



Sebring Elks Lodge 1529



Hello Brothers and Sisters. Well, that month went fast! Yeah, I stumbled a few times, and I truly appreciate your patience and confidence. I am feeling more comfortable and confident almost daily.

April accomplishments:

The BOD will now only make recommendations for change to the lodge for their vote to approve or deny. It'll take some getting used to, but that was the edict from Grand Lodge. Going forward, the monthly bills will be read in detail at the lodge meeting for approval prior to being paid.

Internet has been down pretty much all month. If not for Robert and Billy letting us borrow their hotspots, we really would have had even bigger problems. Budgets were submitted and approved for the ensuing year.

Going forward:

Upper parking lot repave, I asked for the bids to be updated. I want this long overdue upgrade done by August 1. Lower by 11-1 or sooner.

Kitchen help is desperately needed, specifically for servers. We can't keep serving dinners

in the bar area if we don't get some younger help who can better navigate the stairs. The bar will be open on Sundays now. Bar poker at 3, pool tournament to follow. Don't forget we do have shake-a-day dice at the bar, \$1 for 3 shakes, Queen of Hearts Wednesdays, QOH ticket sales table to be set up soon on Friday nights. Recommend you order a stamp for <\$10 from Amazon so you don't have to write your name and phone number over and over.

So, in closing, please get your dues paid if you haven't yet. Some never got notices, I being one. We have notified the Grand Lodge. But while working that out, your dues expired April 1st; check your card. We are currently the second largest lodge in our district, second only to Lakeland. Let's close that 200-member gap this year. Keeping our existing members current helps tremendously toward that goal. If you haven't been to lodge lately, we miss you, your Elk family misses you. Stop in.

Fraternally,
Terry Oakley, Exalted Ruler

Volunteer Spotlight

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 seems to be a very busy place on Saturday evenings. The night of April 4 was no exception. The lodge was providing a steak dinner for the Sebring High School Junior ROTC Military Ball. The lodge was making this a special night for the cadets as they celebrated their milestones for the past year. Those volunteering in the kitchen were scurrying around trying to meet the needs of 157 people in the lodge banquet room awaiting dinner. And just like that, help arrived! Just at the right moment the cheery faces of our new VPDD Southwest Central District, Gail Domedion and her husband George Domedion, the newly elected Exalted Ruler (ER) from Plant City, arrived to visit and check out the lodge while they were traveling through. It only took a moment for them to check out the situation, roll up their sleeves, get their gloves on, and help out the lodge. Gail took right over by dishing out potatoes and George helped get the plates onto the serving trays. They were a welcome sight, and they certainly showed what ELKdom is all about. Like the saying goes; "Help is on the way!" We at the Sebring Lodge thank both for their help and friendship. Pictured Left to Right: George Domedion, ER Plant City; Rebecca Helms, Elk Member; Diane Morse, Leading Knight; Gail Domedion, VPDD Southwest Central District.



May Elk of the Month

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 is recognizing Ivonne Oyola as the May Elk of the Month. Ivonne is a fairly new member having joined the lodge one year ago. She became a member and hit the road running. After growing up in New Jersey, she later lived in Puerto Rico, where she said she discovered hard work and the importance of family. She is married and has three daughters and six grandchildren. She is really a go getter and sets her standards high in whatever endeavor she is working on. Upon moving to Florida, she enrolled in South Florida State College and earned a high school diploma in record time and then set her goal of becoming a real estate agent. She is currently an associate with Berkshire Hathaway Florida Property Group. She also sells Tupperware on the side and is involved in many civic organizations within the county. She volunteers with the Disabled American Veterans Program helping organize veteran activities as well as helping to organize Quarter for a Cause programs. When asked if she would like to step up and take a leadership role with the Sebring Elks, she did not hesitate for a minute and is currently serving as Lecturing Knight. Whenever someone needs help with a program, she is right on the spot helping wherever and doing whatever needs to be done to make the program a success. When the Elks Veterans Committee needed someone to help with their recent Classic Car Show fundraiser, she was right there. When asked to help work on the Elks Workday at Hands for Homeless, she was right there on the front lines packing, sorting, and distributing food to those in need in the community. A few months ago, she volunteered to work Friday evenings cashiering and greeting those coming in for Friday evening meals. Her recent activity is stepping up to help volunteer and chair Bingo for Monday afternoon and evenings. As you can see, she is a true Elk in that she steps in when there is a need and works tirelessly to make sure that whatever the task, she is giving it 100%. Next time you see Ivonne, take time to talk and visit and we are certain that you will find her story amazing. Elks like Ivonne truly demonstrate what ELKdom is all about. Thank you, Ivonne, for stepping up and sharing your talents with us.



