

# Gainesville Elks 990

Making Florida Elks Shine by reaching out to help

Edition 990 /volume 327

**Apr 2024**

A new year has begun, and we are ready to

Make this a year a year to remember for all!



As we strive to spread the word in our actions  
990 will remain on the Rise!



**Elks 990 Growth Chart**

**Applications in process**

**Dayna M clifford**

**Charles Bible**

**Lisa Butler**

**Karen D Fox**

Home to

Robert Grafton PGER

and the late

C. Valentine Bates PGER

### 990 Lodge Officers

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Exalted Ruler         | Bobby Andreu        |
| Est. Leading Knight   | Dan Fiebelkorn PER  |
| Est. Loyal Knight     | Loyal Knight        |
| Est. Lecturing Knight | David Shoup         |
| Chaplain              | Patti McCall-Junkin |
| Esquire               | Jeanette Sexton     |
| Inner Guard           | vacant              |
| Tiler                 | Susan Beckett Young |
| Treasurer             | Bonnie Mott         |
| Secretary             | Linda Califf        |
| Lodge Advisor         | Glen Gardner PDD    |

Lodge meeting

Apr 3rd at 7pm

Apr 17th at 7pm

### House Committee

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Cory Veley     | Chairman      |
| Becky Criswell | Secretary     |
| Jerry Sartain  | Bar mgr.      |
| Louise Grimm   | Mauri Stalker |
| Glen Crawford  | Joe Lentz     |
| DK Tomlinson   |               |

### Trustees

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Najwa Liscombe      | 5yr |
| Bill Senterfitt PER | 4yr |
| Monty Williams      | 3yr |
| Louis Mallory PER   | 2yr |
| Tim Pohlman         | 1yr |



Elks 990 member Joey Sarkey delivers our collection of can tabs to the Ronald McDonald House.

The tab donations go exclusively to paying the GRU utility bill, and our two bags weighing 10lbs will go a long way helping to pay this month's bill. They are always extremely grateful.



New member Heather Sharkey presented the Exalted Ruler with a check from the State RV Association in the amount of \$1000 to go to our youth camp back in November on the night of her initiation.

**What a couple the Sharkey's are for our lodge!!!**

Greetings Members All,

Thank you for allowing me to be the Exalted Ruler for year 2024-2025. Spring is here starting fresh and new. It is appropriate because April is also the beginning of our Lodge year. We owe a great round of applause to the House Committee and the Trustees for their efforts in what we accomplished this last year. And none of this is possible without you, our members! Replaced dining and social quarters lights to energy efficient lights, Re-insulated the roof, added a new Jukebox with ceiling speakers, Electric pull- tab machines, bingo, replaced a tv, started remodeling the women's restroom. We are also in the process of adding three bar height tables to the lounge. Our charity efforts are even more Amazing, you have assisted thousands of Children, Veterans, and Homeless in our community and across the state.

I am thrilled to embrace the continued support of everyone who participated this last year and the future members that will work hand in hand to make this beautiful lodge grow and flourish. I encourage our members to bring to the table the different charities and organizations that the members want to support and volunteer for.

I am looking outside the box for change and growth.

In upcoming newsletters, you can expect information from all the officers and committees about what they are working on.

### Mission Statement

I believe "To spread the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members." Our Lodge exists because of the hardworking members and their charitable contributions and time and effort. They support our state's major projects and that in turn allows us to have a Lodge and social quarters to have a friendly place to gather.

Bobbyandreu@gmail.com Text or Call 352-318-3492 or  
[payingitforward990@gmail.com](mailto:payingitforward990@gmail.com)

## ER Objectives

- Increase the awareness of Elks charity contributions in the Gainesville community.
- Continue the rewarding experiences, both social and charitable, that increase member participation.
- Promote and support the States Major projects within the lodge and community.
- Provide a safe and enjoyable social atmosphere at the lodge for the members and their guests.
- To continue to stress the importance of member involvement in all meetings, especially Lodge meetings.

(The members direct the Lodge in all aspects through the Lodge Meeting)

- Work enthusiastically to meet the charitable goals of the Elks National Foundation and State Association

## Member Promise

- I will strive to increase communication, transparency, and cooperation between all Members.
- I will strive to get to know my fellow Members.
- I will respect the cultural diversity of fellow Members and who they are as individuals.
- I will always maintain an excellent attitude knowing that it is contagious to others.
- I will always strive to earn my fellow Members' respect by applying the principles of our oath.
- I will always recognize that I am fundamental to the Lodge's overall success.
- I will come to meetings prepared to listen, strive to increase my involvement, and give input.
- I will treat my fellow Members with the same level of courtesy and respect that I would want in return.
- I will know and understand the importance of support and cooperation between all Lodge Members.
- I will be approachable for all concerns of a member.

