March 2024



## The Antler

Official Newsletter of the Galveston Elks #126 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks A Fraternal Organization

FROM THE EXHAULTED 10 VETERAN's

lacksquare

**4** CALENDAR **10** BIRTHDAY'S **99** SPONSORS







National Elks



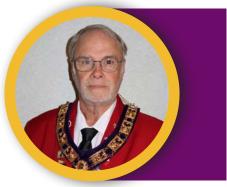
Texas State Elks





Texas Elks Camp

Click Squares Above to Visit Their Website



A word from the Exalted Ruler

#### Fellow Members of Galveston Lodge,

WOW! What an amazing experience this past year has been. I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve as your Exalted Ruler for 2023-24. Together we have accomplished great things for our lodge, and we should all be proud of the fruits of our efforts.

When we started this adventure together our lodge was facing some serious challenges to keep the doors open and operating. First and utmost was the financial shortfall we were left with. I am happy to report that the Galveston Lodge #126 is in a solid financial state. The continuous support of members attending dinners, events and showing outstanding generosity has assisted in reaching this goal. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, and gave, to make this happen.

One of my goals this year was to get our message out to the public, the following shows we

did it. Our Memorial Day Service was performed at three Veterans Monuments. The Mayor of Galveston attended and read a proclamation declaring it Elks Memorial Day. We also made the front page of the newspaper. Veteran's Committee Our arranged for us to combine our Veteran's Day activities with the VFW, the American Legion and Marine Corp League into one event, when we were able to donate a car to a deserving Vet. Two of our newer members revived our DAP Program and it is going strong. Elks lodge had a booth at Dickens on the Strand and sold Mistletoe. The Veterans' Committee initiated a monthly Veterans Breakfast and acquired a grant allowing over 50 Veterans the opportunity to take a fishing trip, all free to Vets. A group of us went Christmas caroling to three different assisted living facilities and a special appearance at Eddie Janek's home.

In-house accomplishments include the acquisition of the loan from FTET, allowing for the new floor in the Main Hall and Pit Room renovations. We added 30-plus members to our membership and had a very successful Stampede celebration with all 300 tickets being sold. The Grand Prize winner, Kansas State President, Roger Slief, generously donated half of his prize back to our lodge. We also established a Members of the Month award to recognize volunteers going above



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#### continued from page 2

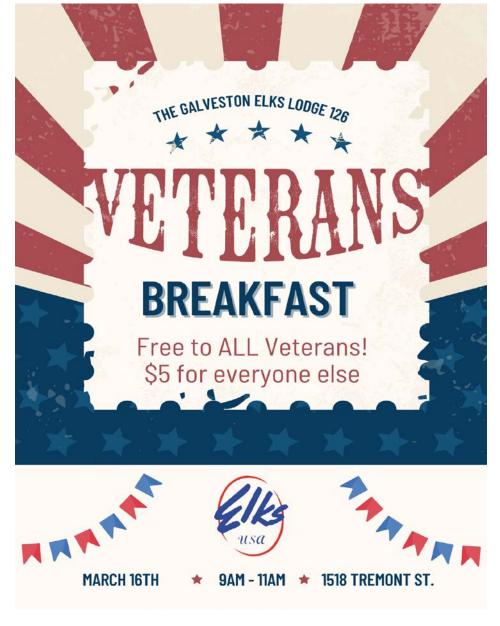
and beyond. Rosa Martinez volunteers to donate and cook a meal every second Wednesday. Fun Bingo was added to our Friday night Burger Basket and is growing in popularity.

Though I regret that I cannot commit to another year in my current position, I plan to assist in other ways to continue the success of our lodge. I challenge all members to remember that even one day a month of volunteering makes a huge difference to our continued success.

#### Elks Please Remember:

"The faults of our brothers and sisters we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory."

Steph Cochran 832-984-0483 stefeman1@gmail.com















For February, we have selected 2 INDIVIDUALS who have diligently contributed time and efforts to revive our previously waning Drug Awareness Program. Time was spent ordering, sorting and distributing the many pamphlets the Elks organization publishes for this program. Setting up booths to bring awareness to this issue particularly among our youth and make the community aware of the Elks concern and involvement in this battle.

