

Message from the Exalted Ruler, Cindie Pridy

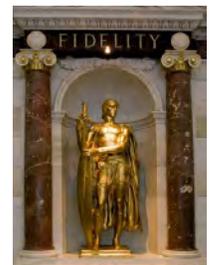
As the new Elk year begins I want to thank you for your confidence in me and your team of new officers, appointed positions, and trustees to represent you and Houston 151. I view my role as Exalted Ruler to follow your lead, work to keep the lodge financially strong, and represent our lodge to the highest degree possible. My job is one of stewardship. To paraphrase one of my first mentors (who remains a friend to this day), when 151 succeeds, the members succeed; when 151 fails, I have failed. The idea of this is most closely aligned with key words from our initiation ritual; good thoughts, good words, good deeds.

Our Lodge, as with any lodge, has a past, present, and future. Our past is embodied in our rituals which tell our story as Elks and holds fast the values of Brotherhood, Charity, Justice, and Fidelity.

I hope we can continue to build on our return to a Lodge that strongly participates in ritual. The present is our Members and our community. I hope we will build on bringing in a new generation of members into our lodge; engaged by activities that will build great fellowship for families and all members. Outreach to our community will strengthen this effort and build on our great tradition of charity and brotherhood. The future is our youth. Developing and sponsoring youth related initiatives is the base of where future members are found and great leaders for tomorrow are developed. An investment in the future is an investment far out reaching the Elks and truly making a difference in tomorrow. We may not reach all these goals but as Elks working together we can make amazing things happen, and have a great time doing it! Let's have fun and make 2024 – 2025 a spectacular year.

Fraternal Yours,

Cindie Pridy,
Houston 151
Exalted Ruler





FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Our new officers for 2024-2025 have been installed and are already hard at work to make our Lodge even better than it is now.

Many thanks to PER Lowell Neinast for stepping up to do another term as Exalted Ruler when it was needed. The Neinast family has a long history of working, supporting and leading our Lodge. Lowell's dad Dave was Exalted Ruler 5 times and his mom Laurie was very active in working with and leading the Ladies Auxiliary, she even had to deal with me as the Exalted Ruler when she was Auxiliary President.

Thanks Neinast family, for all that you have done for 151.

We have done much better lately on bringing in new members. Hats off to several of our members who have sponsored 4 or more candidates, Lowell Neinast, Jesse Parra and B.Y. Youngs. Let's give these 3 some help.

Watch the calendar and come out and support some great activities that we have planned for this year.

Hope to see you soon at the Lodge and as always thanks for all that you do for our Lodge and our great order.

Fraternally,
Jim Grissom
Secretary and Gulf Coast District Leader



John Gerber
Jim Grissom
Lynn Harris
Rachel Agriesti
Mother of Katy Hinkle
Son in Law of Mississippi PSP Patrick James



Message from the Leading Knight

Well the holidays have come and gone. I hope that everyone had a great holiday seasons. The Elks year is rapidly coming to a close. We have had some great events in the past few months and have more planned. If you see Cindie Harris please tell her thanks for a great job she has done with planning these events, also if you have anything in mind let her know so we can get new and fresh ideas for events. Events at the lodge is what brings us together and helps the lodge social quarters out. Last but not least if there are any problems please let me or another officer know so that we can take care of the issue.

Fraternally yours,

Richard Novak Jr.
Leading Knight



Message from the Board of Directors

Here we are in our first month of the Lodge year and the trustees continue to work assiduously in support of our Lodge. In addition to closely analyzing the Lodge investments and presenting a brief overview to members at the first or second meeting of the month we have a few projects we believe are noteworthy for this year. Here are some the highlights:

Budget:

The Board Budget Committee has completed preliminary budgets for the Lodge, Dining, Club, Bingo, Charity and PER Association. At this writing the entire Board of Directors will meet, discuss review and approve these budgets in preparation to submit to the Members for approval and adoption. I hope to have them all approved by the second meeting this month. All the budgets are balanced and most have a favorable income. With the constant monitoring by the Board and House Committee we expect to be in a much better position than the previous Lodge year.

Facilities and Infrastructure:

Efforts are underway to contract with a pool company which will resurface our swimming pool and commercial type cleaning services for specific areas of the Lodge. In addition, we are reviewing contact for our grounds keeping, RV hookup repair and other maintenance projects. In addition, I have asked all Board Members to review our current capital plan for possible new projects for the Lodge such as replacement of the carpeting and kitchen upgrades.

