



## **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**



My motto this year was "Elks Step Up and Stand Proud!" And from the beginning of the Elk year and throughout we have! Some months weren't easy especially during October when so many of us were dealing with the destruction of the hurricanes in our own homes, we were there to get our lodge back in order and up and running.

Wow! I can't believe a year has gone by so quickly! It's true what they say; Time flies when you're having fun!

We can all give ourselves a huge pat on the back for coming together and having positive attitudes toward making our lodge, and our community a better place.

We have accomplished so much this year and we can all be proud of helping our veterans with meals, bus tickets, outings, and even a new bathroom at Liberty Manor. We have also helped children in our community with school supplies, Christmas gifts, and school projects and even started a new club for middle schoolers. And let's not forget all the cereal boxes we donated to help at the Spring of Tampa Bay. What a great feeling it is to know we made a difference.

As I pass on the title of Exalted Ruler to the next person let's continue this great work! Let's pass on our contagious attitude for Elksdom and the good we do!

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for a great year!

See you in the lodge!  
Tracy Horrell, PER

# 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)



**Friends  
of 708**

## WERE YOU AWARE?

Several years ago Theresa Siebert, PDDGR put together a program of continued giving to benefit our Lodge called "Friends of 708". Each month the names of those benefactors are printed on the outside flap of this Elksize.

It has come to my attention that many of our newer members may not be familiar with this program nor its sister program "Annual Supporters". These plans were put together to support the operations of our Lodge. Maintenance, grounds, updating, etc. We have grants and events that support our many charities, but few that are directed to the upkeep of the facility itself.

In order to become a "Friend of 708" you would be committing a minimum of \$11 a month, sent by automatic deposit, to the Lodge Operating Budget. Should you wish to be part of the "Annual Supporters" you would make a one time payment of \$132 or more.

Should you wish to participate in either of these worthwhile programs please contact me at 262-496-7342 or email me laj6687@gmail.com.

Thank you, Laura Jones, Chairman of the BOD



## Ladies of the Elks:

Gasparilla was a whirlwind of fun, making new friends and getting together with old friends. Once again, the Ladies spearheaded the Gasparilla Market with great success! The market was established as an addition to our hosting of the 2019 midyear convention. What started off as an experiment, has taken off as an integral part of our annual Gasparilla Event. In just five and a half years, the Ladies have increased sales by 900%, a percentage that we could never imagine in 2019. We are proud to support our lodge, as this is our mission and passion. The success of the market took many hands and hours to make it possible. We are grateful to all who helped, *Shelagh Gombarcik, Sue Moore, Rosann Garcia, Laura Jones, Jackie Apple and her daughter, Robin.* I'd like to give a special shout out to *Michelle Lord and Joani Halloran.* Michelle and Joani, who are not LOE members (yet), helped man (or Lady) the Gasparilla Market. Their help was greatly appreciated. Our next Gasparilla Event is just around the corner, and the Ladies have new ideas and additions that we are sure will add to our guests' experience and the lodge's success.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, our lodge is hosting our annual membership appreciation and awards. The Ladies will also honor our members who have stepped in to help with our success. Hope to see everyone there, you never know who may be getting a shout out! March 29<sup>th</sup> is our Ladies of the Elks installation, alongside the Elks installation.

The Ladies have a few events coming up. On April 5<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Wal-A-Thon to support Childrens Therapy Services. May 3<sup>rd</sup> is our annual Kentucky Derby Horse Race. This annual event is always a hoot! We are looking forward to both events and hope to see you there.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank all the Ladies for your support this year. To be your Lady President is an honor I never take for granted. This year has been fun, and as we head into a new year, I look forward to even more fun. As Shelagh always says, we party with a purpose!

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP, President, Ladies of the Elks

### March Birthdays

Sandra Brantley April Holtzman Tommy Moore Francis Salter Ziggy Zeigler

## MARCH ELK RECOGNITIONS

### ELK OF THE MONTH...RUTH LEVIN & CINDY ALLEN

Ruth Levin and Cindy Allen. It's hard to just pick one as they are always working together to make our lodge a great place to be! This dynamic duo are forever in the kitchen meal prepping, serving, cleaning, setting up, and tearing down in the lodge. They truly have taken on a new meaning of volunteering. I appreciate all their hard work this year, please let them know what a huge asset they are to this lodge!