## Veterans Welcome Home Kits Program by Secretary Linda Califf

If you have attended recent meetings of the lodge, you have heard me speak about the Welcome Home Kits Program, and the veterans we are serving. If not, let me tell you a little bit about this project.

The Welcome Home Kits are sponsored through the Grand Lodge National Veterans Services Commission. The program is designed to assist veterans who are moving from homelessness into independent living. The VSC provides funding to lodges which they can use to assist veterans in their area.

I currently work with the Hudvash organization at the Honor Center. The Honor Center provides me with the names of veterans who are moving from homelessness into independent living after they have completed the rehab programs thru the VA and the Honor Center. I have provided the social workers at the Honor Center with two standard lists for them to use with their veterans. One list includes a variety of household cleaning supplies, and the other list is more targeted to their specific needs to set up a home such as small appliances, bathroom linens, kitchen linens, microwaves, pots and pans, dishes, glasses, vacuums, lamps, etc. The names are provided to our Lodge along with the two shopping lists. Shopping is done and those items are delivered to the veteran as soon as possible.

The VSC has recently increased their per veteran allowance from \$300 to \$400. In addition, they provide \$200 per veteran to purchase a bed. Most veterans are provided a bed through the VA, but they always need sheets, blankets, comforters and other types of linens.

With the veterans, I always attempt to provide them with brand new items. I feel this increases their self-esteem as moving from homelessness they have already been accustomed to using recycled or used items. When I deliver items, the veterans get very emotional, and cannot believe our Elks lodge is so generous. I explain to them that the Elks will never forget a veteran or the service they provided to our country. Providing them with these items is only a small token of our gratitude.

In addition to the above shopping, I also reach out for donations of good used furniture such as couches, (without built-in recliners), living room chairs, kitchen tables and chairs, end tables, coffee tables, or side tables for the bedroom. Most veterans move in with absolutely nothing but the clothes that they had when they were living on the street.

You are probably asking yourself at this point why I am writing this article. Truthfully, the number of veterans that I am receiving requests for assistance has almost become a full-time job. I put our veterans first before anything else and it is encouraging to know that a lot of our veterans are trying to get back to a normal life.

With that said, I am reaching out to our members to encourage your participation. Basically, my need right now is for assistance with furniture pick-ups and then deliveries to the veterans. If you are interested in becoming a part of this project, please contact me and join our Welcome Home Kits Committee. I will be scheduling a bi-monthly meeting (as my time permits) to make sure all our veterans are up to date on their needs. OR if you have a desire to round up donated items on your own, that is always a plus. I have plenty of storage room and I'm sure my hubby, Hollis, would approve of the use of his garage for such a wonderful project. If you have questions about the project, please contact me at the numbers below. Be a part of something that swells your heart with pride.

Linda Califf, 352-222-0337



## Knights of 990 Class of 2024-2025

Become a knight with a \$20.00 or more donation to our endeavors to grow and survive.

|                     |                      |                |                  |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bill Senterfitt PER | Susan Senterfitt PER | Max Hicks      | Debbie Hicks     |
| Jeff Stabel         | Babette Stabel       | Nick Konopka   | Adair Garrett    |
| Bonnie Mott         | Dave Wilcox          | Linda Califf   | Chuck Taylor     |
| Brenda Taylor       | Billy Hart           | Buck Byard     | Ted Kadala       |
| Kathy Yacovelli     | Becky Spence PER     | Julie Baker    | Tim Pohlman      |
| Heidi Pohlman       | Donna Califf         | Bill Califf    | Davis Shoup      |
| Dan Fiebelkorn PER  | Tommy Merrill PER    | Glenda Dobbs   | Phillip Lovelady |
| Sandy Stoiber       | Julie Baker          | Alan Henderson | Maria Bolanis    |
| Bill Preston        |                      |                |                  |

More to come.... Join our class

Pictures show a thousand words. See it in color by getting our email version from our email blast sent out on a regular basis to keep our membership informed in a real time format.

Send an email to [bsenterfit@gmail.com](mailto:bsenterfit@gmail.com) and request to be added.