The Board of Directors continues to work diligently protecting and managing the assets of the Lodge and the Members of Houston #151. We welcome any member to attend our regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting and provide constructive comments and recommendations for future success.

Fraternally,

Andy Mishaga, PSP
Board Chairman, 1 Yr. Trustee



End of Year Awards



Elk of the Year
 Officer of the Year
 Citizen of the Year
 GER Award

Brian "BY" Youngs
 Lynn Harris
 Troy Lynn Betenbaugh
 Ann Grissom
 Mark Sal Haney
 Huge Baker



Officer Installation



Installing Past Exalted Rulers

Grand Exalted Ruler
Grand Leading Knt
Grand Lecturing Knt
Grand Chaplain
Grand Inner Guard
Grand Tiler
Grand Trustee

Jack Grabbe, PER
Ken Boyd, PDDGER
Mike Callahan, PSP
Dale Wherly, PER
Mike Betenbaugh, PER
Al Olmos, PER
Renay Bennett, DDGER Designate





PER Annual Dinner



Childrens Easter Egg Hunt



Oath, Obligation and Conscience

By Neil Hines, Member Relations

Katy Lodge #2628

March 19, 2024

As Elks, I believe that we are held to a higher standard than non-elks. Just like Police Officers, Judges as well as those who are elected or appointed in our order are to be held to a higher standard. You give up the safety of anonymity when you place yourself above the common member. Lincoln once said, "When you place yourself above the common crowd you become a target." True words from a very tall man who placed himself way above the common man,

When an Elk undergoes the initiation process, they swear solemn oaths and place themselves under obligation to carry out certain acts and behaviors. Nothing they will say or do will ever violate their consciences; however, their behavior must reflect Brotherly Love, Charity, Justice, and Fidelity always with all people. If they violate their oath they can be banished from the order and never again be associated or in the company of Elks in good standing. This clothes us with a heavy mantle of responsibility.

Soon many of us in the Lodge will be accepting additional responsibilities both to the order and our Lodge's membership. Members will be installed into leadership positions from Exalted Ruler to Inner Guard, both elected and appointed. They will be given instructions and swear an oath to be faithful to the positions that they will hold with solemn obligations.

Others will be assigned positions to chair committees or be members of them. Again, each position within the Lodge and organization carries a mantle of responsibility with it. Each position must be carried out diligently and with a good conscience keeping the membership always in mind as it is to them that you are obligated to as well as their own good conscience.

Are these easy tasks? No. There will be times when you must act correctly even if it means being seen differently in the eyes of a member or members. It is at these times that you must be strong and a person of conviction adhering to your oath, obligation, and conscience. As Lincoln said, that is when you may become a target.



Texas Gulf Coast District #8560

April Interlodge

Saturday & Sunday April 20th & 21st, 2024

Houston Lodge #151

10150 W Airport Blvd, Stafford, Texas 77477

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

- **INTERLODGE MEETING @ 2:00 P.M.**
- **SWEETHEART MEETING @ 3:30 P.M.**
- **PER MEETING @ 4:00 P.M.**
- **DINNER SERVED @ 5:30 P.M. - GRILLED PORK CHOPS, MASHED POTATOES, VEGETABLES SIDES & DESSERT FOR \$12.00**
- **FUN @ GAMES @ 6:30 P.M. - GORDON RAMSAY FOOD TASTING CHALLENGE.**
- **WALK OF LODGES @ 8:00 P.M.**
- **ELEVEN O'CLOCK TOAST**

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST

- **VP CLINIC @ 9:30 A.M.**
- **DD CLINIC @ 10:30 A.M.**

MEETING TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO OVERRUNS/UNDER-RUNS.



Happy Birthday!

