



## Exalted Ruler

*Lodge 497*

May is here and with it brings warmer temperatures, the beginning of tourist season, and of course many happenings around the lodge. Mother's Day is on the 12th and we will be hosting our annual brunch in honor of all moms out there. Mom will be treated to a wonderful meal (check the calendar for times) and we anticipate a huge turnout, so plan on bringing mom to celebrate everything about her! Also, our state convention will be in Orlando May 23 – 26 and we will have the most Elks in our district attending, which guarantees it will be a great time! As such, some meetings have been rearranged to accommodate the schedule change, so please check the calendar to ensure you don't miss the latest happenings of your lodge.

We also have 2 new additions to the lodge that need admiring. First, our Elk that had sat at the front of the lodge was showing its age and was badly in need of a replacement. We have purchased a new Elk statue which now sits at the front of the lodge where the original Elk was and it is a stunning piece to admire and I thank all the volunteers for getting it in place.

Second, as many of you have seen, we have a section of our pavers dedicated to our military members past and present. We now have a sentinel standing watch over this area to further honor those that fought for each and every one of us. Please take a look under the lodge the next time you're here, it is truly an amazing piece of artwork.

*Mother's Day*

**BRUNCH**

**May 12th**

**10AM - 2PM**

Lastly, as mentioned in my April message, this lodge is all about one team. I want again to thank each and every one of you for keeping this lodge happy, active, and engaged. Remember, the lodge is only a building, it's our membership – it's all of YOU - that make it a family. Keep up the great work and continue to make Elksdom proud!

**See You at the Lodge,  
Fraternally,  
Jim Rodriguez, ER**



## Officers 2024-2025

**Front Row L to R:** Ken Burkner 5 Year Trustee, Shannon Fell Treasurer, Ingo Starke Loyal Knight, Greg Eddins Leading Knight, Jim Rodriguez Exalted Ruler, Shane Blackford Lecturing Knight, Lisa Levchik Secretary, Johnny Graves Tiler, Hiram Hill Inner Guard. Missing is Tammy Eddins Chaplin.



## Gulf Breeze JROTC

Jim and Greg presented a check for \$5,000 to the Gulf Breeze JROTC to assist with their costs and volunteer work.

**Left to Right:** Greg Eddins, RJ Maiga, Jonah Studdard, Natalie Gall, Zara Tava, Jim Rodriguez



# Huge Thanks to All!

Ken 'KB' Branch (PER)

## Autism Charity Event 'We're on the Move'

Special Thanks to Shelli Branch

### Loaves & Fishes



On Mar 22nd, the Lodge presented \$2,500.00 checks to Ms. LaFaye Hill at Loaves & Fishes

### Manna Food Bank



On Mar 22nd, the Lodge presented \$2500 Ms. Milissa Blanton at the Manna Food Bank.



Thanks to all for helping with the Autism Gala, The Lodge donated over \$6,800!

### State Convention info:

Held at the Rosen Centre, 9840 International Drive, Orlando, May 23-26, 2024. For information <https://floridaelks.org/state-convention>.



**2024 PERs - Left to Right:** Jim Roze, David Wiley, Toni Palmer PDDGER, KB Branch, Dan Smith, Tom Stevens DDGER, Ron Christian PDDGER, Don Padgett DVP, Scott Field, Cap Prat PDDGER.



## Florida Elks Youth Camp June 16th-22nd, 2024

**Volunteer Nurse(s) needed to assist in getting 15-20 campers on the road to Elks camp.**

If you joined Pensacola Beach Elks Lodge 497 to be part of the community and "give a little back", now is your big chance. Nurse(s) can be active or retired, just able to perform quick nose swabs on boys and girls ages 9 to 13. Summer camp is one of the best programs for young people in Florida, and just one or two hours of your time the morning of June 16th will be very much appreciated. We could also use two chaperons to ride the buses to and from camp. This would be an adventure on an overnight trip, meals and lodging provided. If you would like to participate contact:

