



Exalted Ruler

Lodge 497

What a great summer we are having! I hope you have had time to visit the lodge over the last few months and are enjoying the festivities.

As we head into the end of Summer and into the Fall, keep your calendars close so you don't miss out on any Fall fun. September 1st was another great Elks Bands on the Beach event, Thank you Rick Johnston and Brenda Purdy for your hard work, dedication, and leadership. September 18th is the Annual Elks Charity Golf Tournament and this year we are honoring Jennifer Strickland, our dear friend, Elk, and LOE, who has passed recently. Thank you Harriet Gossett and team for the amazing job you are doing!



October 31st is the Second Annual 5K run for Elks Charities. Put on your costume and register for this great event! (If you wear a costume, no one will know it is you walking) Thank you to Ingo Starke and his team for leading this fantastic event again!

Our Annual Veteran's Day Parade committee is getting fired up and beginning their planning meetings so see Trish Welch to get involved. Thank you Trish, we know it is going to be awesome! We had a vote to allow parking beneath the lodge for special occasions and it passed overwhelmingly.



We are also in the permitting process with SRIA to remove the sand in the front of the lodge along Pensacola Beach Blvd and replace it with Bahama Rock. This will give us a more hard pack parking surface and will be much easier to walk on. Once the permitting is approved, we will ask the membership to allow us to spend the money on the rock. Our application to the Grand Lodge for the building Restoration has been submitted for preliminary approval and we are excited to get started. Thank you to Phil Gambrel, Trish Welch and Dave Smith for your diligence, it will pay off.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of our new members and volunteers. You guys are rocking 497. I have never seen so many great people getting involved. Now bring your friends out, let them see what we do, then ask them to join us! New members are the lifeblood of our lodge! New members, new ideas, new energy, new achievements! In closing let me thank my team of leaders, there is no way we could accomplish all of these important tasks without each of you, and of course, our Club Manager Terri, together you are making a difference, you all are the best!



**Fraternally,
Greg Eddins**
Exalted Ruler



Welcome New Members

Ladies of the Elks

Hi everyone! Beautiful fall fashions were on display at our '**BUBBLES AND BOUTIQUES**' fashion show. What a fantastic event! Thanks to everyone that came out to enjoy the afternoon and raise money for women and children's charities. Thanks to Barbara Koncan and her committee for planning this event and many thanks to Lee Tracy and Jen's Designer Deals for providing the fashions. Our models did a fabulous job and looked amazing!

Save the date for the LOE HALLOWEN PARTY, Friday October 30. This will be a ticketed event. Start getting your costumes ready; there will be prizes and lots of fun! We had some really great costumes last year. Can't wait to see what you little monsters come up with this year!

The FLOE Conference is coming up in September. We have 15 attendees so far. There is still time to register if you don't want to be left out. There is room sharing and carpooling. A great way to learn more about the LOE's statewide and to broaden friendships.

Thanks to everyone that brought a dish or helped in any way for Jennifer Strickland's reception. It was very well attended and your help was appreciated. A big thanks to everyone that helped or attended the fashion show. We can't continue to do great things without everyone's participation.



If you would like to learn more about Ladies of the Elks, please join us at our next meeting. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 on the third floor. Female Elks and spouses of Elks in Good Standing are eligible to join. Dues are \$20 per year. We want to be respectful of your time so we endeavor to keep meetings to an hour or less. Next Meeting is September 3.

See Ya' at the Lodge!