We are very thankful for their participation and involvement. It is only thru members who unselfishly contribute can we be a successful lodge.

Our members of the month for February are **Eric Ayles** and **Karen "JERSEY" Greenan**.

Eric has taken the initiative to get involved in community functions at Moody Gardens, the Community Center, St Vincent's, various Schools and outside programs such as the Narcon distribution. Karen, a retired school teacher can speak with the youth and understands their situations which makes for a great TEAM effort in helping kids become aware of the dangers associated with Drugs. The contribution of socks recently by our members for a Drug Awareness program helped the community recognize Elks Care and Elks Share.

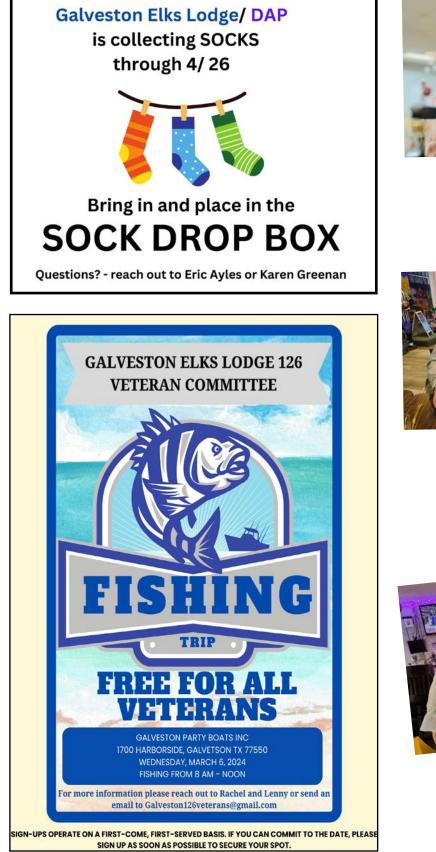
Many THANKS to you both.







Elkslodae







#### 2nd Annual Galveston Elks Lodge #126

The 2nd Annual Galveston Elks Gumbo Cookoff is for members, member's guests, and the public.

So, if you can cook Gumbo, please register at the link below. The event will be limited to 15 teams.

**When:** Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 8:00 AM to 6:00. Doors open at 10am.

**Where:** Galveston Elks Lodge1518 23rd Street, Galveston, TX 77550

**Contact:** Tommy Leigh – Event Chairman 409-996-7429 – tommygermany03@gmail.com

#### **Event Cost:**

Team registration \$50 – Open to the public Event admission \$ 10 – Open to the public Take home bowls of Gumbo \$10

Registration will open up the weekend of February 10th. Keep an eye open for registration information coming soon!!

#### Schedule

Registration Table & Check-in will be open (8 am) Team Meeting (9 am) Door open and Bar Open (10am) Tasting to start at 11am

#### Events

- Corn Hole Tournament
- Silent Auction
- Raffle Items
- 50/50 raffle
- Judging
- Cake Auction
- Vendors

#### **Gumbo Cookoff Details and Rules**

\$50 Team Donation

Teams are limited to 4 people per area. Booth size will be 10'x10'.

All cooking must be done on site; however, food prep can be performed beforehand. Items that may be done offsite include vegetable prep and rice preparation. Everything else must be prepared onsite.

All cook team members must be 21 and older, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian

#### Judging Criteria

- Enter your gumbo in one of 3 categories for judging: Seafood
- Chicken and Sausage (no seafood in this one)
- Chiefs Choice (or kitchen sink Gumbo)

Appearance-looks like a good gumbo-roux color, etc.

Consistency-stirs like a good gumbo-thickness of base etc.

Texture-Balanced quantity of ingredients. Need to have some meat in every bite!

Flavor- tastes like a good gumbo, pleasing to the palate

Teams must have a great attitude, HAVE FUN. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection, and Elks Officers in attendance will be judges (or their delegate).