**Larry Bragg**  
850-380-9275  
[spot476@yahoo.com](mailto:spot476@yahoo.com)



# Ladies of the Elks

Spring has sprung amidst L.O.E. activities! The Children's Easter Party, hosted on Saturday March 23rd, was a HUGE success. Forty-six children, ages 2-10, attended. Children were served a lunch of hot dogs, UnCrustables, chips, cookies, snack cakes, and juice boxes after which they participated in an outdoor egg hunt. Though the weather looked questionable, and it was windy, the rain held off and the hunt was productive. Every child collected eggs and received a bag filled with candy once they returned to the lodge. Prizes for the most eggs collected, along with finding the golden egg, were awarded. Each winner received an Easter Basket filled with treats, toys, and gift cards. The Easter Bunny also made an appearance. Many had their picture taken while sitting with him. Thank you, **Greg Eddins**, for serving as the big bunny again this year!! Thanks, also to **Milton Andress** for jumping in at the last minute and preparing the hot dogs for the kids!!! Thanks to all who helped make this party a success. A special thanks to the parents/grandparents for bringing their kids to the lodge!



Exalted Ruler	Jim Rodriguez
Leading Knight	Greg Eddins
Loyal Knight	Ingo Starke
Lecturing Knight	Shane Blackford
Secretary	Lisa M. Levchik
Treasurer	Shannon Fell
Esquire	Cap Pratt
Tiler	Johnny Graves
Chaplain	Tammy Eddins
Inner Guard	Hiram Hill
Presiding Justice	John Unzicker
Lodge Advisor	Toni Palmer

BOD Chairman	Greg Eddins
5 Year Trustee	Ken Burkner
4 Year Trustee	Debra Patroni
3 Year Trustee	Dan Smith
2 Year Trustee	Will Berry
1 Year Trustee	Nina Summer

Accident Prevention	Ramsey Landry
Americanism	CK Dupuis
Asst. Dock Master	Dave Dalton
Auditing	Cathy Hendrix
Blood Bank	Celeste Whisenant
Club Manager	David Christian
Community Activities	Ron Christian
Dock Master	David Dalton
Drug Awareness	Sandra Hansen
Entertainment	Celeste Whisenant
Flag Day	Robert Randall
Harry-Anna	Chris Wells
Hoof Prints	Steve Dupuis
Hoop Shoot	David Dalton, Jr.
Investigation	Ron Castle
Lapsation	Shelli Branch
LOE President	Jamie Ferbezar
Maintenance	Will "Dude" Hausmann
Marketing	Steve Dupuis
Mediator	Ramsey Landry
Membership	Lisa Levchik
Memorial Service	Beryle Farmer
Nat'l. Foundation	Sandy Milburn
Nat'l Vet. Service	Pam McGinty
Orientation	Cap Pratt
Therapy Services	Chris Wells
Training	Vacant
Under 40	Slater Dance
Webmaster	Steve Dupuis
Youth Camp	Larry Bragg



Our Mothers' Day basket raffle is in full swing and tickets are selling fast. You will find the two baskets to be raffled on display near the kitchen. Don't forget to purchase your tickets; they cost \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. First prize is valued at \$4,150 and second prize is a basket valued \$502. They both include some wonderful prizes and either would make a wonderful Mother's Day gift!! The drawing for these baskets will be held on Wednesday May 1st at 7:00pm so don't delay!!



On April 12th, thirteen L.O.E. members from our lodge traveled to the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla for the Florida Ladies of Elks (FLOE) Weekend Retreat. They were treated to massages, yoga, wine tasting, games, a murder mystery dinner and so much more. Ladies from our lodge, Jamie Ferbezar, Pam McGinty and Donna Cahill won first, second and third place respectively for the best wines entered in the blind wine tasting contest. Our own Deborah Andress solved the murder mystery! The weekend proved to be relaxing and enabled attendees to make new FLOE friends.

**Register now for the second annual Florida Ladies of Elks RV Rally fundraiser.** The rally will be held from May 31-June 2. It is open to everyone and will be held at the Ocala North RV Resort. If you are interested in attending but do not own an RV, there are several places in Ocala that will rent you one and will set it up and take it down for you. You will find information packets in the LOE section of the second-floor bulletin board or check out the FSEA website at [www.floridaelks.org](http://www.floridaelks.org).



If you are a female Elk or the spouse of an Elk, I would like to extend an invitation to you. Please be our guest at our next meeting on Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00pm in the 3rd floor meeting room. Come see for yourself what the L.O.E.'s are up to this month! It is a great place to make new friends and have fun being involved in the lodge. I hope to see you there!!

