



Elks Care - Elks Share

**810 16th Ave. S.E. Largo, FL 33771
West Central District (WCD)**

MAY 2025

Message from your Exalted Ruler



Jonny Liebchen, E.R.

Another spring has passed, and we say farewell & safe travels to our " Snowbird Friends."

Our new slate of Officer's, Trustees, and various Committee members stepped up and into their positions for the new Elk year which began April 1, 2025

As always, we are looking for volunteers and new members " Please Help Us " in that never-ending quest!!! It takes a village of fantastic members and Volunteers too continue to keep the Largo Lodge #2159 "Great"!!!

A salute and well wishes to all moms being celebrated on Mother's Day, May 11, 2025.

Be proud to be a Largo Lodge #2159 Elk!!! Many, many, thanks to all our outstanding volunteers, Officer's, Trustees, Committee people and members who continue to make Our Lodge Shine.....

Best Wishes to all, Jonny Liebchen, E.R.



**Congratulations to the
2025-2026 New Lodge
Officers.**

Back Row: Trustee Eric Salabay, Loyal Knight Hans Francis, Exalted Ruler Jonny Liebchen, Leading Knight Steve Cardozo, Lecturing Knight Dennis Muncy, Inner Guard Joe Acosta, Secretary Kathy Traina, Trustee Rudy Fontane.

Front Row: Treasurer Diane Sharp PER, Trustee DiAnn Anselmi, Trustee Aurora Griesler-Jones PER, Trustee Becky Shoaf, Chaplain Jan Rogers PER, Esquire Lee Acosta.

**Elk of the Year
Bob Behm**



**Officer of the Year
Jonny Liebchen, ER**



**Distinguished Citizen of the Year
Ed Cabana**



SAVE THE DATES:

Derby Day - Saturday, May 3

Cinco De Mayo - Monday, May 5

Mothers Day - Sunday, May 11

Sunday, May 25 - Breakfast

Monday, May 26 Memorial Day

***Saturday, May 31 - VP Visitation -
Tarpon Springs Lodge***

**EVERY 4th SUNDAY
LARGO ELKS #2159 BREAKFAST**



9:30am to Noon - \$10 per person

**\$3 Mimosa / \$3 Bloody Mary
Full bar available**

**We hope you will support this Lodge
Fundraiser and come join us.
Open to all Elks & Guests**



**BINGO MONDAY'S
@ 1:00 pm
(in the main dining room)
LUNCH available
12pm to 2:00 pm**

**Come early so you can have lunch before bingo.
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Proceeds benefit our charities**



Come Find the Queen!!!

**The Queen is up and running
along with I Got It Bingo
Come out - bring friends
Enjoy our fabulous
Largo Elks Belly Buster
Hotdogs**

**The Queen 7:00 pm
I Got It Bingo 7:30 pm**



**LIVE
Music by Melody
5-8pm**

Blaine & Mary Dellecker

THURSDAY



**5-7pm
Thursday's at Largo Elks #2159
\$6 Tacos Chicken or Beef:
Two Hard Shell Tacos or Taco Salad Plate
with Chips & Sour Cream & Salsa
Benefiting Our
Veterans & Youth Activities**

Music & Kitchen Prep/Service Provided by Volunteers

***** B * O * O * S * T * E * R * S *****

This club is made up of members who have donated money to help with the cost of printing the bulletin. We are very low on donors to this endeavor in comparison to our membership. This is a strictly voluntary donation, but with costs escalating, all donations are appreciated and put to good use. We ask for \$10 per year.

Alfred Howes.....5/25
Georgia Green.....5/25
Robert Bryce.....5/25
Gary Allen.....6/25
Mark Erickson.....6/25
Linda Harper.....8/25
Curtis Corbin.....8/25
Richard Lessard.....11/25
William Morrow.....11/25
Alfred Howes.....12/25
Charles Jones.....12/25
Kathy Sanford.....1/26

Julia Zolfo.....1/26
Beth Thompson.....2/26
Mary Dellecker.....2/26
Blaine Dellecker.....2/26
Dennis Varone.....2/26
Mike Sullivan.....3/26
Alice Wallace.....4/26
Kathy Sanford.....4/26
Debra Cooney.....4/26
Russell Burke.....4/26
Carol Geppel.....5/26
Peter Losi.....5/26

