



Sebring Elks Lodge 1529



Welcome Fall! The decreases in temperature will be welcome.

We have a lot of cleanup work outside to make the property presentable for our 100th celebration and we will need all hands on deck. The focus will be along the front retaining wall. Raking, shoveling, and mulching to smooth up where weed and shrubs were removed this summer. I've set October 10 as the day for a workday. The lodge will supply all the bottled water; just bring a shovel, rake, or wheel barrel if you have one, and if anyone has a chain saw, we could use it.

October 17: The annual Sebring Elks Golf Tournament is just around the corner. Get your teams together and sign up. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, so please help out where you can. Get your hole sponsorship now: \$100 for a single, \$150.00 for 2. holes.

October 24: The district dinner following our annual audit. The dinner is a steak dinner with all the fixings at a cost of \$15. Please RSVP at the bar or by emailing me at oakleyt@live.com. We've reduced the cost to break even to help members be able to attend. Let's show our district leaders we support them and our lodge.

Parking lot paving: This finally should be completed by the end of October. Reminder all boat trailers and boats on trailers must be removed from the property lot across the street by 10-1!

December 12: 100th birthday celebration for our Lodge. Letters have been sent to all the district leaders. The Team has put a lot of effort into this. Flyers will be up in the Lodge all October with tickets available all month.

I have to thank everyone for the increasingly more positive environment at our Lodge; it takes all of us pitching in to create the kind of Lodge we can all be very proud of. Congratulations to all; and let's all please keep it up!

October *Elk of the Month*

October Elk of the Month is Tommy Bancroft. In September, Tommy helped plan the Thursday night reopening for football season with Music Bingo and the Sunday Fun Day for football season. Tommy even went as far as buying and donating 6 new TVs that he and his crew installed, all at no charge. A big thank you for that. Chicken tenders, fries, and peel-and-eat shrimp will be available for purchase on both Thursdays and Sundays during the season. Tommy also has donated his DJ service several times throughout the years and has been a part of our flag day services by providing the music. So, when you see him, please give him a big thank you!



Sebring Elks New Members September 2026

The Sebring Elks welcomed five new members on Thursday, September 10, 2026. We are eager to see what each of them will bring to the lodge as they bring a wealth of backgrounds and talents. Take time to welcome each of these new members when you see them around our lodge. Our lodge is growing, as we have surpassed the 700 mark. Welcome to ELKdom. Pictured Left to Right: Jennifer Fogg; Ivan Barajas; Sally Benigni; Julie Parker; Sheila Tubbs.



Monday Afternoons

2pm Member Bingo: Starting October 5th

Sunday October 4th

Downtown Childrens' Festival 12pm-4pm

October 1st

Orientation 5:30pm

Lodge Meeting 7pm

October 14th

Golf Meeting 5:30pm

October 17th

Golf Tournament Sebring Elks

October 9-10th

FL State Presidents ____ SWC District
Plant City-Brandon

October 24th

Lodge Inspection & Audit

Lodge _____ Dinner @Sebring 6pm

October 29th

Board Meeting 6:30pm

Fundraising for the Elks National Foundation Month

October is recognized as Elks National Foundation (ENF) Month. The mission of the foundation is to help Elk lodges build stronger communities. The Elks invest in the communities where they live and work to help youth, veterans, and those in need. The Elks National Foundation has contributed more than \$18.8 million towards charitable projects nationwide. The Community Investment Program allows local lodges to apply and receive grants to be used within the community. For every dollar we invest, lodges receive \$1.87 back. The Sebring lodge has over 700+ active members, and every member is asked to contribute a minimal \$5.50 yearly donation for every member in order for us to apply and receive these grants. In recognition of October being designated as ENF month, the lodge is asking members to participate in our “Elks Giving Tree” fundraising event. By making a small donation, members can help decorate the tree displayed in our lobby. We have 150 wooden Elk ornaments just waiting for members to put their names on so you can be part of the event. Wooden Elks will be available anytime when the lodge is open during the month of October. Just locate Rhonda Oakley or Diane Morse and they will be happy to help you! There are many ways you can support ENF through your giving. Please visit the Elks National Website for more information on how to make a one-time gift or become a Sustaining Donor through the Fidelity Club. If you have any questions or need information, you can contact Diane Morse, Leading Knight and ENF Fundraising Chair. “Let’s Decorate the Tree and Get it Done. Together WE can make a Difference”

Sebring Elks Host the West Palm Beach Elks Lodge Hop

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 welcomed 55 members from West Palm Beach Lodge #1352 for their Lodge Hop on Saturday, September 14, 2026, during Sebring’s Saturday evening potluck. Our guests enjoyed a wonderful selection of food, including tacos, wings, an ice cream bar, and many other goodies generously brought by our members. Our Jolly Cork Bar was also busy throughout the evening! The West Palm Beach Exalted Ruler, Jeff Buhrman, was the lucky winner of the 50/50. In a wonderful gesture, Jeff donated his winnings to Amanda in appreciation for the unselfish assistance she has provided to his family. During their visit, our guests also had the opportunity to purchase Sebring Elks shirts, 100th Anniversary pins, hats, and other items. There was a tremendous amount of ELKDOM happening throughout the evening! We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our Sebring Elks members who helped make the West Palm Beach Lodge #1352 Hop such a wonderful and successful event.