For additional details please contact our event chairman Tommy Leigh at 409-996-7429 or by email at <u>tommygermany03@gmail.com</u>

More Details to Come. Official Schedule and Cookoff Rules will be posted on the event website and Facebook event page.



#### From the Treasurer

I I am thrilled to report that despite the challenges we faced this year at the lodge, we were able to overcome them with the help of our ER, STEf Cochran, and all officers who stood by him throughout his tenure. Thanks to the hard work of our committee chairs, we have managed to raise awareness and achieve great participation from our members.

As the treasurer, I must admit that it has been a challenging experience, but the best part is that we are closing the lodge for the year with everything in place. With the support of my colleague Pat Young, we have managed to keep the office in order and work well together. I feel honored to be a part of such a dedicated team, and I believe that we will have the best 2024 and 2025 with the new members coming in. I appreciate all the members who welcomed me back, and I am grateful that I was able to motivate people, especially those in the kitchen, by providing them with valuable advice. My work ethics may differ from others, but my commitment to the lodge is unwavering, and I am always available to participate. I have put in many years of hard work into the lodge for the purpose of our ENF and to work with our committees in utilizing our grants for the people in our community.

Together with our membership committee, we have been able to lower our delinquency rate from 145 to 52 members. Working with committee members outside our lodge and doing community work has been immensely rewarding, and I have enjoyed meeting representatives from different organizations that we were able to collaborate with.

I want to express my gratitude to the leadership and our special representative Sally De Palma for trusting me to get our lodge back in order. I am confident in my abilities and grateful to everyone who has helped me throughout these years.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the office training on March 9 and encourage everyone with any questions or who needs a ride to get in touch so we can work together to make it happen.

Julie Molis(PER) Treasurer











Els Care - Els Share

# HOUGTON AGTROG

## PRIZE:

Carlos Pena Jersey 2022 World Championship Ring Two (2) Astros Tickets Astros Hat

1 - \$5 3 - \$10 Stretch 25 - \$20

## March 23,2024 AT 2nd Annual GUMBO CookoPP

Tickets can be purchased from social quarters, board members or any committee member

Elks Lodge 1

1518 23rd St. Galveston TX 77550



#### Gumbo Cookoff Sponsors to Date

Mod Coffee House

ATMOSPHERE the Salon and Beyond

ACE Wrecker

Edward Jones

<u>Coastal Community Federal</u> <u>Credit Union</u>

Kempner Capital Management, Inc Fund

Jim Bacon

Breaux Boudin

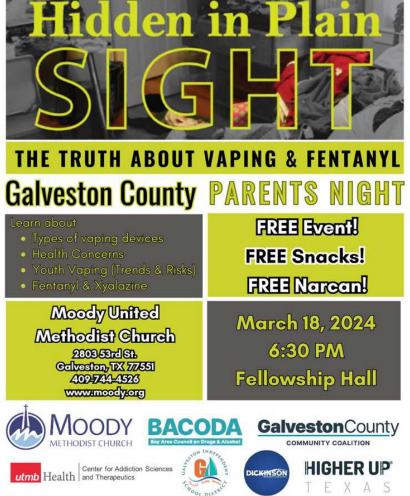
Linda Muelburger

Sam's Club

Pearl Asset and Land Management

Absolute Hospice









As this year's Veteran Committee Chairman, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you who has played a role in making our initiatives a resounding success.

The growth of the Veteran Breakfast has been truly



heartwarming, and it wouldn't have been possible without the unwavering support of numerous individuals. A special shoutout goes to Chef Paul and the incredible kitchen crew, Tom Scott, and Spot's Secretary - Stanley Chain. Your dedication and hard work have been instrumental in turning our ideas into a reality.