### OFFICER OF THE MONTH...CRYSTAL JOHNSON

Crystal Johnson has been a delight to work with as our Chaplain this year! Her messages in the Elksize are always inspirational and thoughtful. She has helped throughout this year with trivia, karaoke nights, and 80's party. She always dresses the part when we have events in the lodge. I just love her style of costume! Please let her know how much we appreciate her!



### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH...JACQUIE LOCICERO

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP, LP has done a fantastic job this year with helping make the Gasparilla marketplace a huge success! Her salesman style made it profitable and her setup made sure that people could easily find their treasures to purchase. Please make sure to thank her for a job well done!







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

"Your need for acceptance can make you invisible in this world." - Jim Carrey  
 Refusing to hide your true self is worth 10x more than the approval of strangers.  
 "For God shows no partiality." Romans 2:11

## Grant Reports and Information



# Lodge Veterans Committee Report

The Tampa Elks 708 Lodge Veterans Committee (LVC) began utilizing the Elks National Foundation (ENF) Spotlight Adopt a Haven grant that we received. The \$2000 grant will allow us to provide \$1000 in prepaid fuel cards to support transportation for the Liberty Manor for Veterans residents, and we catered a Dinner and a Movie night at Liberty Manor on January 26 for their 16 sheltered veterans. Your LVC will be preparing and hosting another Dinner and a Movie night for the Liberty Manor vets at the 708 lodge on Saturday, March 1.

The LVC also applied for and received an Elks National Foundation (ENF) Gratitude Grant for \$3,500. We'll use this to fund the installation of an ADA-compliant roll-in shower at Liberty Manor for Veterans. We will partner with Home Depot and their volunteer associate workforce Team Depot to accomplish this project. Dates for the demolition of the current bathtub and installation of the prefabricated shower have yet to be determined. Pictured are the current step up and over tub shower and the new wheelchair accessible shower stall. Four veterans utilize the bathroom that we are remodeling.

Your LVC hosted veterans from the Salvation Army's Red Shield Center for Courtney's Chicken Fried Steak on Friday, February 21 and veterans from the New Beginnings shelter for a BBQ rib dinner on Friday, February 28.

At our January 13 meeting, the Lodge Veterans Committee voted to commit \$1500 to sponsor a veteran's participation in the 2025 Florida Elks Parade of Heros trip to Washington, DC from November 8 - 12. Eligible Elk veterans can fill out an application to attend on the Florida Elks website.

Fundraising events will be held on Saturday, April 19 (smoked ribs and pork, prepared and picked up from our parking lot for Easter dinner) and on Monday, May 26 when we will prepare and serve dinner at the lodge for Memorial Day.

We've moved our meetings to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, and our next meeting will be on Monday, March 24. Prospective committee members are welcome to join us at 6:30pm in the banquet hall.

Christopher Ragusa, Veterans Committee Chair





# Grant Reports and Information



## Motivated Mustang Club News

On Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, our Tampa Lodge volunteers arrived at Madison Middle School, in their club shirts, for our monthly meeting with the students of The Motivated Mustangs Club. We meet in the cafeteria during 2<sup>nd</sup> period, so we only get 50 minutes to make an impact. We start the meeting making sure everyone has had breakfast, by providing McDonalds breakfast sandwiches, hashbrowns, and drinks.

This month, instead of team-building activities, we had a keynote speaker. It was our very own Tampa lodge member, Stephen Willis. Stephen is the President for the Florida Association of Teen Courts. He spoke to the students about juvenile delinquency, teen courts, how easy it can be to get a charge added to your permanent record, and how hard it can be once you have that record. It was very impressive to watch him interact with the students.

Our school sponsor, Ms. Hunziker, the school social worker, reached out to say, "I had a chance to chat with some of the students, and they mentioned they really enjoyed participating with our guest speaker." Thank you, Stephen, for your commitment to our community's youth.

We had lots of volunteers on hand for the meeting. Thank you to Melissa Bertoch, Betty Orcutt, Carolyn Miller, Bonnie Atwood, and Mike Volpe for taking time out of their morning to be there.

Our next meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am. If you would like to join in on the fun, let us know!



Fraternally yours, Laura Bell & Patty Volpe, Beacon Grant Managers



## HOOP SHOOT NEWS

Tampa Lodge and the Wonderful WCD wrapped up the 2024-2025 Hoop Shoot season at the Hoop Shoot Regional Competition on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at Florida Elks Youth Camp. Connor Bell competed in the U12 boys division and Savannah Bell competed in the U14 girls division.