Charlotte Field

Exalted Ruler	Greg Eddins
Leading Knight	Wayne Barr
Loyal Knight	Tammy Eddins
Lecturing Knight	Ingo Starke
Secretary	Kathy Lancaster
Treasurer	Tammy Wilson
Esquire	Scott Field
Tiler	Tom Luke
Chaplain	Christian Rabone
Inner Guard	Johnny Graves
Presiding Justice	John Unzicker
Lodge Advisor	Toni Palmer
BOD Chairman	Wayne Barr
5 Year Trustee	Rick Johnston
4 Year Trustee	Ramsey Landry
3 Year Trustee	Chris Renfroe
2 Year Trustee	Gary Booker
1 Year Trustee	Trish Welch
Accident Prevention	Ramsey Landry
Americanism	Deanna Barr
Army of Hope	Cap Pratt
Asst. Dock Master	Dave Dalton, Jr.
Auditing	Scott Abel
Blood Bank	Celeste Whisenant
Club Manager	Terri Devinny
Community Activities	Celeste Whisenant
Dock Master	David Dalton
Drug Awareness	Brenda Purdy
ENF Fundraising	Sandy Milburn
ENF Grants	Sandy Milburn
ENF Scholarship	Tammy Eddins
Entertainment	Charlotte Field
Flag Day	Tammy Eddins
Harry-Anna	Chris Wells
Hoof Prints	Steve Dupuis
Hoop Shoot	Sonny Reedy
Investigation	Ron Castle
Lapsation	Tammy Eddins
LOE President	Charlotte Field
Lodge Activities	Jan Alverson
Maintenance	Will "Dude" Hausmann
Marketing	Steve Dupuis
Mediator	Brooks Davis
Membership	Kathy Lancaster
Memorial Service	Greg Eddins
Nat'l. Foundation	Sandy Milburn
Nat'l Vet. Service	Carey Seigle
Orientation	Greg Eddins
Soccer Shoot	Matt Alt
Therapy Services	Chris Wells
Training	Greg Eddins
Under 40	Slater Dance
Veterans Services	Carey Seigle
Webmaster/PR	Steve Dupuis
Youth Camp	Larry Bragg



Club Manager

I hope you're all doing well and making some great memories at the lodge... I want to give a huge shout-out to our Monday Bingo volunteers, our Taco Tuesday volunteers and our Friday night dinner Volunteers. This lodge is built on brotherly love, and your dedication to helping us raise money for charity is truly inspiring. We are achieving amazing things because of you. Thank you!

If you haven't volunteered yet, please come see me! We would love to find a spot for you—it's a wonderful feeling to know you're giving back to others. We want to make sure we aren't relying on the same core group of people all the time; let's give them a well-deserved break so they can enjoy the lodge, too.

We have some fun new things coming to the lodge soon, so stay tuned! I hope I have your support as we continue to make our lodge better and better. As always, I am open to your positive suggestions and ideas; please feel free to leave them in the suggestion box outside my office.

Thanks to All,
See You at the Lodge
Terri



Charity Corner.

Our members approved \$5400 in donations & our PERs approved \$500 for a total of \$5900 to these worthy charities at the July 23rd Lodge meeting:

\$900 **Up to \$900** to purchase books for **The Last Gift project**, which provides books for hospice patients to read and record for their family members, allowing loved ones to preserve their voices.

\$2000 **Angel Force Foundation**, a veteran-led nonprofit organization focused on helping schools and communities create safer, stronger environments for students through leadership development, behavioral awareness, anti-bullying initiatives, mentorship, and proactive support systems

\$2000 **Santa Rosa Miracle League**, which provides children and adults with physical and mental disabilities the opportunity to play baseball on a custom-designed, rubberized safe field that accommodates wheelchairs and assistive devices while preventing injuries. It is located at Tiger Point Park.

\$1000 **Wheelchairs 4 Kids** to provide a roll-in shower for a local child who has cerebral palsy. This charity helps children who lack insurance or have been denied coverage. \$500 from the Lodge and \$500 from the PER Association.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Use this proposal as an article for Hoof Prints after reading on floor by the Lodge Secretary.

The following By Law change proposed by member Lance Keenan (Member # 1737) will be voted on at a regular lodge meeting, October 8, 2026 at 7pm on the third floor of Pensacola Beach Lodge #497, 661 Pensacola Beach Blvd, Pensacola Beach, Florida.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 5. Pursuant to Section 14.060 of the Grand Lodge Statutes, Pensacola Beach Lodge #497 elects to limit its membership to **2000** members in good standing. Notwithstanding the limitation, at least one candidate, if available, must be admitted to membership by initiation during the months of September through May, inclusive, of each year.

This proposal to change the lodge By Laws was read on the floor at the regular lodge meeting August 13, 2026 and notice to members was posted in the September, 2026 Hoof Prints complying with Grand Lodge Statute 17.060.