Jim Garthwaite.....6/26
Anonymous.....3/27
Alfred Howes.....4/27
Eva Beaudoin.....6/27
Lucille Stout.....7/27
Barbara Sofarelli.....8/27
Mike Sofarelli.....8/27
Mike & Pat Hughes.....11/27
John Plunket Memorial.....2/29
Dave Mason.....5/30
Fred Baker.....1/31
Geo. & Kim Feaster.....3/31

Bill Reynolds.....10/31
Jim Quarles.....1/32
Bill Bacon.....5/32
Dave Mason.....1/33
Dallas Dinkins.....2/33
DL&Dee Weidenmeyer.....9/33
Pamela Crawford.....3/34
Bill & Julie Morrow.....11/34
Bernadine Vehrs.....12/38
Daniel MacIntosh.....4/45

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 LargoElks@gmail.com	 5 Lunch 12 - 2:00 pm BINGO 1:00 pm Shuffleboard 6:00 p.m. Cinco De Mayo Pot Luck Party 4-8 pm	 6 Pasta & More 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by Ron Tew & Patti 5 - 8:00 pm	 7 LIGHT LUNCHES OFFERED DAILY BY BARTEDER 1-4PM	1 TACO NIGHT (Tacos or Taco Salad) 5 to 7:00 pm Music by Melody 5 to 8 pm	2 Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by AL RUGGERIO 6 to 9:00 pm	3 DERBY DAY Pot luck 4-7 QUEEN 7:00 I Got It Bingo 7:30 Belly Buster Hot Dogs
4 Lodge open 12 - 8:00 pm Bloody Marys \$2.00 until gone	5 Lunch 12 - 2:00 pm BINGO 1:00 PM Shuffleboard 6:00 p.m.	6 Pasta & More 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by LOUIE BRAVO 5 - 8:00 pm	7 HOUSE Committee Meeting 6:30	8 TACO NIGHT (Tacos or Taco Salad) 5 to 7:00 pm Music by Melody 5 to 8 pm	9 Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by KRIS PIERCE 6 to 9:00 pm	10 Vets Fundraiser Planning mtg 10:00am SUPER SATURDAY QUEEN 7:00 I Got It Bingo 7:30 Belly Buster Hot Dogs
11 Lodge open 12 - 8:00 pm Bloody Marys \$2.00 until gone Mother's Day Info to come	12 Lunch 12 - 2:00 pm BINGO 1:00 PM Shuffleboard 6:00 p.m.	13 Pasta & More 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by LOUIE BRAVO 5 - 8:00 pm	14 HOUSE Committee Meeting 6:30	15 ORIENTATION 5:30 PM TACO NIGHT (Tacos or Taco Salad) 5 to 7:00 pm Melody on vacation	16 Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by BOOTS & LACE 6 to 9:00 pm	17 SUPER SATURDAY QUEEN 7:00 I Got It Bingo 7:30 Belly Buster Hot Dogs
18 Lodge open 12 - 8:00 pm Bloody Marys \$2.00 until gone	19 Lunch 12 - 2:00 pm BINGO 1:00 PM Veterans Committee 5:00 PM BOD Meeting 6:30 PM Shuffleboard 6:00 p.m.	20 Pasta & More 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by AT LARGE 5 - 8:00 pm VETERANS WEEK	21 Lodge Meeting 7:30 p.m. INITIATION of New Members	22 TACO NIGHT (Tacos or Taco Salad) 5 to 7:00 pm Music by Melody 5 to 8 pm	23 Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by STEVE WALKER 6 to 9:00 pm	24 SUPER SATURDAY QUEEN 7:00 I Got It Bingo 7:30 Belly Buster Hot Dogs
				FL STATE Convention-Orlando May 22 - 24		
25 4TH Sunday Lodge Breakfast 9:30 to 12:00 \$10 - Elks & guests	26 Memorial Day NO BINGO Shuffleboard 6:00 p.m.	27 Pasta & More 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by MELODY 5 - 8:00 pm	28 Music Bingo 7-9 PM 	29 TACO NIGHT (Tacos or Taco Salad) 5 to 7:00 pm Music by Melody 5 to 8 pm	30 Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm Music by DINO 6 to 9:00 pm	31 VP Visitation at Tarpon Lodge 10:00am QUEEN 7:00 I Got It Bingo 7:30 Belly Buster Hot Dogs