I also want to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Julie Molis, Dianna Puccetti, Jeff Heath, Megan Ganey, Anthony Carrasco, Jim Long, Pat Young, Asta Timm, Stef Cochran, Kris "Cochran" Graves, Pam Martini, Vicki Sinclair, Mary Scott, Christine Hinze and

Rheba Cochran. Your tireless efforts since the inception of the breakfast have been the cornerstone of its success. Together, we have created a welcoming space for our local veterans.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Veteran Breakfast on March 16th from 9-11. We extend a warm invitation to everyone to join us, connect with our local veterans, and share a delicious breakfast at the lodge. Additionally, Veteran our Fishing Trip is scheduled for March 6th, followed by lunch at the lodge at 12:30. If you are a veteran interested in attending, please register by emailing galveston126veterans@gmail. com with your name and shirt size by March 4, 2024.

Looking ahead, the Texas Elks Veterans Retreat on May 3-5 at Texas Elks Camp on Texoma promises to be a memorable experience. Veterans can attend at ZERO cost, while volunteers will be charged \$10 per day for Registration lodging. forms and brochures can be found at https://texaselks.org/veteransretreat, and I encourage you explore this incredible to opportunity. There are 10 spots

filled and 35 spots still available. Christine Hinze and I are planning to attend this year and if interested please let us know if you would like to carpool.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to my right hand, Lenny Van Noord, for his constant support and patience. Without him, our committee would not have achieved the success we've experienced this year.

In closing, I want to express my deep gratitude for the honor and privilege of serving as your Veteran Committee Chairman this year. Your support has been the driving force behind our accomplishments, and I am humbled to be part of such a dedicated and compassionate community.

Kind regards, Rachel Sanderson Galveston Elks Lodge 126 Veteran Committee Chair 202-699-1050





Elkslodge 10

## EVERYTHING BUMBD RAFFLE

## PRIZE:

Gumbo Pot | Seasonings Roux | Utensils | Rice Decorations | Book Event Shirts 1 - \$5 3 - \$10 Stretch 25 - \$20

## AT 2nd Annual GUMBO CookoFF 1518 23rd St.

Tickets can be purchased from social quarters, board members or any committee member

Galveston TX 77550





The Antler - March 2024

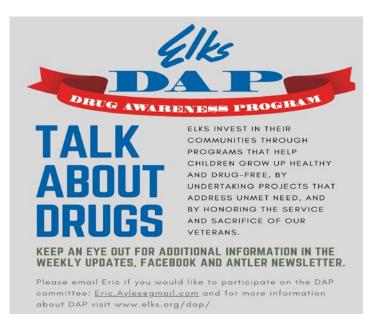


Please sign up to be on the Planning Commitee. (Comment, Email or Call: Asta Timm, Chairperson #608-576-9055 or via email at astatimm@gmail.com). Currently considering dinner menu ideas (2 menu options) and LIVE music. ANYONE can share suggestions. What would you love to eat and who would you love to listen and dance to?



Els Care - Els Share

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#### **Volunteers Needed for DAP**

Did you know that Elks National Drug Awareness Program is the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the United States? My name is Eric Ayles and I'm thrilled to be the new DAP Chair for the Elks 126. The Elks National Drug Awareness Program strives to teach all children and parents about the dangers of illegal drug use and prevent the abuse of legalized and prescription drugs. <u>https://www.elks.</u> <u>org/dap/aboutDAP.cfm</u>

This program started in 1982 but we need it now more than ever in our community. I work at a treatment center in Angleton called Serenity Light and my job is to help people find treatment options but sometimes it's too late. There is an epidemic of overdoses in our Galveston community due to fake drugs containing fentanyl. We must educate teens and young adults that fake pills are on the streets that look like other drugs and one pill can kill. Know that if you volunteer on this committee you can actually play a part in saving lives!

Please email me if you would like to participate on the DAP committee: <u>Eric.Ayles@gmail.com</u>