Birthdays for the Month of APRIL

- 02 Leonard Ignas
Sarah Suminski
- 04 Darwin E. Campbell Jr.
Richard L. Novak
- 08 Fred Ballard
Kenneth K. Boyd
Terry C. Dole
- 09 John Brewster
Velia Stroud
- 10 Michael Cooper
- 11 Ed Carr
Charles Dingas
Kori Fitzgibbons
- 12 Jeffrey Bauer
- 22 Edward L. Buchanan
- 29 Luciano Lopez

LODGE OFFICERS 2024- 2025

Exalted Ruler	Cindie Pridy
Est. Leading Knight	Richard Novak Jr.
Est. Loyal Knight	Jack Grabbe, PER
Est. Lecturing Knight	Susan Midyett
Secretary	Jim Grissom, PDDGER SRDL
Treasurer	Lynn Harris
Tiler	Mike Betenbaugh, PER
Esquire	Ramona Mishaga, PER,PFL
Chaplain	Chris Novak
Inner Guard	Troy Lynn Betenbaugh
1-Year Trustee	Andy Mishaga, PSP, PDDGER
2-Year Trustee	Martha Gutierrez
3-Year Trustee	Sally DiPalma, PDDGER
4-Year Trustee	Ann Grissom
5-Year Trustee	Brian BY Youngs

*COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COORDINATORS 2024-2025

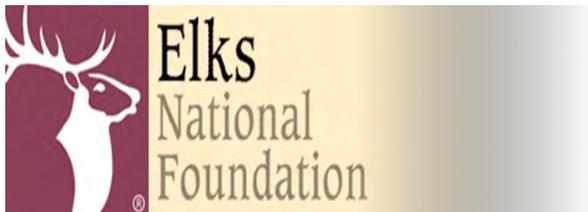
Accident Prevention	Brian BY Youngs
Americanism	Charles Betenbaugh, PER
Auditing & Accounting	Ken Boyd PDDGER
Bar Manager	Ann Grissom
Bingo	Joy Olmos, PDDGER
Community Activities	Cindie Pridy
Drug Awareness	Richard Novak Jr.
Elks Memorial Day	Ramona Mishaga, PER, PFL
Elks National Foundation	Susan Midyett
Flag Day	Lowell Nienast PER
Fraternal Comm.	Jim Grissom PDDGER SRDL
Government Relations	John Atwood, SDGER,
Hoop Shoot	Ken Boyd PDDGER
Kitchen Manager	Renay Bennett, PER
Lodge Activities	Cindy Harris
Lodge Bulletin	Ramona Mishaga, PER, PFL
Membership	Sally DiPalma PDDGER
Membership Retention	Jim Grissom, PDDGER,SRDL
Veterans Service	Charles Dingas
PER Association	Lowell Neinast, PER
Public Relations	Ramona Mishaga, PER, PFL
Ritual	Mike Callahan, PSP
Standing Relief Comm	Cindie Pridy
State Major Project	Sally DiPalma
Youth Activities	Lynn Harris
	Richard Novak Sr.



**Bingo is at the Lodge every
Thursday doors open at 6pm!**

**Volunteers are needed...
Contact Joy Olmos**

** As submitted by ER Cindie Pridy*



Donate to

Elks National Foundation
"it's the best buck you will ever spend"

elks.org



**American
Red Cross**

Donate today!

your donations makes a difference

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lodge Closed	2 Dinner 6pm \$11 Cowboy Lasagna by Ann G. Friends of 151 Mtg 5pm Lodge meeting 7:30pm and PER meeting to follow	3 Wings n Things 5-6:30pm	4 BINGO 7pm	5 Steak Night Dinner 6pm \$10	6 Hall Rental 3-7pm OOD: Cindie P (arrive by 1pm)
7 Painting like Bob Ross w/ Lynn Harris 1pm \$35	8 Lodge Closed	9 Dinner 6pm \$11 <i>PER Spaghetti</i> Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	10 Wings n Things 5-6:30pm Houston & Space City POD Meeting 7pm	11 BINGO 7 pm HC/BOD meeting 6:30 pm	12 Friends of 151 Dinner 6pm \$10 Hoagies w/ potato salad and \$2 Root beer Floats MOVIE NIGHT 7pm	13
14	15 Lodge Closed Tracks Deadline	16 Dinner 6pm \$11 Midyett, Huddle, & Grabbe Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	17 Wings n Things 5-6:30pm GC Advisory Meeting 6pm	18 BINGO 7pm	19 <i>Scholarship Winners presentation</i>	20 GC Interlodge meetings at Houston 151
21 GC VP & DD Clinics at Houston 151	22 Lodge Closed	23 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm	24 Wings n Things 5-6:30pm	25 BINGO 7pm	26	27
28 Painting like Bob Ross w/ Lynn Harris 1pm \$35	29 Lodge Closed	30 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm				