**Vote for the Amendment
Thur, Oct 8th at 7PM**



Hello Patriots, We Need You!

We are gearing up to honor our veteran community again this year with a fantastic better than ever Veterans' Day Parade. I am chairing the Veterans Day Parade Committee again this year and hoping all of my team from last year will join me and we REALLY NEED our new members to come and help!

Its really three events in one: the pre-parade cook out; the parade itself; and the POW/MIA ceremony at the pavilion. This year is shaping up to be the best ever. New members, please come and volunteer for this premiere Elks Lodge event. It is not a fundraiser. It is something we do for our veteran community and the Patriots who come to honor them on their special day!



September

09/11, WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM	2  LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM	3 PER Meeting 6:00 PM (2nd Flr) LOE Meeting 6:30 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	4 DINNER DIZZY JUKES  6:00-10:00 PM	5 TRIVIA 6:00 PM
6	7 Bingo 6:00 PM LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 	8  Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM New Member Interviews Start 5:30PM	9  LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 5K MEETING 3rd Floor 4:00 PM	10 Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	 PATRIOT DAY DINNER PLATINUM PREMIER MISTY & LOREN 6:00-10:00 PM	
13  DART LEAGUE 3:30 PM	14 LOE Officer Meeting 3:00 PM Bingo 6:00 PM LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 	15  Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM	16  LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM	17 BOD & Gov Meeting 6:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	18 GOLF TOURNEY  DINNER BLANE BUTLER  6:00-10:00 PM	19
20  DART LEAGUE 3:30 PM	21 Bingo 6:00 PM LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 	22  Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM New Member Orientation 6PM	23  LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 5K MEETING 3rd Floor 4:00 PM	24 Lodge Meeting & Initiation 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	25 DINNER  'Tomato' 6:00 - 10:00 PM	26
27  DART LEAGUE 3:30 PM	28 Bingo 6:00 PM LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 	29  Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM	30  LODGE Lunch Noon - 3:30 PM 5K MEETING 3rd Floor 4:00 PM			

It is Tournament Time

Fore! Our Biggest annual Fundraiser, A Call Out to Fellow ELKs. We can donations for Raffles & Swag: giftcards, wine, alcohol, services, artwork, etc. Also, we can use items for our swag bags that each golfer receives; pens, koozies, golf tees, magnets, etc.

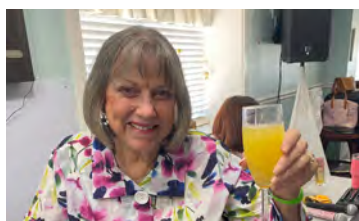


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From the Secretary

New membership applications are being turned in daily, and it is great to see our members bringing new people into the lodge! Please remember to write legibly, as some applications have been difficult to read. Also, please be aware that the membership process can take 4–6 weeks, depending on when the application is submitted. We are currently down to 107 members who have not yet paid their dues. An online portal is available for dues payments at elks.org/payonline. If you need assistance, please contact the Secretary.

Starting this month, newsletters will be emailed only. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please contact the Secretary at secretaryelks497@gmail.com. Be sure to check your spam or junk folder first. A limited number of printed newsletters will also be available at the lodge for those who need a copy.

Thanks, See you at
The Lodge!

September

Interviews: Tuesday, Sep 8th on the 2nd floor beginning at 5:30pm. Please sign in at the table once you get off the elevator.

Orientation: Tuesday, Sep 22nd 3rd floor 6pm.
Initiation Meeting: Thursday, Sep 24th, Meet on the 2nd floor at 6:15pm for further instructions.

Kathy Lancaster
SecretaryElks497@gmail.com

Office Hours Mon & Thurs 1-5pm

Club Hours	Mon-Thurs : Noon - Til	Phone: (850) 932-4444
	Friday : Noon - Til	Secretary: (850) 932-8050
	Saturday : Noon - Til	Reservations: (850) 932-4444
	Sunday : Noon - Til	Club Manager: elkslodge497@gmail.com
		www.elks.org/Lodges/home.cfm?Lodgenumber=0497

Please attend Lodge meetings.
Project 50 Percent: One meeting a month, 12 hours a year. It's not too much to ask.



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