VETERANS SERVICES



The Veterans Committee joined by Holiday Isles Elks hosted a Breakfast for the Bay Pines Homeless Stand Down cookout. We served roughly 450 homeless veterans breakfast sandwiches and coffee

Please pick up your Bogos for the Bay Pines Food Pantry. It's the black tote box in the Lobby. Thank you to all of you who support this program.

The Veterans Committee replaced both Flags at the Lodge as they were frayed.

Our "4th Sunday Breakfasts" have been a big success. We have raised \$,952.00 profit for the lodge so far! In March we had 140 people purchase breakfast.

The May Veterans Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, May 19th at 5:00 pm. Open to all members.

Bob Behm, Veterans Chair

wELKome NEW MEMBERS



Five new members joined Largo Lodge on Wednesday, April 16th.
(L to R) Anna Bushong, Alex Calderon, Tara Lanzo, Grady Morgan, and Peter Losi.
Give them a warm Elks welcome when you see them around the Lodge.



WCD Vice President Visitations

This year our newly elected West Central District Vice President is none other than our very own Diane Sharp, PER. Diane will be visiting the lodges in our District beginning May 31. See the schedule below.

Each lodge takes a turn acting as host with the cost of the meal being \$5. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. A sign-up sheet will be in the book in the lounge area as each visit draws closer so we can give an accurate headcount as to how many members from Largo plan on attending each visit.

All visitations programs will start at 10:00am. Casual attire. Let's have a big showing from #2159. Come learn about what your District is doing.

Saturday, May 31st.....NPR & Tarpon Springs
@ Tarpon Springs Lodge

Saturday, June 7th. Holiday Isles & St Pete Lodge
@ St Pete Lodge

Saturday, July 12th.....Dunedin/Clrw & Tampa
Lodge
@ Tampa Lodge

Saturday, August 9th.....Homecoming Visit
Largo Lodge & Seminole Lodge **@ Largo Lodge**

REQUESTING LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Stewart Ashton #6569 - 41 years
Robert Bryce #6117 - 30 years
Kathleen Della Costa #2849 - 30 years
Daniel DellaVecchia #5555 - 30 years
Philip Quince #6533 - 40 years

LODGE OF SORROW



Vincent Gregg - 3/21/24
Emmet McNutt - 10/22/24
John (Jack) O'Mara - 12/25/24
Gary Howland - 2/14/25
Donald Winne - 02/22/25
Arthur Leslie, Jr - 03/1/25
Gary Brochetti - 3/28/25
David Demkp - 4/13/25
Helga Valle - 4/14/25



Largo Lodge, #2159 wants your child to attend camp! The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks would like to invite your child to our summer youth camp. We currently have scholarships remaining.

The camp is available for kids between the ages of 9 and 13. We offer 7 different weeks of camp for your child to participate in.

To enroll your child into the camp, first contact Secretary Kathy Traina (email:secretaryelk-slargo@gmail.com) or call during office hours Tues-Fri 9 to 12:00 at 727-587-6558 to get your child's name on the list. She will give you the certificate number and you then have to register online at www.feyc.org

If you have any questions about the camp, please email summercamp@feyc.org



Derby Day at the Lounge

*Saturday, May 3rd
4:00 pm*

*Bring a dish to share.
Come in your fancy or home-made hat
and win a prize.*

*Join in the fun as you cheer on your
favorite contender.*



Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with us.

*Monday, May 5th
Margarita Specials \$2.50
Salsa/Chips \$1.00*

*Bring some food
to share and join our many
shuffleboard players at 6:00pm*



*Happy Mother's
Day to all our
moms....*

*Happy
Mother's
Day*



their tummies!!

Please remember that the dessert donations on Tuesday and Fridays go towards the entertainment costs. Thanks to EVERYONE that brings in the desserts and takes them home in

The 3rd week each month is Veterans Week and the **Veterans Committee** offers their desserts on Tuesday and Fridays. Donations during that week go to various veterans projects. Thank you for your generous donations.