Sebring Elks New Members April 2026

The Sebring Elks Lodge welcomed five new members on Thursday, April 16, during the regularly scheduled lodge meeting. Each member participated in a welcome and orientation session before being initiated as new members. We would like to thank each of them for their interest in our organization and their willingness to volunteer and help our lodge grow and shine within the community. Each of them comes from varied backgrounds and we welcome their fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Take time to welcome each of them to our lodge and we are certain that you will see the enthusiasm each of them brings. WELKcome to Sebring Lodge 1529!

Pictured Left to Right: Roger Decker; Charles Grandy; William Passeau; Diane Igney; Roy Scott Kromel



Sebring Elks Bingo Volunteer Needed

Monday night Sebring Elks Charity Bingo needs a chairperson to help on Monday nights. Wainetta Holmes has been chairing Bingo for the past 10+ years. A replacement is needed for July-August. Other than national Elks grant monies, Charity Bingo provides most of the money that the lodge donates to help those in need within our community. Without this program, the Sebring Elks would not be helping nearly as many as they do now. Needed: One or two Elks Members to learn how to chair bingo so that Bingo will not have to close during these two summer months. The role requires about six hours every Monday and the physical ability to get around the lodge room. If two people would like to work together, that would make it even easier. Please consider helping to keep this much-needed charity doing the great things it does for our community. If interested, please contact Wainetta Holmes at 863-214-3039.



Lodge of Sorrow

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Jerry Hettinger

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us on Facebook!!
It increases our
media presence.**



*The Faults of our Members We Write Upon the Sand,
Their Virtues Upon the Tablets of Love and Memory.*

Sebring Elks Need Your Help with Bicycles

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 is once again asking for donations from their members for the Annual Spring Bicycle Roundup to take place early this spring. Each year the Sebring Fire Department sponsors a bike roundup for the youth in Sebring with the event being held in downtown Sebring. The fire department brings out the trucks and fire hoses for the youth to enjoy. They provide helmets and offer bicycle safety tips to those attending the event. For the past several years, the Sebring Lodge has collected new bikes to be distributed to those in need during the event. Each year 40-60 bikes have been donated, and the Elks are hoping to surpass that amount this year. Elk members may purchase the bikes assembled or boxed. Elk members will be on hand to assemble the bikes, if needed. Bikes will be displayed in the front hallway for all to see until the day of the event. The lodge will also accept donations for the bikes and will pick up bikes, if needed. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Oakley (863-253-9523). Thanks to all the members for helping. Just the joy in seeing those kids receive their first bicycle show that Elks Care and Elks Share!



Sebring Elks Support Hands for Homeless

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 Monday night Charity Bingo Program continues to collect canned goods for the Hands for Homeless Program (H4H) in Avon Park. Each week players bring in canned goods and nonperishable goods to help stock the pantry for the H4H Program. Players have been very generous with their donations. Jane Breylinger, CEO for the Program and a Sebring Elks member, accepted the generous donation and expressed her thanks to the players for their continued support. Three hundred and fifty items were donated for this past monthly food collection. Great job by the Monday night Charity Bingo Program for supporting our community! Pictured Left to Right: Brenda Walton, Loyal Knight; Jane Breylinger, CEO Hands for Homeless; Diane Morse, Leading Knight



Veteran's Corner: Did You Know?

Officially, the Bald Eagle is not our national symbol! Congress has never chosen a national bird. But the US has a national mammal (the bison) and a national tree (the oak). The Continental Congress directed, in 1782, that the bald eagle be placed on the Great Seal of the United States. Consequently, the bald eagle has come to represent the United States. The bald eagle lives only in North America. Many believe that Benjamin Franklin lobbied for the turkey as a national bird, but this is not true. Franklin wrote that, due to the predatory nature of the bald eagle, "it is a bird of bad moral character," and he went on to write that he wished it had not been chosen as a representative of our country. A newspaper article published in 1905 by The New York Sun reported that our national emblem is a scavenger, a coward, and a thief. However, in spite of these bad reviews, the bald eagle is intensely social and family oriented.