Thanks, Eríc



Elles Care - Elles Share

			R2	202	24	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
					Basket Meals @ 5:30pm	
					Prize Bingo	
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
	Lodge is Closed		Vets Fishing Trip	PER Meeting @ 5pm	Basket Meals @ 5:30pm	Officer Training
			Gumbo Cmte @ 5:30pm	Membership @ 6pm	Prize Bingo	
			Steak Night @ 5:30pm & Bingo	House/BoD @ 7pm/8pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Lodge is Closed	Grant & Veteran Cmte @ 5 & 5:30pm	Gumbo Cmte @ 5:30pm		Basket Meals @ 5:30pm	Veterans Breakfast @ 9am
		Lodge Meeting @ 7pm	El Nopalito @ 5:30pm & Bingo		Prize Bingo	Daniel Leggett benefit @ 11am
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St. Paddy's Day	Lodge is Closed		Gumbo Cmte @ 5:30pm		Basket Meals @ 5:30pm	GUMBO COOK OFF
75			Steak Night @ 5:30pm & Bingo		Prize Bingo	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Lodge is Closed	Lodge Meeting @ 7pm	Gumbo Cmte @ 5:30pm		Basket Meals @ 5:30pm	
			Chicken Fry Night @ 5:30pm & Bingo		Prize Bingo	

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#### PERs

Chubby Lauzon (1967-68) - Mainland Jack Cross (1974-75) - Mainland Michael Burkett (1983-84) - Mainland Rusty Carnes (1991-92) - Galveston Bill Jamison (1997-99) - Galveston Richard Carroll (2000-02) - Galveston Dianna Puccetti (2011-13) - Galveston PDVP (2015-16) Dennis Zapalac (2013-14) - Galveston Paul Rogers (2015-17) - Galveston PDDGER (2019-20) Loraine McKinney (2017-18) - Clear Lake Julie Molis (2019-20) - Galveston

Jim May (2020-22) - Galveston PDChaplain (2012-22)

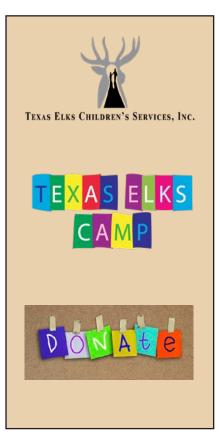
Joe Miller (2022-23) - Galveston

#### **Local Lodge Committees**

Bingo Chairperson Clubroom Manager Entertainment Garden / Yard Grant / Scholarships

Indoctrination Investigations Kitchen Manager Memorial Team Newsletter / Communications Visiting Chairperson Volunteer Chairperson Kris Graves Steph Cochran Kris Graves Stacie Fowler Julie Molis/ Dianna Puccetti Dianna Puccetti Jimmy Puccetti Kris Graves Jim May Robert Corkren

Joe Simmons Karen Crummett



Elles Care - Elles Share

















**Chaplain's Corner** I hope this Easter season finds all of you doing well and excited for the resurrection of Christ this upcoming Easter!

Easter awakens the greatest in all who believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May Christ's resurrection take away the bitterness in our hearts.

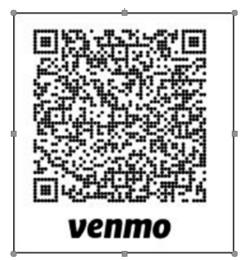
Let everything you do be done in love. "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow. Let the resurrection joy lift us from loneliness and weakness and despair to strength and beauty and happiness. Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

I wish you all a Happy Easter.

If I may be of service to you please reach out to me at 281-935-9950. May God bless you and keep you until next time.

Sincerely, Chaplain Joe







#### 2023-2024 Officers

**Exalted Ruler** | Stef Cochran Leading Knight Loyal Knight Lecturing Knight Secretary Treasurer Chaplain Esquire Tiler Inner Guard

Mary Scott **Rachel Sanderson** Don Wade Pat Young Julie Molis Joe Simmons John Bullacher John DaPra Jim May

#### 2023-2024 Trustees

**5th Year Kris Graves** 4th Year 3rd Year 2nd Year **1st Year** 

Dianna Puccetti Patricia Legg **Stanley Marinos** Tommy Leigh

#### 2023-2024 Committee Chairs

#### Committee

**Accident Prevention Activities** Americanism Auditing and Accounting **Community Projects & Activities Drug Awareness Elks Memorial Day Elks National Foundation** (ENF) Flag Day Fraternal **Government Relations Hoop Shoot Lodge Activities** Membership **PER President Public Relations Ritualistic** Soccer Shoot **State Major Projects Veterans Service Youth Activities** 