Monday Afternoon Member Bingo

The Sebring Elks will be resuming the Monday afternoon Bingo game beginning on October 5, 2026. This afternoon Bingo will be open to all members and guests beginning at 2pm each Monday. The sessions will be held in the bar area. Come on out to the Elks for an afternoon of Bingo with other Elk members. Also, the Monday Night Charity Bingo is going strong. This event is open to the public with the doors opening at 4pm and games starting at 6pm.



**Remember to Like
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.*

Peggy Alley
Lodge Secretary

Membership
Update



The following Individuals were Initiated at the Meeting held on September 10th.

Jennifer Fogg
Ivan Barajas
Sally Benigni
Julie Parker
Sheila Tubbs

The following Individuals were balloted on at The meeting held on September 10th.

Sally Benigni – Proposed by Bruce Checca
Julie Parker – Proposed by Scott Kirouac
Sheila Tubbs – Proposed by Scott Kirouac
Floyd Yarbrough – Reinstatement – Proposed By Terry Oakley
Melanie Hass – Reinstatement – Proposed by Susan Johnson
Sheila Johnson – Proposed by Susan Johnson

Total Members 702

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2026

11TH ANNUAL

Juan Rosado & Ken Hedges

MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT 2026

\$90 ENTRY OR \$360 FOURSOME

FRI NIGHT MIXER - CASH BAR - PRIZES 6:30PM @ ELKS LODGE

7AM REGISTRATION OPENS

8AM SHOTGUN START @ COUNTRY CLUB OF SEBRING

RAFFLE & AUCTION PRIZES

Team Registration

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Team Players: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Select Option:

☐ Team of 4 - \$ _____

☐ Individual Golfer - \$ _____

CONTACT: BONNIE LENNOX 410-299-0444

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ELKS LODGE #1529

Lodge of Sorrow

IN LOVING *Memory*

Eugene Kissner

Orientation – October 1st at 5:30 pm
Balloting – October 1st Regular Meeting
Initiation – October 1st Regular Meeting

The Many Homes of the Sebring Elks

The following information was taken from the 75-year anniversary article written by Claude Howerton, Past Exalted Ruler, who served for two terms as Exalted Ruler and updated by Diane Morse, Leading Knight. The Sebring Elks began meeting in 1926 with the first meeting place held in a room at the Harder Hall Building. But they soon outgrew the space for meetings and lodge activities. The lodge moved to a rented two-story structure built over Lake Jackson, known as Brewton's Tea Room. Windows opened on all sides of the building allowing breezes from the lake to cool the room, which was fine in the summer but proved to be too much in the winter since no heat was available. Attendance dropped drastically. In early 1928, the lodge moved to the Arrowhead hotel on W. Center St. (the site of Edgewater Condominiums) with the intent of purchasing the property for \$30,000 but negotiations failed and the deal was not consummated. Negotiations to purchase the Masonic Hall were also unsuccessful so the lodge moved back to the Harder Hall Building. Eventually the lodge purchased the property on the corner of Circle and W. Center St. known as the Tobin Block. This proved to be a good business venture. The upper floor was used for lodge and club functions, and the lower floor was rented for store and office space. The income for this provided funds for the maintenance and expenses as well as paid the mortgage on the property. After the mortgage was paid off 1/3 of the lower floor was converted to lodge and club use. The older members disliked the stairs and there was a lack of parking spaces. Interest and attendance was dropping and the lodge saw the need to purchase a new home for the lodge to grow. In 1963 serious consideration was given to securing a new lodge home. To fund the purchase, bonds were sold to members to start construction in 1965 and the lodge moved into its sixth home on August 1, 1966. The present lodge was dedicated in March 1967 with GER Raymond Dodson as honored guest. The lodge, having one of the best dining rooms in the area, prospered and was very active. In April 1981, the lodge voted to expand the dining room and make other improvements. Throughout the past 25 years the Sebring Elks suffered some setbacks with maintaining membership growth but in 2026 the lodge is thriving with over 700 members. It is through the hard work and dedication of many hard-working Elk members that we continue to grow and do all we do within the community. We at the lodge are so appreciative of our past faithful members who have made our lodge what we are today. We have lots of work still to do and look forward to what the future holds for us. Thank you to all Elks past and present for setting the vision in a small meeting room in 1927 to the beautiful lodge home we have today on Lake Jackson.