Sebring Elks Support the Florida State Elks Summer Youth Camp

The Sebring Elks offer an amazing opportunity because this year's Summer Youth Camp is ready to go! The Florida State Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla, Florida is now accepting applications for this summer. The program is available to youth ages 9-13 for weeklong sessions. Weekly camps are available June 14 through August 1. The Sebring Elks have a number of vouchers to send youth to camp, so hurry and don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. The Florida State Youth Camp is rated as one of the top ten youth camps in the country. Their mission is to mold the current generation of youth into adults that we'd be proud to have as American citizens. Their motto is to "inspire, connect, and expand." They inspire the kids through the quality of their facilities, of their staff, and of their programming. Without electronics, they help kids build connections between themselves and their peers, their counselors, and nature. Archery, swimming pools, canoeing, fishing, ziplines, rock wall climbing, arts and crafts and much more are just a sampling of the offering's children will experience while at camp. If you have children, grandchildren, neighbors, or any youth that you would like to attend camp this summer please contact Diane Morse (863-381-2321) or the lodge office (863-385-8647). Don't miss out on this great opportunity. For more information go to: floridaelks.org/camp/.



Sebring Elks Support Camp Braveheart

Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 was proud to support this year's youth attending Camp Braveheart in Lake Wales, Florida. The lodge sponsored five Sebring area youth to attend this year's camp held on the weekend of March 29, 2026. The \$4000 sponsorship for the camp was through the Elks National Foundation (ENF) Beacon Grant. Camp Braveheart supports area youth through the Good Shepherd Hospice Program. These youth have experienced a recent loss of a loved one and the program supports them in their grieving process by offering them support in a safe environment.

Wainetta Holmes, Past Exalted Ruler (PER), and Diane Morse, Leading Knight, attended the camp and participated in the campfire circle on Saturday evening. The lodge also provided snack bags packed by Elk members for the youth attending the camp. The snacks were purchased by Elk members and then packed into bags with the Sebring Elks logo and the wording "Elks Care, Elks Share". The snack bags were given to the youth upon leaving on the bus for camp. The Sebring lodge is appreciative of the ENF and their continuing efforts to provide grants in support for programs the Elks sponsor throughout our communities.

Pictured Left to Right: Wainetta Holmes, PER for the Sebring Lodge, and Diane Morse, Leading Knight, distributing the snack bags Pictured Left to Right: Joe House, Elk member; Linda Schuback, Elk member; Wainetta Holmes, PER packing snack bags



Sebring Elks Support Aktion Club

What started out as an overcast, drizzly afternoon ended up with the sun shining and a beautiful afternoon playing softball. Each year the Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 is a major sponsor for the annual Aktion Club Softball Tournament. The program is truly a hands-on organization comprised of disabled adults who have formed a community-based club in which they participate and sponsor programs throughout the community. Cindy Marshall, a Sebring Elks member, oversees the activities of the club. Each year the club participates in a softball tournament for their members. Approximately one hundred participated in this year's tournament. The enthusiasm was apparent as the members took their place on the field.

Joe Stockenberg, Exalted Ruler, and Diane Morse, Leading Knight, attended the event and presented a \$1000 sponsorship check to Brianna Davis, a member of the Aktion Club. Also, Joe Stockenberg warmed up his arm and threw the first pitch of the game right over homeplate. He then congratulated club member, Michael Sweet, on a job well done in catching the throw. Monies for this sponsorship were made possible through the Elks State Matching Grant. The Sebring Elks are proud to be part of this amazing opportunity for these club members who serve our community so faithfully.

Pictured is Joe Stockenberg and Diane Morse presenting the sponsorship check to Aktion Club member, Brianna Davis; Joe Stockenberg, throwing the first pitch and then congratulating Aktion Club member Michael Sweet.



Sebring Elks Hold Charity Car Show: Classic Rides for Veterans

The Sebring Elks Lodge Veterans Car Show, held on March 29, 2026, proved to be an incredible success and a true reflection of our community's generosity and spirit. Despite less-than-perfect weather, the event pushed forward without missing a beat, welcoming an impressive 61 vehicles and a strong turnout of supporters. Guests and members enjoyed a full day of activity, including live music, great food, exciting raffles, and a lively 50/50 drawing- made even more meaningful as half of the proceeds were generously donated back. With the help of approximately 30 dedicated volunteers, the event ran smoothly from start to finish, showcasing the power of teamwork and commitment. A special thank you to our title sponsor, White Transmission, for their generous support in helping make this event possible. Financially, the event was just as impactful, raising just under \$5,000 after expenses, all in support of our veterans. Beyond the numbers, one of the biggest takeaways was the overwhelming generosity of those who attended, proving once again how much this community shows up for a great cause. A special note of appreciation goes to Wheels for Charities, whose expertise and hands-on support were invaluable in making the day a success. Their experience helped guide the event seamlessly, and it's safe to say this show would have been much more challenging without them.



