



March 2021 Tracks

Message from the Exalted Ruler, Bill Wilbanks



Hello fellow Elks I hope I find everybody safe and sound. As I enter the last month of my ER year I can say it has been a very interesting year. We started out with the Corona virus with my first meeting was on zoom because the Lodge was closed. Through hard work from the members we were able to pull it off. We had to cancel a lot of activities that we do during the year that we look forward to doing.

We have to cancel all veterans parties and the one I enjoy the most the children Christmas party. This left us with extra grant money that we used to help some families that had lost jobs or had their hours cut at Christmas. Now we had the great freeze with temperature in the teens. We had to close the Lodge again due to broken water pipes. Again due to hard work by our members Andy and Ramona who got the plumbers and the repairs done quickly to get us up and running. The Lodge is now open. I want to thank all of the Officers for their hard work this year.

BINGO BINGO the lodge still needs members to help with BINGO this helps pay the bills of the Lodge..Any member that wants to help contact any of the officers.

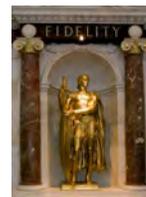
We are getting ready to install our new Officers for the year of 2021 2022. All members are invited to attend. Lets all come out and show our support for the new Officers.

Membership we always need new members. New members mean new ideals.

In closing I want to thank all our members for the support I received during my year as ER it has been an experience I will cherish forever. Again thank you.

Fraternally,

Bill Wilbanks
Exalted Ruler



- March 5 — Steak Night—6:00pm
- March 6 — Officer Training at Houston Lodge
- March 17 — St. Patrick's Day
- March 20 — Officer Installation
- March 27 — Children's Easter Egg Hunt

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



My hopes for a better 2021 than 2020 have so far been wishful thinking. Our Lodge has been hit hard by COVID 19. We have had several members come down with the virus and several that had to be hospitalized. We were very unfortunate and saddened in that one of our dear members, a Past Exalted Ruler and Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Charlie Gutierrez did not recover from this Well, I hope everyone survived the big freeze of 2021 without too much hardship. Once again this 2021 is not shaping up to be an improvement over the disaster that was 2020.

Dues notices will be coming out soon, hopefully our members are ready for that and committed to continuing to support the great things that our Lodge does for Kids, our Veterans, and our community. If anyone needs assistance from the Lodge with their dues, please contact me and we will help out.

Please come out and support your Lodge.

I hope to be able to see all of you at the Lodge soon. As always, thank you all for what you do for our Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jim Grissom
Secretary
Gulf Coast District Leader



FROM THE ESTEEMED LEADING KNIGHT



Greetings members,

Well, this is an interesting way to end the 2019 - 2020 Elk's year. As a result of all the bad weather going on this week we lost power and water at our house in Needville on Sunday the 14th of February at 8:15 pm. We are currently in a hotel in Sugarland for a few more days. Hopefully this weather will be over soon, and everyone's power and water can be restored. To everyone dealing with the results of this storm our thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

Even with our Lodge having been closed for quite some time due to Covid many of our members have stepped up and helped around the Lodge in various ways, and for that I would like to say thank you to everyone who did. At times like this our Lodge needs everyone who can to help around the Lodge.

When I first became an Elk 22 years ago I did not fully understand what we as Elks do. But over those 22 years I have come to appreciate everyone's efforts in accomplishing the good works that we do. We need more individuals to step up and take an active role in what we do. If anyone is interested in becoming more active in the Lodge please talk with a Lodge officer, the House Committee, or the Board of Directors.

That being said, Troy Lynn and I are looking forward to next year

Fraternally,

Mike Betenbaugh



FROM THE BOARD of DIRECTORS.....

March Bulletin Article BOD



We have finally reached the last month of the Lodge year. What a year. First we had Covid, which necessitated the shutdown of the Lodge, the postponement of State Convention and Interlodges, and the cancellation of Grand Lodge. Then we get the freeze of the decade, basically losing a week for everyone. What's next, Sharknado or Volcanoes?

This will be my last article as an officer. I'm sure that will make many of you happy. Especially those that love to sit back and gripe about everything the officers do to try and manage the Lodge, but do nothing to help the Lodge. You don't show up for events, you don't participate when meals are served. You don't do anything but gripe. My suggestion to those people is show up to meetings and make your opinions known. Or let an officer know what you are thinking. Show up to a House or Board meeting and make your opinion known. Regardless of what your perception is, the officers would love to hear from you in a constructive manner. Realistically, the griping and bitching goes into deaf ears. We heed it no mind. And you get a reputation for being nothing more than a whinner, whose opinion means nothing. Make your opinion count. Bring it out into the open by stating it at a public forum like the meetings. Enough of my rant.

Thanks to Ann, Renay, Sally Jo, and Christin for working their rears off to try and keep the Lodge running. They started the curbside, the Wing Nites and the other events that some of us have been enjoying since last March. A big hand goes out to all of you. Those that have not been to these events need to give them a try. Good times have been had by those attending.

For the coming months and years, this is your Lodge. It's not anyone's private domain. It's for all members. With that membership comes a responsibility. That responsibility is to support **YOUR** Lodge. You don't have to come every day. But show up for the events. Support the Sweetheart. Support ENF. Support the Lodge. Be involved. Pick one or more events that interest you and help the committee with those events. Spread the work around, rather than leave it to a small group.

Good luck to next year's officers and Committee Chairs. You'll need it

I end this, my last ever article, as I've ended every article in my Elk career:

"The faults of our members we write upon the sand. Their virtues on the tablets of love and memory"

Fraternaly,

John H. Atwood, 1 year Trustee
BOD Chairman

FROM THE LODGE SWEETHEART.....