#### Chairperson

**Stanley Marinos** Karen Crummett Kathy Aaron Jim May Steph Cochran

**Eric Ayles** Steph Cochran Julie Molis

Natalie Robertson Kathy Aaron Steph Cochran Natalie Robertson Karen Crummett Julie Molis Jim Mav Pat Legg Steph Cochran N/A Steph Cochran **Rachel Sanderson** Natalie Robertson



We are always looking for volunteers for the kitchen, bingo, events, etc. Let an officer know if you're interested in sparing an hour of your time in service of the Lodge, Every bit helps.



#### LODGE COOKBOOK

We are thrilled to announce that the Galveston Elks Lodge 126 Veteran Committee is embarking on a fantastic venture - creating our very own Galveston Elks Lodge 126 cookbook!

This cookbook will be a delightful compilation of recipes contributed by our wonderful lodge members. It's an excellent opportunity for each of you to share your favorite dishes and culinary secrets with the rest of our community. Whether it's a cherished family recipe or a newfound cooking gem, we can't wait to gather and showcase the diverse tastes within our lodge.

To contribute your recipes, simply email them to elks126recipes@gmail.com or drop them off at the lodge. We want this cookbook to be a true reflection of the rich tapestry of flavors within our community, so don't hold back – share the love!

A special shoutout goes to Kris Graves, whose dedication and hard work made this project possible. Kris raised funds for the cookbook through her Superbowl Squares initiative, and we are immensely grateful for her efforts.

Please note that the deadline for recipe submissions is May 1st, after which we will kick off the production of our cookbook. The anticipation is building, and



we can't wait to see the culinary treasures that will fill its pages.

Not only will this cookbook be a wonderful addition to your kitchen, but it will also contribute to the betterment of our lodge. All funds raised from the sales will directly support our programs, community initiatives, and enhance the overall experience at the Galveston Elks Lodge 126.

If you have any questions,

suggestions, or additional ideas for the cookbook, please feel free to reach out. Your input is invaluable as we work together to make this project a resounding success.

Happy cooking!

#### **Rachel Sanderson**

Veteran Committee Chairman 202-699-1050



Els Care - Els Share

Happy Birthday Members

#### Wish these Elks a Happy Birthday!

#### MARCH

Member	Day	Ben Keith	16
Margaret Albrecht	30	Craig King	19
Miguel Aleman	28	Carol Lambert	10
Michael Annweiler	16	Thomas Leigh	26
Roger Asocar Jr	18	Dalia Macbeth	07
Mark Barrington	07	James May	23
Linda Bovaird	13	Isis Moreno	21
Walter Braun	31	Charles Neiman	19
Alfred Brown	05	Sharon Nugent	30
Jon Carman	17	Russell O'Connor	03
Franklin Carnes	15	Kay Pears	20
Joe Conti	09	Juan Pena	18
Karen Crummett	26	Alex Petty	02
Thomas Delaney	01	Henry Porretto	02
Shannon Donnelly	15	James Puccetti	22
John Garey	25	Janet Ritter	27
Jerald Gray	05	Harry Sanchez	20
Stuart Holifield	17	Sherri Short	01
Darrell Isaacks	12	David Shumate	28
Julie Johnson	17	Joy Strawn	06
Kenneth Johnson	29	Susan Treadway	14
Paul Jones	26	Angelo Urbani	05

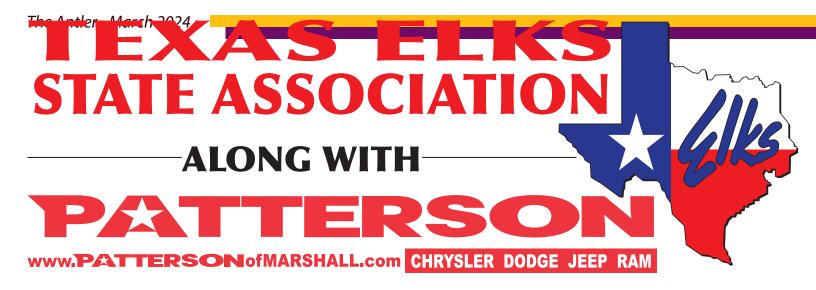












### Funding Summer Camp and Special Needs Grants for Kids

## ~ Prawing ~ GRAND PRIZE

## **2024 RAM 1500 LONE STAR EDITION**

(Winner responsible for all applicable taxes, title, fees and license requirements)

## ~ To Be Held ~ JUNE 8, 2024

Need not be present to win!