Largo Lodge's Annual Flag Day Celebration will be held on Sunday, June 8th. at 11:00 a.m.

The Flags will be presented by veterans from our Lodge. Light refreshments will follow.

Open to all members and their guests.



Operation "Little Big Feet"

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, the Veterans Committee, under the program, "Little Big Feet," mail

BABY ITEMS to the USO Naval Air Hospital Pediatric Unit in Jacksonville. Place your completed projects in the Veteran Cabinet in the Veteran Hall.

Remember to include your name & estimated hours inside any bags as we do count volunteer hours.

If you have any questions, contact the Little Big Feet Chair, DiAnn Anselmi
email: dkanselmi@gmail.com

*Additional photos from the Officer Installation Dinner on March 29th.
As always, more photos are available on our Facebook site. Largoelks2159.*



Below are photos from Easter Dinner. Thanks to Wayne Rogers & Diane Sharp, PER for cooking and for all the volunteers Linda Hamby, Todd Smeltzer, and Jean



Dear Elks:

It is a pleasure to serve as Chairman of The Americanism Committee for our Lodge #2159.
My fellow committee members are Paula Williams and Susanna Leal.



We will be highlighting throughout the year the meaning of our American Flag. The different days that the American Flag gets recognized and with your help and assistance we will also be recognizing several businesses in our community who proudly display our American Flag in their business establishments. Please let us know of any business displaying our flag on their premise.

It has been my honor to be a naturalized citizen of this great country The United States of America. I have served in the American Legion Auxiliary at Post 7 and am very involved in fundraising for our veterans. It is my great desire to serve The Elks Lodge 2159 as Chairman of Americanism and we will continue celebrating our Flag with the great guidance of our District Chairman of Americanism, Gloria Todd. Please contact me if you have any good ideas that would contribute to our increased awareness of our Patriotism so we may share to our Lodge.

Expect Success,
M. Vicki Matters

The below essay was written by a high school student in Pinellas County on her feelings of what it means to be an American Citizen. I sincerely hope you take a moment and read what she had to say.
Vicki

* * * * *

American citizenship America citizenship does not strictly pertain to the legal status of an individual. To me, being an American citizen is a multifaceted experience that involves freedom, personal responsibility, and the pursuit of equality. When someone asks, "What does it mean to be an American citizen?" I immediately think back to our constitutional rights put into place in 1788. The constitutional amendments grant citizens various rights including freedom of speech, the right to vote, and freedom of religion. Over time, these rights and responsibilities have developed along with the country. Today, globalization and immigration conflicts have obscured our idea of what it truly means to be a citizen of America. Regardless of race, social status, and gender. American citizenship gives you freedom, economic mobility, political and social rights, and opportunity. To acquire these rights, we should continuously work to uphold our civil duties by obeying the law, respecting the rights of everyone, staying informed, supporting the Constitution, and doing all we can to actively participate in building a better nation.

On a person level, the privilege of being an American citizen that I appreciate the most is rights for women. The fact that I can go to college and pursue a career of my choice is extremely important to me. I realize that many countries do not offer the same opportunities as America. The fact that women can run for office, vote, and publicly express their opinion shows how far America has come. The 19th Amendment, granting women the constitutional right to vote, and the Women's Suffrage Movement have proven to me that growth and change is always possible in America. As someone who has grown up playing soccer, I am a huge fan of the United States Women's National Soccer Team. I have been able to watch firsthand as these players have fought for equal pay on and off the field. Watching some of my biggest role models achieving their goals without holding any political power has influenced my perspective on America as a whole. As the team captain of my high school soccer team, I find this empowering as I work to communicate, lead, listen, and try to make our team the best we can be. The ability for individuals to advocate for their beliefs and create change demonstrates the significance of being an American citizen. The visible resilience of American citizens has helped me see citizenship as far more than a book definition. To me, the phrase "American citizen" is not a noun; it is a verb. Being an American citizen is reaching out to those in need, volunteering time for the benefit of others sharing your beliefs and values and actively engaging in the community. I am grateful and honored to be able to call myself an American citizen.