Greetings Members All,

I have had the pleasure of being your Exalted Ruler of Gainesville Lodge #990 for the last few months, and I am looking forward to being your Exalted Ruler for the upcoming 2024-2025 Elk year. I encourage and invite you to attend the Installation of Officers on Saturday, April 6 at 5:00pm, with dinner and awards immediately afterwards. Please RSVP by April 3rd, 2024 by signing up at the bar or calling the Lodge.

Last year was a great year for change, upgrades, and growth because of our members, officers, and committees. As our Elk year ends this month, we are focusing on the new year and continued upgrades. I have learned that there is not an (I) in Elkdom. I am not able to accomplish anything without our members' support and guidance.

I am reaching out to each of you to ask for your support and assistance going forward.

I am continuously looking for local charities and organizations with similar missions that we can become involved with and volunteer with on a weekly or monthly basis. The opportunities are out there, and I would like to hear from you, our members, for your input.

We need Officers, Committees, and support staff to join us and compliment the awesome membership we already have in place. If you are interested in being an Officer or on a committee, please reach out to me or a fellow officer. We have opportunities for all to get involved.

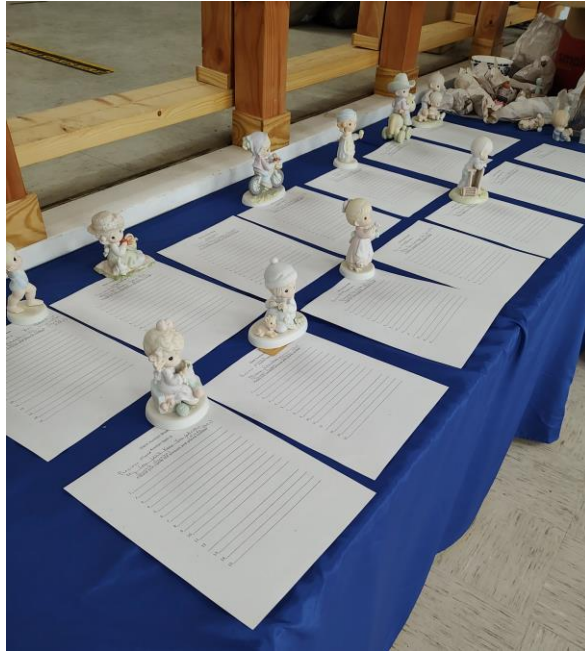
We will take one step at a time and fall forward together.

Fraternally,

Robert (Bobby) Andreu, Exalted Ruler Elect, 2024-2025

352-318-3492





Silent auctions close on Friday night at 7pm. Come bid on some great items. We accept donations to put in our auctions that support the growth of our lodge. Come enjoy the fun.



Just a glimpse of the full house during our Easter workshop for the kids.

It was a blast for all. It including an egg for over 260 eggs



Our 43<sup>rd</sup> annual golf tournament was a big success despite weather conditions being questionable for the weekend. Seen above is all the volunteers hard it and players anxious to get the day underway. State president Joe cooper's daughter Alex was one of our volunteers during registration. She passed out quality goody bags to the players. We hope to see more of her to support her volunteer needs. As she is a recipient of an Elks National Legacy scholarship grant which requires reaching out and getting involved with the community.

Local business sponsors and members sponsored enough to support over 11 kids to go to camp. An additional \$500 was sent to children's therapy to support their need as well.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this great event.

The 44<sup>th</sup> annual tournament may be held at Turkey Creek next year. Negotiations are in the works early. Stay tuned....

Live Bingo every third Sunday of the month  
from 2pm till 4pm in the social quarters. Instant bingo also available  
in the social quarters. Help us do more for those in need and  
support the growth of our lodge in all it does.

(this is not open to the public)



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St Pawstrick's Day Mar 17<sup>th</sup>

Bingo Charity event at 2pm was a huge success

Generating over \$2000.00

For Second Chance Rescue and Rehoming





The Debbie's of 990 toast us all for a great year in 2023-2024 and look forward to what we will have to come in 2024-2025



Member Dink Hudson and his son Rhett

“We will Steelers a peace<sup>(hand)</sup> of your heart when you come into the house of 990.”

Come on down and get involved today!