All competitors won their Lodge and District competitions, prior to the Regionals, it was the best of the best competing that Saturday. Connor and Savannah Bell did a fantastic job representing their divisions, even though they didn't secure first place this time. It's wonderful to see such dedication from both the competitors and their supportive parents, Laura, and Chris Bell. The effort they put in, including those early morning trips, truly shows their commitment.

A huge shout out goes to the Bell Family. Laura (member) & Chris Bell, rearranged their schedules, got up before sunrise, and made the round trips to camp (2 hours each way) to support the Savannah & Connor. The effort they put in, including those early morning trips, truly shows their commitment to their family and Elkdom. Look for them at the ER Awards dinner on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Thank you to our WCD PER Association for funding all our meals (breakfast & lunch) at the Regional Competition. We ate like royalty. It is 'wonderful' to have your support.

Planning for the Hoop Shoot 2025-2026 season will start in June. If you would like to learn more about the Hoop Shoot Committee and be one of the hands that help make lite work, let me know. I can be reached at 941-580-7201 or email: [pattyandmrfox.com](mailto:pattyandmrfox.com).

Fraternally yours, Patty Volpe, Hoop Shoot Committee



# Past Events and Projects



## OUR 2025 GASPARILLA WAS A MAJOR SUCCESS THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!



My sincere thanks to all who extended typical Tampa #708 hospitality in making a very fun day for the guests who attended our 24th Annual Gasparilla Boat Parade Party. This was one of the best event days on record, and the entire day was very successful.

A special thanks to the volunteers of this year's Gasparilla event which included 11 Past Exalted Rulers of Tampa #708 and 7 PERs from other lodges.

**FROM TAMPA:** Frank Palladini PSP; Steve Harmon PODGER; Shelagh Gombarcik PER/PLP; Richard Florance PER; Tracy Horrell PER/PLP; Paul Deland PER; Dee Cisneros PER; Chris Miles PER; Rick Schneider, PER; Courtney Taylor-Weil, PER; Wendy Hall PER

**FROM OTHER LODGES:** Jeanne Reinhart PODGER, Largo Lodge; Tony Fratello PODGER, Tarpon Springs Lodge; Sonja Lopez PODGER, Largo Lodge; Cindy Green DVP, Aripeka Lodge; Dolly Masi PER/PLP and Rudy Masi PSP, St Petersburg Lodge; Michelle Clayton PER, Hampton VA Lodge

Those other members and non-Elks who graciously volunteered their time and efforts before, during, and after the event are deeply appreciated and include:

Sue Moore PLP

Laura Jones

Georgia Hilficker

Debbie Palladini

Kim Benzing

Ruth Levin

Steve Kraft

Ruth Levin

Daniel Armentrout

Trish Gilland

Michelle Lord

Jenia Aupperle

Melissa Bertoch

Jodi Allison

Michael Suskowski

Gloria Lovering

Robin Hennen

Tommy Moore

Jacquie LoCicero, PLP

Kim VanWalker

Tommy Miller

Sam Weil

Patricia Gilland

Cindy Allen

Joel Torres

Norman Benzing, Sr.

Theodore Bass

Kevin Siuda

Joe Dobson

Joani Halloran

Jesse Sarnovsky

Jan Bertoch

Susie Timmerman

Jake Slater

George Hilficker

Debbie Brennen

Norman Benzing

Norman Jones, Jr.

Tony Springer

Nina Carroll

Lori Armetrout

Chris Ragusa

Sandra Alder

Alex Siuda

Sharon Dobson

Madison Jackson

Kyle Jackson

Bob Orcutt

Rosann Garcia

Jackie Appel

Again, a very sincere thanks to all for a job well done.

Frank J. Palladini PSP  
Gasparilla Chairman

Paul DeLand, PER  
Gasparilla Vice-Chairman





# 2025 GASPARILLA MEMORIES





# Upcoming Events and Projects



TAMPA LODGE 708

# ST PATRICKS

## *Celebration*

Friday, March 14th - 6pm

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Live Music and

Irish Dancers

**\$20.00**

Plus...50/50  
& Tracy's  
Bread Pudding





## Upcoming Events and Projects



You are invited to an Improv Show featuring:

# THE IMPROVAHOLICS

**Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Cash donation of \$10 is suggested for admission.

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM with SHOWTIME at 7:15PM

Please be aware this performance is for open-minded adults only.  
and is not appropriate for children!