LARGO LODGE 2159
B.P.O.E.
810 16th Ave. S.E.
Largo, Florida 33771



2025

ELKS LODGE #2159
810 16th Ave. S.E.
Largo, FL 33771

Secretary's Hours
Tues.- Fri. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Phone 587-6558
SecretaryElksLargo@gmail.com

Lounge Hours
Weekdays: 11 to 10:00 p.m.
Sundays: 12 to 8:00 p.m.
Phone 584-0801

Summer Hours
Lounge opens 12:00
Sunday - closes at 6:00pm

Bulletin Editor:
Largoelks@gmail.com



[Largo Elks Webpage](#)

Vist Us on the Web For News,
Calendars, Bulletins, Updates,
Events, Pictures, Lunch & Dinnner
Menus and more.

Go to [Elks.Org/2159](#) or
Search Google for "largo elks".

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 2025 - 2026

Exalted Ruler.....Jonny Liebchen
Leading Knight.....Steve Cardozo PER
Loyal Knight.....Hans Francis
Lecturing Knight.....Dennis Muncy
Chaplain.....Jan Rogers PER
Esquire.....Lee Acosta
Tiler.....DuBar Brewer
Inner Guard.....Joe Acosta
Secretary.....Kathy Traina
Treasurer.....Diane Sharp PER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman.....Jonny Liebchen ER
Exalted Ruler.....Jonny Liebchen ER
Leading Knight.....Steve Cardozo PER
Loyal Knight.....Hans Francis
Lecturing Knight.....Dennis Muncy
Lodge Secretary.....Kathy Traina
Treasurer.....Diane Sharp PER
BOD Secretary.....DiAnn Anselmi
5 Year trustee.....Aurora Griesler-Jones PER
4 Year trustee.....DiAnn Anselmi
3Year trustee.....Rudy Fontane
2 Year trustee.....Becky Shoaf
1 Year trustee.....Eric Salabay

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Co- Chairmen
Mike Sofarelli & Wayne Roberts

H.C. Members
Georgia Greene, Barbara Rogers,
Todd Smeltzer, Roberta Straughn

MANAGERS

Dining Room.....Aurora Griesler-Jones PER
Bar.....Marcia Lowe

COMMITTEES

Americanism.....Vickie Matters
Susana Leal, Paula Williams
Auditing & Acctg.....Elizabeth Herr,
Judy Magyar, Barbara Rogers
Bingo.....Georgia Greene
Budget.....Board of Directors
Bulletin Editor.....Kathy Traina
By-Laws.....PER Assoc. of Largo 2159
Comm. Projects & Activities.....Bob Behm
Drug Awareness.....Rudy Fontane
ENF Scholarships.....DiAnn Anselmi
ENF Fundraiser.....DiAnn Anselmi
Entertainment...Aurora Griesler-Jones PER
Facebook.....Kathy Traina
Flag day.....Lee Acosta
Fraternal.....Kathy Sanford
Govt. Relations.....Lee Acosta
Grants.....Jeanne Reinhart PDD

Harry-Anna Trust Fund.....Maureen
Dunham / Mardy Oleski
Hoop Shoot.....Hans Francis
Interlodge Visitation.....Kathy Traina
Investigations.....Pat Thoele
Lapsation.....Kathy Sanford
Lodge Activities.....Board of Directors
Lodge Advisor.....JoAnne Matos PDD
Lodge Booking..Aurora Griesler-Jones PER
Lodge Memorial.....Lee Acosta
Mediator.....Bob Behm
Membership.....Kathy Sanford
Memorial Day.....Board of Directors
Orientation.....Gloria Todd PER
PER President.....TBD
Photographer.....Hans Francis,
Kathy Traina, Dave Mason
Presiding Justice.....David Partlow, Atty
Public Relations.....Steve Leonowicz
Ritual.....Jeanne Reinhart PDD
Safety Officer.....Hans Francis
Soccer Shoot.....Hans Francis
Veterans' Services.....Robert Behm
Volunteer Coordinators..Sandy Behm
and Shirley Krieger
Web Master.....Steven Leonowicz
Youth Activities.....Diane Sharp PER