**Jamie Ferbezar**  
LOE President



# Elks at the Lodge - Motown Dinner & Dance











Best Couple: Scott & Charlotte Field, Best Male: Benjamin Fountain, Best Female: Liz Trump





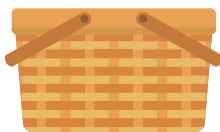
# May



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>PER Meeting 1</b> 6:30 PM  <b>BASKET RAFFLE DRAWING 7pm</b> <b>LOE Meeting</b> 7:00 PM 3rd Floor	<b>2</b> <b>BOD Meeting &amp; Governing Body</b> 6:00 PM Queen of Hearts 8pm	<b>3</b> <b>DINNER</b>  <b>The Koolerators (Paul &amp; Jeff)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM	<b>4</b> <b>Kentucky Derby Party &amp; Bonnet Contest</b> 3:00pm - Til <b>Comedy Club Show (PG-13)</b> 6:30 - 8:00 PM
 <b>BLOOD DRIVE</b> 10:00AM - 3PM <b>BREAKFAST</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM	<b>6</b> <b>LOE Officer Mtg</b> 10:00 AM Library <b>Bingo</b> 6:00 PM	<b>7</b> <b>Taco Tuesday</b> 5:00 - 7:00 PM <b>New Member Interviews</b> Start 5:30PM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Lodge Meeting</b> 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	<b>10</b> <b>BUNCO DINNER</b>  <b>JP'S TOUCH OF CLASS</b> James Proctor 6:00 - 10:00 PM	<b>11</b>  <b>KARAOKE</b> Singing with Shannon and May Birthday Bash
<b>12</b> <b>Mother's Day BRUNCH</b> 10AM - 2PM	<b>13</b> <b>Bingo</b> 6:00 PM	<b>14</b> <b>Taco Tuesday</b> 5:00 - 7:00 PM <b>New Member Orientation 6PM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Lodge Meeting &amp; Initiation</b> 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	<b>17</b> <b>DINNER</b>  <b>Platinum Premier Duo (Misty &amp; Loren)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>BREAKFAST</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM	<b>20</b> <b>Bingo</b> 6:00 PM	<b>21</b> <b>Taco Tuesday</b> 5:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	 <b>24</b> <b>DINNER &amp; 'Tomato'</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>BRUNCH</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM	<b>27</b> <b>Bingo</b> 6:00 PM	<b>28</b> <b>Taco Tuesday</b> 5:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	<b>31</b> <b>DINNER</b>  <b>Platinum Premier Duo (Misty &amp; Loren)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM	

**Mother's Day**  
  
**BASKET RAFFLE**

Tickets  
at the Bar  
\$1 for One  
\$5 for Six



**LOE BASKET DRAWING**  
**MAY 1st**  
 AT LOE MEETING

**TACO TUESDAY**  
 Just Show Up...  
**We Can Always Use Help!**  
 There's a Signup List at the Lodge as well...



"Ask me how to earn 4.99% APY on your money!"



Cadence Bank | NMLS ID 1385115  
4890 Bayou Blvd | Pensacola, FL 32503  
850.857.0557 | CELL 901.359.6394



Brandy Robinson | Branch Manager II / Vice President



Pensacola Beach (850)698-4153  
Florida 32563 LIC CGC – 1517906

[www.theCampbellConstruction.com](http://www.theCampbellConstruction.com)

**THIS COULD BE  
YOUR BUSINESS AD**  
CALL THE LODGE FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

Take Care & God Bless...

**RE/MAX** Horizons  
Property Management



**Management,  
Leasing & Rentals**

**"We Cause  
Homes to Rent"**

**"Since 1981"**



**Matt and Judy Schall**

**850.479.7558** [www.rhrpm.com](http://www.rhrpm.com)



**Charlie  
Rottenberry**  
Broker Associate

**Island Realty of Pensacola Beach**

913 Gulf Breeze Parkway Suite 42  
Harbourtown / Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

[CharlieRottenberry@gmail.com](mailto:CharlieRottenberry@gmail.com)

[CharlieSellsFlorida.com](http://CharlieSellsFlorida.com) **(850) 525-9212**



**Johnny Wahoo Charters LLC**

Capt. John Carleton

Gulf Breeze, FL

**Bottom Fishing - Deep Fishing**

**850.797.5183**

[JohnWahooCharters@yahoo.com](mailto:JohnWahooCharters@yahoo.com)



**CARDON**  
**ESTATE SALES**  
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED



**ESTATE SALES &  
APPRAISALS**

*Your Caring Professional Team.  
We can assist you with one piece  
or an entire estate.*

