be provided by the By- Laws, unless such coverage is provided through the Grand Lodge insurance program or another qualified insurance company being used by the Local Lodge.

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 12.060 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** To REMOVE the requirement that the Lodge Treasurer to attend all District Deputy Clinics.

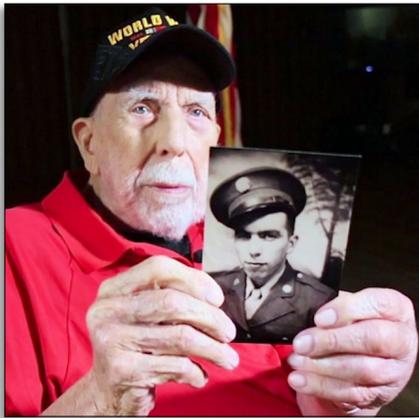
### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 16.020 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** Allows Lodges the option to determine if paid Officers should sit on the Board of Directors

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECTION 16.020 OF THE LAWS OF THE ORDER.

**PURPOSE:** To give the Local Lodges the opportunity to add or not the Secretary and Treasurer to the Board Of Directors.

# Lodge Business and Projects



## THE PASSING OF A TAMPA ELKS MEMBER WORLD WARII VET MAYLEN GRIEP

Malen Griep, a WWII veteran and a 4 year member of 708 accompanied 3 other Florida WWII veterans to the 80th Anniversary of D Day in Normandy, France. He was accompanied by his daughter and 2 sons. Malen fought all over Europe including the Battle of the Bulge and in the liberation of the Dachau prisoner of war camp.

Sadly, he became ill soon after arriving in France and was brought back to the states on Friday by his two sons, leaving his daughter behind to deliver his speech. He died on Saturday in Bay Pines VA Hospital.

An Elk's Memorial Service will be held at Tampa 708. The date has not yet been determined.



## TAMPA LODGE 708 PROPOSED BY LAWS ADDITION

### MOTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF TAMPA FL LODGE NO 708

Moved by Member Richard Schneider, PER that the by-laws of Tampa Lodge No. 708 be amended by adding the following under:

#### ARTICLE XV-A; AUXILIARIES AND ADJUNCT ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. The Lodge hereby recognizes the Tampa Elks Riders Association as an adjunct organization pursuant to section 13.200 of the Grand Lodge statutes.

Introduced on June 10, 2024, and be voted on the July 24, 2024 Wednesday night meeting.



## Partners in Progress or PIP

### Platinum Investors \$100+

Frank Palladini, PGESQ 5/6

Richard Florance, PER 5/16

Mr. & Mrs. Hilficker 7/2023

Jackie Appel 8/2023

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 and help to increase the overall financial strength of our Lodge.

**Gold Investors \$51-\$99**

**Silver Investors \$21-\$50**

**Bronze Investors \$10 - \$20**

# Lodge Business and Projects

## TAMPA LODGE 708 LAYS A WREATH AT THE 2024 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Memorial Day is a somber day of remembrance. It is to honor and mourn the U.S. military personnel who died while serving our country. The wreaths were laid and a beautiful ceremony was held at the American Legion Post 5. Tracy Horrell, ER, Frank Palladini, PSP, Rita Smith, PER, and Rick Schneider, PER were representing Tampa Elks as we have for years now. It is always a beautiful tribute!



"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." Harry S. Truman, 33rd U.S. President, Tracy Horrell, ER

## EXALTED RULER



- Tommy Miller- trimming trees, hauling junk
- Norm Benzing- keeping the sign updated
- Kim Benzing- for stepping up to help with the queen of hearts, pull tabs
- Kim VanWalker- successful hospitality room at the state convention,
- Wendy Hall, PER - for hall rentals, helping with the hospitality room
- Mike and Patti Volpe- for helping with loading the truck for the state convention, helping work the hospitality room
- Dee Cisneros, PER, Ed Lissard, and Kim Benzing for a heartfelt tribute to our WWII member Malen Griep who recently passed away.
- Courtney Weil, PER- for going out of her way to volunteer in the kitchen
- Sammy Weil- for helping with cooking, shopping for food, cleaning up, and fixing odd things around the lodge.
- Daniel Armentrout- for always bringing fresh flowers to make our dining room look beautiful!
- Norman Jones - For writing such a beautiful article on Captain Dale Mabry.
- Paul DeLand, PER for helping with the Flag Day ceremony
- Chris Ragusa- helping to set up the hall and make our Flag Day so meaningful!
- Frank Smith- for ensuring our music was ready on the queue for Flag Day.
- Laura Jones- for always lending a hand in the office. A keen eye on watching what we spend
- Crystal Johnson and Jason Brown- for always making trivia not only interesting but loads of fun!
- Suzie Harlow and Bonnie Atwood- for lending a helping- hand with the folding of the Elksize.