Elks Family,

Mike and I are grateful we can thank all of you for a good Sweetheart year! We have overcome the challenges 2020 brought us with God's grace and mercy. I am happy with the good work we have done. What I love most is that we are learning what we as Elks need to do to improve and stay focused with limited time and resources. Finding my feet and voice with a clear mind and message in my heart to carry out the charitable acts that bring much needed help to children & families with special needs. We are looking forward to another year of Caring and Sharing.

Much Love to you all and your families.

Your Sweetheart,
Troy Lynn Betenbaugh



Houston Elks Lodge #151 Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt



Open to all children of the community ages 2-10

Event will be CDC compliant

Registration begins at Noon

Hunt begins at 1pm

a sweet treat will be available after

Location: Houston Elks Lodge #151

10150 W. Airport Blvd, Stafford TX 77471

Date: Saturday, March 27, 2021

Time: Registration begins at Noon



Don't forget to bring your own Easter Basket!

*You are cordially invited to attend the
Installation of Officers of Houston Lodge # 151
for the 2021-2022 Lodge year
on Saturday, March 20, 2021*

*Installation Ceremony will begin at 2 pm
followed by Light Fare and Refreshments
Music by Nigel "Taco" DelGado*



**COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COORDINATORS
2020– 2021**

Accident Prevention	Andy Mishaga, PSP
Americanism	Al Olmos, PER
Auditing & Accounting	Joyce Arnold
Bar Manager	Kristen Baker
Community Activities	Mike Betenbaugh
Drug Awareness	Andy Mishaga, PSP
Elks Memorial Day	Ramona Mishaga, PER
Elks National Foundation	Cynthia Rowland
Flag Day	Lowell Neinast, PER
Government Relations	John Atwood, Area 6 JD, PDDGER, PER
Hoop Shoot	Ken Boyd, PDDGER
Indoctrination	Andy Mishaga, PSP
Investigation	Mike Betenbaugh
Lodge Activities	Joy Olmos, PER
Membership	Sally DiPalma, DDGER
Membership Retention	Jim Grissom, Gulf Coast SRDL
National Veterans Service	Al Olmos, PER
PER Association	Ramona Mishaga, PER
Scholarship	John Atwood, Area 6 JD, PDDGER, PER
State Major Project	Troy Lynn Betenbaugh
Youth Activities	Ramona Mishaga, PER

LODGE OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

Exalted Ruler	Bill Wilbanks
Est. Leading Knight	Mike Betenbaugh
Est. Loyal Knight	Sally DiPalma, GC DDGER
Est. Lecturing Knight	Cindy Rowland
Secretary	Jim Grissom, PDDGER SRDL
Treasurer	Michael Callahan, TESA President
Tiler	Debbie Bowen
Esquire	Ramona Mishaga, PER, Past TESA 1st Lady
Chaplain	Cindie Pridy
Inner Guard	Joanna Ortiz
1-Year Trustee	John Atwood, Area 6 Judiciary
2-Year Trustee	Joy Lister, Past GC VP
3-Year Trustee	Ann Grissom
4-Year Trustee	Lowell Neinast, PER
5-Year Trustee	Andy Mishaga, TESA Past State President

**Birthdays for the
month of**



02	Plance Douglas
08	Olmos, Alberto
09	Frey, Stephen
10	Cox, Kay G
10	Margoni, Gerald (Jerry)
12	Baker, Betty L
13	Schmidt, William T
13	Schneider, Richard
16	Hebert, Vicki Lynn
17	Sanders, Jimmie R
20	Blackful, Tawne'
20	Holz, Patricia
20	Mills, Bruce
20	Moore, John R
21	DiPalma, Sally Ann
21	Thompson, Eric
22	Dice, Andrew C
24	McDonald, Michael
26	Moffett, Nickey
28	Callahan, Michael
29	Yargas, Richard
31	Flickinger, Jeffrey L
31	Shepherd, Roy J

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

*Remember Members....
Sickness and Distress is
always in order*

Mother of Mandy Meyers
Cynthia Rowland
Pat Holz

Death of Jesse Parra's friend John Rodriguez
Magali Wehrley
Mother of Sally DiPalma
Mother of John Atwood
Katy Bronosky
Brother of Alex Laverock
The passing of Wayne Christopher, PSP, PGT

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LODGE HOURS Monday Closed Tuesday 4pm Wednesday 4 pm Thursday Noon Friday 4 pm Saturday 4 pm Sunday Noon		2 Membership Mtg 7pm Lodge Meeting 7:30pm with PER mtg to follow	3 Wings n Things 5-6:30 pm Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:30 pm	4	5 Steak Night Dinner 6 pm \$7 Friday Fun Trivia Night 8pm	6 Officer Training at Houston Queen of Hearts Drawing 6 pm
7		9 House Committee and Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 pm	10 Wings n Things 5-6:30 pm Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:30 pm	11	12 Chicken Pot Pie (Ann G.) Dinner 6pm \$8 Friday Fun Dart Tournament	13 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins		16 Lodge Meeting 7:30pm Tracks Deadline	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day  Traditional Irish Fare Dinner n Party 6pm \$8	18	19 Friday Fun Trivia Night 8pm	20 Installation of Officers and Party 2pm First Day of Spring
21		23	24 Wings n Things 5-6:30 pm Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:30 pm	25 Annual PER Dinner	26 Sweetheart Dinner (Troy Lynn) 6pm \$8 Friday Fun LCR Tournament	27 Easter Egg Hunt 11 am Queen of Hearts Drawing 6pm
28 	29 	30	31 Wings n Things 5-6:30 pm Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:30 pm			