Location:

Tampa  Lodge

Tampa Elks Lodge  
3616 W Gandy Blvd.



# Upcoming Events and Projects



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

**MARCH 7TH**

 Friday Dinner  
March 7th  
**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**  
Ask about our dessert of the evening.  
Serving 6:30 to 8:00  
Sign up by emailing [708meals@gmail.com](mailto:708meals@gmail.com),  
or on the Lodge Bulletin Board  
If you'd like to receive a reminder email each  
Wednesday, please send your email address to  
[georgiahilficker@gmail.com](mailto:georgiahilficker@gmail.com)

**MARCH 14TH**

 TAMPA LODGE 708  
**ST PATRICKS**  
*Celebration*  
Friday, March 14th - 6pm  
Corned Beef & Cabbage  
Live Music and  
Irish Dancers  
**\$20.00**  
Plus...\$5/50  
& Tracy's  
Bread Pudding  



**MARCH 21ST**

**NO FRIDAY DINNER**

 ...2025...  
**AWARDS NIGHT**  
AT TAMPA 708  
SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND  
6:30 COCKTAIL HOUR - 7PM DINNER  
FOLLOWED BY PROGRAM  
COME WATCH OUR EXALTED RULER  
GIVE OUT THIS YEAR'S AWARDS FOR:  
ELK OF THE YEAR  
OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR  
AND MORE  
FOLLOWED BY OUR  
LOE AWARDS  
COMPLEMENTARY DINNER:  
Casseroled salad, Country Pot Roasts with  
Potatoes, Carrots, Celery and Onions.  
Dessert - Tres Leches Tiramisu

**MARCH 28TH**

**NO FRIDAY DINNER**

**TAMPA LODGE #708**  
**2025-26 OFFICER INSTALLATION**  
SATURDAY  
MARCH  
29TH  
 6PM  
COCKTAIL  
HOUR  
You are cordially invited to  
attend the installation of our  
2025-26 Lodge Officers and  
the Ladies of the Elk Officers  
Ceremony to be held at  
**6:30pm**  
Traditional Tampa Dinner to follow:  
Menu: 1905 Copycat Salad & Cuban Bread  
Mojo Pork, Rice, Black Beans, Plantains,  
Flan or Guava & Cheese Pastry and  
Café Con Lecha

**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**

## BAR BINGO

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

**March 3rd - Reuben Sandwich or Chef  
Salad & a sweet treat**

**March 10th - Meatloaf Sandwich & a  
sweet treat**

**March 17th - Meatball Sub & Sweet Treat**

**March 24th - Chicken Parmesan Sandwich  
& Sweet Treat**

**March 31st - Shrimp PoBoy or Chicken  
Salad & Sweet Treat**

**All meals come with a side item.**




## QUEEN OF HEARTS

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

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

**\*March 6th**

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


**\*March 13th - Shelagh & Tommy  
Grill Night**

**\*March 20th - Fish Sandwich**

**\*March 27th - Shelagh & Tommy  
Grill Night**



# Upcoming Events and Projects



...2025...

**AWARDS NIGHT**

**AT TAMPA 708**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND**

**6:30 COCTAIL HOUR - 7PM DINNER  
FOLLOWED BY PROGRAM**

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**COME WATCH OUR EXALTED  
RULER GIVE OUT THIS YEAR'S  
AWARDS FOR:**

- . ELK OF THE YEAR
  - . OFFICER OF THE YEAR
  - . CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
- AND MORE.**

**FOLLOWED BY OUR  
LOE AWARDS.**

**COMPLEMENTARY DINNER:**

**Caesar Salad, Country Pot Roasts with  
Potatoes, Carrots, and Onions, Yeast Rolls  
Dessert—Tres Leche Tiramisu cake**



## Upcoming Events and Festivities

# TAMPA LODGE #708 2025-26 OFFICER INSTALLATION

**SATURDAY  
MARCH  
29TH**



**6PM  
COCKTAIL  
HOUR**

**You are cordially invited to  
attend the installation of our  
2025-26 Lodge Officers and  
the Ladies of the Elk Officers  
Ceremony to be held at**

**6:30pm**

**Traditional Tampa Dinner to follow:  
Menu: 1905 Copycat Salad & Cuban Bread  
Mojo Pork, Rice, Black Beans, Plantains,  
Flan or Guava & Cheese Pastry and  
Café Con Lecha**



# Upcoming Events and Projects

## 2025-2026 GOURMET CLUB

JOIN US FOR THE 15TH SEASON OF OUR TAMPA 708 GOURMET CLUB!  
THE CLUB MEETS THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AND RUNS FROM  
MARCH 23RD TO AUGUST 24TH.