*Elodie Cardon*

Member of  
The International Society  
of Appraisers since 2001

**(850)206-2601**  
[CORDONESTATESALES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CORDONESTATESALES@GMAIL.COM)



# A-MAYS-ING SHOWINGS TO CLOSINGS!



**Deborah L. Mays**

CRS, CDPE, C2EX

850-529-3998

DeborahMays@remax.net

www.DeborahMays.com

**RE/MAX** Horizons Realty

1335 Creighton Rd.,  
Pensacola, Florida 32504

Each Office Independently Owned & Operated



202 McClure Dr.

(850) 932-2525

Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

Fax: (850) 932-1807

[www.BaysideCollision.com](http://www.BaysideCollision.com)

**THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING?**

*Let Us Help, Call a Fellow Elk!*



**Andra Morgan**

Broker Associate

(850) 450 - 8844

Andra@topgunpropertyrealty.com



*Professionals  
You Can Trust*



**Kathy Dreadin**

Realtor

(850) 982 - 8140

Kathydtopgun@gmail.com

## Ebba Dampier Realty, LLC

*"My 30 years of real estate experience is your security"*



For all your real estate needs in Santa Rosa & Escambia Counties Buying or Selling - contact one of our agents for Personalized service, Competitive, discounted rates to Elk members & Veterans.

**Nicole Ard**

850-723-3499 | nickelar@gmail.com

**Ella Hess**

850-501-9780 | hessella@gmail.com

**Shannon Fell**

850-525-5316 | shannontheagency@gmail.com

**Greg Christoff**

850-748-7132 | gchristoff@bellsouth.net

**Barbara Kamienski**

850-776-8120 | bgk32561@gmail.com

**Amy Lorenger**

850-206--9124 | amylorenger@yahoo.com

**Ashly Harris**

850-356-3431 | Ashly.raynerharris87@gmail.com

**Emily Mitchell**

850-255-9472 | EHM3278@gmail.com

**Kathy St. Ores**

850-232-2495 | kathysaint@mchsi.com

**Jim Riley**

850-255-9472 | jrileym@gmail.com

**Amalie Murphy**

504-338-3532 | Amalie.murphy@gmail.com

**Beverly Roberts**

715-904-0219 | beverlyroberts62@mchsl.com

**Joshua Kostic**

850-737-1050 | jushuakostic@gmail.com

**Suzanne White**

850-501-4612 | suzanneawhite@gmail.com

**Ebba Dampier, Broker**  
**850-341-4919**

Members of the multiple listing service MLS

**17 W. Cedar Street Pensacola, FL 32502**

# From the Secretary

As of May 1st the readers were swapped out and you can no longer gain access to the lodge if you have not paid your dues. If you have not paid, you will need to pay and pick up your cards at the Lodge because you missed the bulk mail out.

Please review the applications for prospective new members that you propose before submitting them to the Membership Committee. Make sure they are filled out legibly and completely. They must be signed/dated by the Proposer and the Applicant and we must have a **middle initial** for the background check. There is also a \$200 application fee which needs to be turned in with the application. We cannot process until everything is complete. Please keep in mind that it can take 4- 6 weeks to complete the process of getting initiated depending on when you turn in the application.

## May

**Interviews:** Tuesday, May 7th on the 2nd floor beginning at 5:30pm. Please sign in on the sign-up sheet by the library.

**Orientation:** Tuesday, May 14th 3rd floor 6pm.

**Initiation Meeting:** Thursday, May, 16th, Meet on the 2nd floor at 6:15pm for further instructions.

**NOTE: THE ORIENTATION WILL BE ON MAY 14TH AND INITIATION WILL BE ON MAY 16TH .** The State Convention begins the 22nd so many of our Officer's will be in Orlando so we've had to move Orientation and Initiation up a week.

**Lisa Levchik**  
SecretaryElks497@gmail.com

Office Hours Mon & Thurs 1-5pm

### Club Hours

Mon-Thurs : **Noon - Til**  
Friday : **Noon - Til**  
Saturday : **Noon - Til**  
Sunday : **Noon - Til**

Phone: **(850) 932-4444**  
Secretary: **(850) 932-8050**  
Reservations: **(850) 932-4444**  
Club Manager: **beach.elks497@yahoo.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.

Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks  
P.O. Box 551  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32562-0551

Nonprofit Org  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Gulf Breeze, FL  
Permit No 61-178  
Or Current Resident