Peggy Alley
Lodge Secretary

Membership
Update



Orientation – May 7 th at 5:30 pm
Balloting – May 7 th Regular Meeting
Initiation – May 7 th Regular Meeting

Initiation – May 7 th Regular Meeting
The following Individuals were balloted
and Initiated at the Meeting April 16 th .

Robert F. Anz, Sr. – Transfer from West Hollywood
– Proposed by Terry Oakley

Josephine M. Anz – Transfer from West Hollywood
– Proposed by Terry Oakley

Roger Decker
– Proposed by Joe Stockenberg

Charles Gandy
– Proposed by Douglas Deierlein

Diane Igney
– Proposed by Wainetta Holmes

Willaim Passeur
– Proposed by Brett Bernardo

Roy Scott Kromel
– Proposed by Ramona Richardson

Susan Schilffarth
– Reinstatement - Proposed by Diane Morse

Total Members 672

May Happy Birthdays

01 Linda Heuerman Richard Wolfram	Samuel Vaccaro 10 Harrison Havery	Troy Hinderliter David Luttrull Robert Jagodzinski
02 Robert Wheeler	11 Reggie D. Cooper	Albert Simon
03 Eileen Game Michael J. Kloc Steven Mertz	12 Jenna Freeland Richard Kipp Robert J. Reimold Nicholas Tidwell	21 Teri Ann Dosil Louis Raposa
04 Lawrence E. Ford, III Allison Lao	13 Suzanne Freeman	24 Gary Fields John Wright
05 Clara A. Fonseca Carol Gibson-Cimino Luke Sigris Robert Thau	14 Peter Giustozzi 15 Mark Rodriguez 16 Richard A. Siver	25 Raymond Para 26 Rey Quintanilla 27 Rebecca Brownell 28 Timothy Baker
06 Edward J. Brown Elizabeth Sullivan	17 Roy Bennett 18 Thomas M. Hartley 19 Diane Ovitt-Lamore Tish Zadar	29 Michael Sean Wright 30 Jeremias Ruiz Sam Fausto
07 Danny R. Hammock Linda Lakes	Judy Cord	
08 Jeffrey Alt Carole Cardinale William Hommerding	Patsy Howard	
09 Robert D. Beard		



Directory

OFFICE OPEN MON, TUES & THURS 9 AM TO NOON

Lodge		471-3557
Office		385-8647
Exalted Ruler	Terry Oakley	253-9523
Leading Knight	Diane Morse	381-2321
Loyal Knight	Brenda Walton	381-3104
Lecturing Knight	Ivonne Oyola	399-0201
Secretary	Peggy Alley	561-596-9135
Treasurer	Martin Bowers	954-425-2787
Tiler	Sid Gillilan	381-3619
Inner Guard	Gail Zemper	231-313-815
Esquire	Sam Schroeder	440-567-0617
Organist	OPEN	
Chaplain	Buddy Richards	381-4713
1 Yr. Trustee	Jonathan Spiege	381-7159
2 Yr. Trustee	Ken Wheeler	257-2706
3 Yr. Trustee	Bonnie Lennox	410-299-0444
Lodge Advisor	Jonathan Spiegel	381-7159
Mediator	OPEN	
Accident Prevention	Sam Schroeder	440-567-0617
Americanism	Diane Morse	381-2321
Auditing	Wainetta Holmes	863-214-3039
Bar Manager	Billy Brown	540-550-1846
Bingo/Monday	Wainetta Holmes PER	214-3039
Bulletin Editor	Rebecca Brownell	381-9193
Community Activities	Diane Morse	381-2321
Drug Awareness	Diane Morse	381-2321
Elks Training	Sam Schroeder	440-567-0617
Flag Day	Brenda Walton	863-381-3104
Government Relations	Ken Wheeler	863-452-6462
Hoop Shoot	Gwen Clark	835-1233
Justice Sub Forum	Cliff Rhoades	863-381-2400
Lapsation	Terry Oakley	253-9523
Lodge Activities	Christie Spiegel	381-8856
Lodge Decorating	Rhonda Oakley	253-9847
Maintenance	Buddy Richards	381-4713
Membership	Terry Oakley	253-9523
Member Bingo	Diane Morse	381-2321
Memorial Sunday	Jonathan Spiegel	381-7159
National Foundation	Diane Morse	381-2321
Orientation	Terry Oakley	253-9523
Parliamentarian	OPEN	
Photographer	Rebecca Brownell	381-9193
Public Relations	Rebecca Brownell	381-9193
Ritual Coach	Sam Schroeder	440-567-0617
Scholarships	Diane Morse	863-381-2321
Soccer Shoot	Dane Kelsey	863-214-1859
State Major Projects	Wainetta Holmes, PER	214-3039
Veterans Chairperson	Brenda Walton	863-381-3104
Lodge Historian	Buddy Richards	863-381-4713
Webmaster	Richard Vosburgh	385-7045
	Email: rmvosburgh@gmail.com	
Youth Activities	OPEN	