THIS MONTH'S HOSTESS IS SHELAGH GOMBARCIK, PER - THE THEME IS  
APPETIZERS AND HAPPENS SUNDAY MARCH 23RD AT 5:30PM

### HORS D'OEUVRES

APPETIZERS



FINGER FOOD



BRING A DISH OR A  
DONATION AND AN  
APPETITE

### PARTY SNACKS

IF YOU LOVE TO COOK AND ENJOY SHARING YOUR EFFORTS, THIS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU! LOADS OF GOOD FOOD, FUN,  
FELLOWSHIP AND CAMARADERIE...AND OF COURSE TRIVIA! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST ONE OF OUR MEETINGS PLEASE  
CONTACT SHELAGH AT 813-837-4246

## Lodge Business and Projects

### A NOTE FROM OUR INCOMING ER

Dear Members and Friends of Tampa Elks Lodge 708,

I am deeply honored and excited to serve as your new Exalted Ruler. It is both a privilege and a responsibility that I embrace with great enthusiasm. Our Lodge has a rich history of camaraderie, service, and dedication to our community, and I am committed to building upon that legacy.

My primary focus will be on growing our membership and expanding our presence in the community. By welcoming new members and strengthening our bonds, we can continue to make a meaningful impact through charitable work, social events, and outreach programs. I encourage each of you to share our mission with others, inviting them to experience the pride and fulfillment that comes with being an Elk.

Together, we will uphold the values that define our Lodge while embracing new opportunities for growth and service. Thank you for your support and I look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Fraternally,

T-Michael Boyle



# Lodge Business and Projects

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...



Our Lodge employs very few people. Almost all the work is done by volunteer members that give their time and energy to support our events, meals and maintenance needs. From the bar manager and the house committee members, to the kitchen staff, these folks work hard to make our Lodge a place we can enjoy and be proud of.

That's why it's always so disappointing when a few members lose sight of this fact and treat our volunteers badly. Recently that has happened on several occasions and I feel terrible for those individuals that are doing this work in support of all of us.

Please remember to be kind to our volunteers, bartenders and wait staff. We couldn't provide the services we do without them and they are very hard to replace.

*One more thing...please refrain from going into the kitchen while meals are being prepared. It gets a little hectic back there and the cooks and their helpers don't have time to chat.*

Thank you for your consideration, Tracy Horrell, ER

## EXALTED RULER



- Dee Cisneros for cleaning up the back hall
- Richard Florance for setting up on meeting night and taking on the part of Tiler.
- Sue Moore for cleaning our closets and straightening them out.
- Wendy Hall for helping with hall rentals
- Tommy Miller for taking back borrowed chairs to the Moose
- Janet Hill for helping with delivering of chairs
- Rae Ann Boyle for having great ideas for events.

### MARCH LODGE MEETING SCHEDULE

- 3rd - LOE BOD Meeting 630pm
- 5th - LOE General Meeting 7pm Dinner 6:15pm
- 12th - Elks General Meeting - 7:30pm
- 19th - House Committee Meeting - 6:30pm
- 24th - Veteran's Meeting - 6:30pm
- 25th - BOD Meeting - 7:00pm
- 26th - Elks General Meeting - 7:30pm
- 26nd- New Member Orientation - 6:30pm  
New Member Installation following meeting

### DID YOU KNOW?





















**The Elks organization was founded in New York City on February 16, 1868 under the name "Jolly Corks" by 15 actors, entertainers and others associated with the theater.**

**In ensuing years, the membership extended to other professions and has expanded to include all the benevolent and charitable works we see today.**