Americanism Contest winners in our area

Your Americanism Committee at the Gainesville Elks Lodge hosted a reception Saturday honoring the Students and Teachers from High Springs Community School who participated in the Grand Lodge Americanism Essay Contest. Four of the six students and their families as well as the two teachers who encouraged the students to participate were in attendance. Each student and both teachers were recognized individually and received a formal Certificate of Participation as well as a \$25. Visa gift card. Many thanks to the individuals who donated the money that enabled us to give these gifts. Three of the six essays were forwarded to the "Mighty Northeast District" level contest. All three were then forwarded to the State of Florida level contest for their age category.

Thanks to Louis Mallory, PER for taking all the wonderful pictures. And gratitude to Susan Beckett-Young, Tiler, for stepping in at the last minute to help with the pictures. A special thank you goes out to Margie Bauman who individually promoted the contest that resulted in participation from the High Springs Community School. Margie also brought her incredible homemade cookies and brownies for our members and guests to enjoy.

Many thanks go out to our committee helpers that included Tim Pohlman, Trustee; Dan Fiebelkorn, PER and Loyal Knight; Lynne Meyers, Esquire; Bobby Andreu, Exalted Ruler, Sandy Stoiber, member; and B.J. Sullivan, Lecturing Knight and Gainesville Chairperson. BJ is Also the Chairperson for the "Mighty NE District Americanism Committee".

Be on the lookout for many more events being planned by the Gainesville Lodge Americanism team.



# April 2024

|                   |                    |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 01 VonCille Bruce | 10 Karen Owens     | 25 Kristy Lisenby |
| 02 Gib Coerper    | 12 Sally Mahar     | 25 Darrin Roberts |
| 02 Susan Gordon   | 12 Sandra Martinez | 26 Julia Howell   |
| 03 Bruce Konrad   | 14 Bob Kish        | 26 Ron Leff       |
| 03 Rob Luetjen    | 14 Gary Wilson     | 27 Adam Brewer    |
| 03 Mike Ryals     | 15 Tommy Merrill   | 28 Greg Leggett   |
| 06 Julie Baker    | 15 Paul Sullivan   | 30 Glenda Dobbs   |
| 06 Steven Kress   | 17 Louise Grimm    | 30 John Finnegan  |
| 06                | 18 Glen Crawford   | 30 Chester Lundry |
| 07 Mark Beverage  | 18 Martha Fay      | 30 Jack Sherrod   |
| 07 Breed Jump     | 20 Tim Queen       |                   |
| 07 Sara Walker    | 22                 |                   |
| 08 Scott Bennett  | 23                 |                   |
| 08 Becky Criswell | 24 Wally Morse     |                   |
| 08 James Mikel    | 25 Randall Brown   |                   |

So many say they want to get involved.

If any member has an interest in being on a committee or learning what they are all about send me an email and I will get you in the right direction to start your path on the road of Elkdom



# DISTRICT LEADERS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO US ALL IF WE NEED THEM

**Dayna Miller, Northeast District Deputy**

(352)-562-6005 (c) daynamiller13@yahoo.com

**Jimmy Dean, Northeast Vice President**

(904)-466-0158 (c) jdeanski@bellsouth.net

## IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

B.P.O. ELKS LODGE #990

MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

2424 NW 23rd Boulevard

Gainesville, FL 32605-2961

Issue # 990-327

## Sub Committees

|                                       |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Auditing/Acct                         | Crocket Covey         |
| Americanism                           | B.J. Sullivan         |
| Community                             | Susan Senterfitt PER  |
| Drug Awareness                        | Rita Puentes          |
| Eco. Grounds                          | Bill Senterfitt PER   |
| Elks Memorial                         | Becky Spence, PER     |
| Flag Day                              | Susan Senterfitt, PER |
| Government Relation                   | Dayna Miller, PER     |
| Harry-anna Trust                      | Dan Fiebelkorn PER    |
| Hoop Shoot                            | Bill Senterfitt PER   |
| Indoctrination                        | Najwa Liscombe        |
| Investigation                         | Najwa Liscombe        |
| Lapsation                             | Linda Califf          |
| Membership                            | Najwa Liscombe        |
| ENF                                   | Dan Fiebelkorn PER    |
| National Veterans Service NE District | Jerry Sartain         |
| PER Assoc.                            | Louis Mallory PER     |
| Public Relations                      | Dayna Miller, PER     |
| Ritual                                | Becky Spence PER      |
| Youth Activities                      | Margie Baumann        |
| Newsletter                            | Bill Senterfitt PER   |
| Web Site                              | Satya Heilig          |