### JULY LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 1st - LOE Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 3rd - LOE General Meeting 7pm Dinner 6:15pm
- 8th - Veteran's Meeting - 6:30pm
- 9th - BOD Meeting - 6:30pm
- 10th - Membership Meeting - 6:00pm
- 10th - Elks General Meeting - 7:30pm
- 16th - House Committee Meeting - 6:30pm
- 24th - New Member Orientation - 6:30pm
- 24th - Elks General Meeting & Installation - 7:30pm

### CELEBRITY Elks

**Mickey  
Mantle**

**Famous  
American  
Baseball  
Player**

**Canyon, TX  
Lodge No. 2887**



# Tampa Elks Lodge #708

## JULY 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><b>1</b> GRAND LODGE CONVENTION AUSTIN, TX</p> <p><b>LOE BOD MEETING</b></p> <p>BLT with side 6:30 PM or Salad Trio - Chicken/Tuna/Egg both w/sweet treat</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b></p> <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>2</b> GRAND LODGE CONVENTION AUSTIN, TX</p> <p><b>MARGARITA TUESDAY</b></p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>3</b> GRAND LODGE CONVENTION AUSTIN, TX</p> <p><b>LOE GENERAL MEETING 7PM</b></p> <p><b>LOE DINNER</b> 6:15PM</p> <p><b>CRAFTED COCKTAILS</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> 4th of JULY Double Header Picnic \$7.00</p> <p><b>Bingo and QOH</b></p> <p>See pg 11</p> <p><b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b></p> <p>DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>5</b> SHELAGH &amp; TOMMY</p> <p><b>FISH &amp; CHIPS OR GRITS W/HUSH PUPPIES &amp; DESSERT \$11</b></p>	<b>6</b>
<p><b>Georgia's Sunday Dinner</b></p> <p>Green Olive Salad</p> <p><b>Paella</b></p> <p>Garlic Bread</p> <p>Tres Leche Cake</p> <p>See pg 12</p> 	<p><b>8</b> 6:30PM VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>Philly Cheese Sub w/side or 1/2 Philly Cheese &amp; Cup of creamy mushroom Brie soup both with sweet treat</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b></p> <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>9</b> 7:30PM BOD MEETING</p> <p><b>MARGARITA TUESDAY</b></p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p><b>TRIVIA NIGHT</b></p> <p>At 7pm with Jason &amp; Crystal</p>	<p><b>10</b> MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING 6PM</p> <p><b>CRAFTED COCKTAILS</b></p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p><b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> Meatball Sub or Italian Sub both w/Fries or Large Antipasto Salad on Greens</p> <p><b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b></p> <p>DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>12</b> PRIME RIB CAESAR SALAD, TWICE BAKED POTATO, FRESH GREEN BEANS \$22</p> <p><b>STUFFED MUSHROOMS \$3.50</b></p> <p>PEACH COBBLER \$4</p>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<p><b>15</b> BBQ Pulled Pork or BBQ Pulled Chicken Slider w/ side or Fried Chicken Salad both w/sweet treat</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b></p> <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>16</b> HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM</p> <p><b>MARGARITA TUESDAY</b></p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<b>17</b>	<p><b>18</b> Fish Sandwich w/Fries or Open Face Meatloaf Sandwich w/ Mashed Potatoes or Chef Salad</p> <p><b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b></p> <p>DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>COUNTRY BOIL</b></p> <p>WEATHER THE BOIL</p> <p>OLD TIME SWEETSTONED</p> <p>\$25</p> <p>6PM TO 7:30PM</p> <p>LIVE MUSIC: JIM DOHR &amp; REX SMITH - 7:30PM</p> <p>PAGE 9</p>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<p><b>22</b> Cuban Sandwich w/side or 1905 Salad, or 1/2 &amp; 1/2 all w/sweet treat</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b></p> <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>23</b> MARGARITA TUESDAY</p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>24</b> 6:30PM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION INITIATION TO FOLLOW THE</p> <p><b>CRAFTED COCKTAILS</b></p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p><b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> Tracy Horrell, PER is cooking!</p> <p><b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b></p> <p>DONATIONS by 6:45PM DRAWING at 7PM</p>	<p><b>26</b> CHICKEN PICCATA, ITALIAN SALAD, ANGEL HAIR PASTA, BROCCOLI &amp; GALIC BREAD \$15</p> <p>Caprese \$3.50</p> <p>Tiramisu \$4</p>	<p><b>27</b> Vice President Visitation: Seminole &amp; Largo at Seminole</p>
<p><b>28</b> GOURMET CLUB 5pm</p> 	<p><b>29</b> Eggplant Parm w/side or Chicken Sandwich w/side or Cobb Salad both w/sweet</p> <p><b>BAR BINGO!</b></p> <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	<p><b>30</b> MARGARITA TUESDAY</p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p> <p>7PM TO 9PM IMPROVAHALICS REHEARSAL</p>	<p><b>31</b> CRAFTED COCKTAILS</p> <p>FOOD AVAILABLE</p>			

# Elks Tampa 708 size

3616 Gandy Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33611

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TAMPA, FL  
PERMIT #32



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](mailto: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

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.