Bulletin Boosters 2026 - 2027

Paula K. Hall	Richard Robbins
Michael Chambers	Dr. David A. Spiegel
Marylyn Adams	Dr. Susan E. Spiegel
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Bernard Markham	Robert Novean
David Riddle	Paul Blanchard
Beverly Sykes	Gary Ellis
Sharon Mahaffey	Gary Germaine
Gwen Clark	Allan Warchek
James Lizotte	Eugene Kissner
Fred Wilson	Diane Morse
Susan J. Johnson	Frank Pytlowany
Jean Raaflaub	Samuel Schroeder
Todd Barkey	Brenda Walton
William R. Brown	Lola Dixon
Robert Wheeler	Scott Kirouac
Kimberley Albritton	Robert Brooks
Christine Pigsley	

Arlene Griffin – in Memory of James E. Griffin, PER

Deanna Lewis – in Memory of Robert Lewis

Wainetta Holmes – In Memory of Wayne and Marian VanAuken

Wainetta Holmes – In Memory of Richard Holmes, PER

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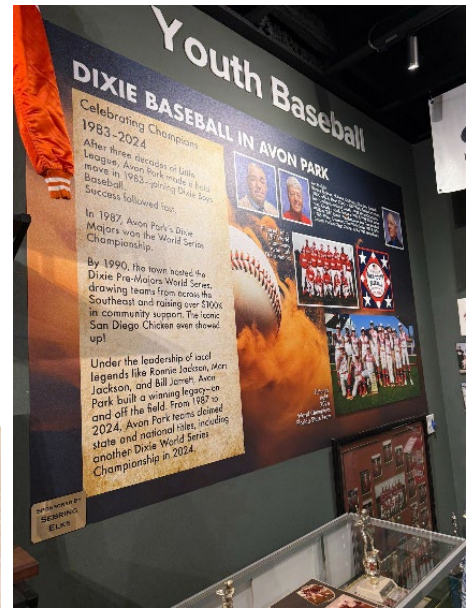
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Sebring Elks Support Avon Park Baseball Museum

Sebring Elks #1529 helps make the Avon Park Baseball Museum a reality. The Sebring Elks recognized the significance of this museum early on and made donations to help make the museum possible. Dr. Ron Sevigny had a dream of sharing his love for baseball and baseball history in Avon Park, so the planning began. Now, 3 years later, the Museum is about to have its grand opening. In appreciation of the lodge's support, Dr. Sevigny presented the lodge a plaque via Buddy Richards.

The St. Louis Cardinals played there in the late 20's and early '30's. Avon Park was the spring training home of the St. Louis Cardinals in the 20-30's. Many MLB greats played there. Hal McRae, Thomas "Flash" Gordon, Babe Ruth, who although playing for the Yankees, played there and called the Jacaranda Hotel home for spring training. The grand opening is May 9th, and they'll have food and beverages for purchase. If you're a baseball fan, it's a must-see and an easy one-room walk about. Location: 3 N. Museum Ave, Avon Park, part of the Historical Society Depot Museum.

Terry Oakley, Exalted Ruler



EVERYONE IS INVITED FOR A
RIBBON CUTTING AND GRAND OPENING

**BASEBALL CITY
DEPOT MUSEUM**

Saturday, May 9, 2026
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
3 N. Museum Ave. Avon Park, FL

- Come experience Avon Park's rich history in baseball!
- Meet hometown heroes and Major League greats Hal McRae and Thomas "Flash" Gordon

BASEBALL CITY
DEPOT MUSEUM

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