# Tampa Elks Lodge #708

## MARCH 2025

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						 <p><b>Let's go All-In!</b></p> <p><b>Tampa Elks Lodge #708</b></p> <p><b>Saturday, March 1, 7-10pm</b></p> <p>6pm Bar Bingo Plastic Food \$7 donation</p> <p>7-8pm Bar Bingo &amp; Games (donation take all)</p> <p>8-10pm Texas Hold'em</p> <p>8-10pm Gaming Machine: Turnips</p> <p>8-10pm Cash \$1000 prize</p> <p>9-10pm Left Right Center</p> <p>3 doors</p> <p><b>VETERANS DINNER &amp; A MOVIE</b></p>
2	3  <b>LOE BOD MEETING 6:30 PM</b> REUBIN OR CHEF SALAD  <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	4 CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVHALICS REHEARSAL	5 <b>LOE GENERAL MEETING 7PM LOE DINNER 6:15PM</b>  CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE	6  <b>COURTNEY'S SPAGHETTI DINNER NIGHT...\$7.50</b>  <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	7  <b>SHAM ROCK AND ROLL</b> AND FISH FRY SEE PAGES 9 & 10	8
9	10 <b>MEATLOAF SANDWICH</b>  <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	 <b>Dinner &amp; a Movie with Kristi</b> 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVHALICS REHEARSAL	12 CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE  <b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b>	13  <b>THURSDAY NIGHTS 6:00 TO 1:30PM BURGERS &amp; FRIES</b>  <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	 <b>TAMPA LODGE 708 ST. PATRICK'S Celebration</b> Friday, March 14th - 6pm Corned Beef & Cabbage Live Music and Irish Dancers \$20.00 Plus: \$6/99 & Turkey & Bread Pudding	15
16	17 <b>MEATBALL SUB</b>  <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>	18 CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVHALICS REHEARSAL	19  <b>HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM</b> CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE	20 <b>FISH SANDWICH</b>  <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	21	 <b>2025... AWARDS NIGHT AT TAMPA 708 SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND 6:30 COCKTAIL HOUR - 7PM DINNER FOLLOWED BY PROGRAM</b> COME WATCH OUR EXALTED RULER USE OUT THIS YEAR'S AWARDS FOR: ELK OF THE YEAR OFFICER OF THE YEAR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND MORE FOLLOWED BY OUR ELK AWARDS COMPLEMENTARY DINNERS CORNED BEEF, CABBAGE, POTATOES, CARROT, LENT SOUP, TURKEY, BREAD, PUMPKIN, LARD, LARDER, DINNER, DINNER
 <b>2025-2026 GOURMET CLUB</b> JOIN US FOR THE 20th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR DOWNSIDE GOURMET CLUB! THE CLUB PREPARES THE 4TH QUARTER OF EACH MONTH AND BINGO FROM FRIDAY 2:30 TO 8:00PM. THIS MONTH'S DINNER IS SUNDAY FISH & CHIPS - THE TRADING IS APPROPRIATE AND HAPPENS SUNDAY FISH & CHIPS (2ND AT 5:00PM). <b>HORS D'OEUVRES</b> <b>FINGER FOOD</b> <b>APPETIZERS</b> <b>PARTY SNACKS</b> BINGO & DOWNSIDE DONATION \$10 OR MORE	24  <b>6:30PM VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MEETING</b>  <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p> <p><b>CHICKEN PARMESAN SANDWICH</b></p>	25  <b>7:00PM BOD MEETING</b> 7PM TO 9PM IMPROVHALICS REHEARSAL	Orientation 6:30 Installation immediately following meeting  <b>7:30PM GENERAL MEETING</b> CRAFTED COCKTAILS & HOT FOOD AVAILABLE	27  <b>THURSDAY NIGHTS 6:00 TO 1:30PM BURGERS &amp; FRIES</b>  <b>QUEEN OF HEARTS</b> DONATIONS by 6:45PM Drawing at 7PM	28	 <b>TAMPA LODGE #708 2025-26 OFFICER INSTALLATION</b> SATURDAY MARCH 29TH 6PM COCKTAIL HOUR You are cordially invited to attend the installation of our 2025-26 Lodge Officers and the Ladies of the Elk Officers Ceremony to be held at 6:30pm Traditional Tampa Dinners to follow: Menu: 1965 Corned Beef & Cabbage, Bread, Maple Pork, Rice, Black Beans, Plantains, Flan on Quince & Cheese Pudding and Café Con Lecha
30	31 <b>SHRIMP BOBOY OR CHICKENSALAD</b>  <p>6:30PM \$3 DONATION</p>					

# Elks Tampa 708 size

3616 Gandy Blvd.  
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](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.