## ~ Ponation ~ TICKETS \$10 EACH OR 3 FOR \$20







LET'S MAKE THIS CONVENTION THE BEST YET!

### June 30 - July 3, 2024 VISIT TEXASELKS.ORG AND SIGN UP TODAY!

**159th Elks Grand Lodge Convention** 

Austin Convention Center, 500 E Cesar Chavez St., Austin, Texas, United States, 78701

## 400-500 TX VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Choose the Role(s) you are interested in and the days and times that you will be available to work.

You will be contacted via email closer to the Convention to confirm assignments and scheduled times.

Meet Elks from around the country! Work for a bit then stay and play.



SCAN ME TO SIGN UP!

Volunteers (Elks and Spouses) that work a minimum of one shift will be exempted from paying registration fees for this convention. Except DD Designates, Ritual Teams & current ERs.



#### **Absolute Hospice Inc** When Care Matters

P: 409.440.8199 absolutehospice.com

3346 FM 528 Rd, Friendswood TX | 77546



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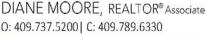












diane.moore@garygreene.com dianemoore.garygreene.com



GALVESTON WEST END OFFICE | 13450 FM 3005 GALVESTON, TX 77554





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		Jack	Muec	ke (Mi	ckey)	
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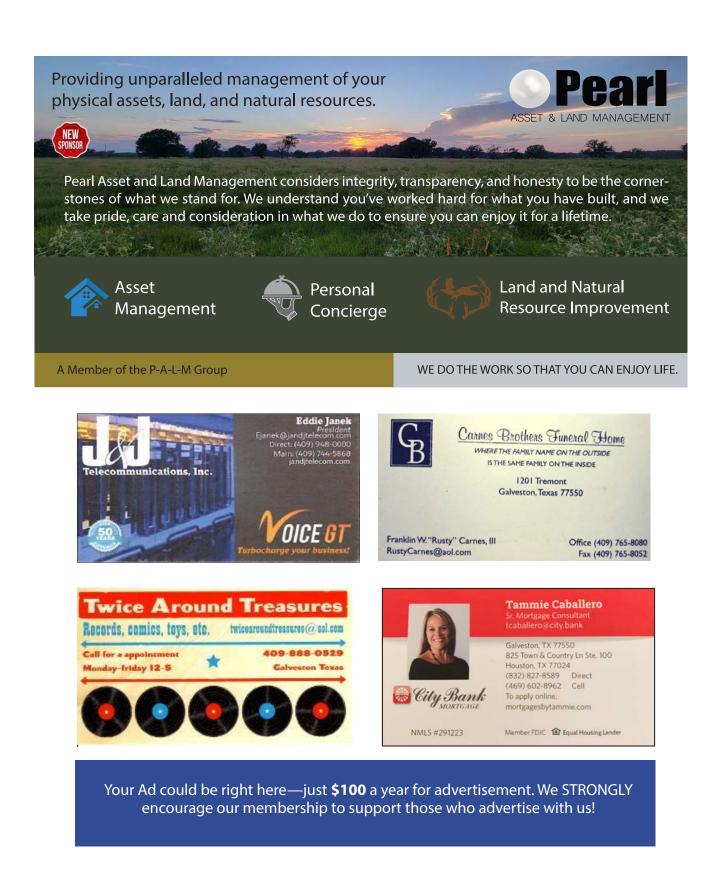
I wo offices to serve you: Houston a	nd Galveston
P.O. Box 16851	(713) 294-3805
Galveston, TX 77552	jack_muecke@yahoo.com

















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