Sebring Elks Support the Children's Museum

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 is once again supporting the Downtown Children's Museum by donating \$2000 towards the Children's Business Fair Event. The monies were made possible through the Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant. The event will take place on Sunday, October 4, 2026, in downtown Sebring. The whole block will be closed and there will be many activities going on. The Elks will help judge each small business developed and built by youth in the community. They will be selling their products to those in attendance. Also, Elroy the Elk will be on hand to meet youth and families. Elk members will distribute school supplies and drug awareness goodies for those in attendance. Come on down and help support the Elks and their work within the community. If you have time and would like to help fill bags please contact Diane Morse, Sebring Lodge Grant Chairperson. We have lots to do and will need many hands to get it done! Pictured is Elk member, Rhonda Oakley and Diane Morse, Leading Knight presenting the check to Children's Museum CEO Kelly Dressell. Also, pictured is Kelly Dressell showing Rhonda Oakley one of the many activities made possible for youth developing their projects. This particular one is an activity on teaching financial literacy in helping children make change.



Sebring Elks Lodge at Work

The following article was previously written by Ronna Mason, Past Exalted Ruler, and has been updated by Diane Morse, Sebring Elks Leading Knight

The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 was chartered on July 14, 1927, with an initial membership of 26 men all of whom were civic leaders or developers in the Sebring community. Within six months the membership grew to 105. These men saw a need for Highlands County to have a Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks for the good of the community.

Today, we have surpassed the 700 mark and are enjoying a significant growth rate during the past few years. There are many reasons for this increase. The main reason is the comradery of the Elk members. You have only to attend some of the functions to see the respect and affection shown by the members, spouses, and guests. We are all here for a common goal, to have a good time and to share our good fortunes with others. Friendships are made and good things are done for our community.

We are PROUD to be an Elk and therefore we are making strides to let the community know the good that this Order does by participating in community events that help our youth, veterans, and those needing help within the community. During past years we have received grants from the National and State Elks Associations to help in these areas. The most recent grant was to again sponsor the Downtown Children's Festival, which is scheduled each October. We also received a Freedom Grant to help replenish the clothing closet for veterans through the Disabled American Veterans program. The lodge is again asking for the Spotlight Grant to be used to purchase food for needy children and families at local schools and community feeding programs such as the Hands for Hope program through the Christmas Holiday. Members are needed to help volunteer at all of these events as we show that Elks Care, Elks Share.

We are reaching out to people by Facebook, email updates, and by the monthly bulletin which is sent via e-mail or mail and bulletin copies at the lodge. There are so many ways that showcase the good that our lodge does for those in the community. The Elks lodge offers a Charity Bingo on Monday evenings for others to help those in need. The donations collected are given to various community needs such as Little League & Softball; sending kids to camp; supporting the Elks Harry Anna Trust Fund; high school scholarships; ARC programs for disabled adults; and many other activities. The Elks support these programs through their yearly giving to the Elks National Foundation and the Harry Anna Trust Fund.

Come join us and share with us all the good we do. And as you may have heard, BPOE also means –

“BEST PEOPLE ON EARTH”

Scholarship Opportunities

Attention, parents of high school students: Don't miss out! Scholarship opportunities are available for High School seniors applying this year. Visit the scholarship pages on the Elks National or Florida State Elks websites to review application deadlines. For more information or assistance, contact the Sebring Elks office, which will connect you with someone who can answer your questions.



October Happy Birthdays

02	Richard Thompson	21
Michael R. Halloran	11	Richard W. Siver
03	Judy Hanson	22
Joan Hicks	Julie Ann Stineman	Lisa Osha
Jean Ann Koleno	12	23
Gerald Mason	Thomas Corcoran	Gordon L. Walkington
Timothy J. Quaranta	Kathy Smith	24
John Sandquist	13	Gilbert G. Boyer
04	Robert Cierniewski	Mark Gose
Stephen Kildahl	Ivonne Oyola	26
John Manifold	14	Matitza Lopez
Patricia Rae Meloy	W. Thomas Jack	27
Ronald Miller	Laura Walker	Randy Reiter
06	15	28
Robert F. Anz	Stephanie Maxcy	Kenneth Wheeler
Terrill Morris	Dave Meier	Mark L. Wilson
07	16	29
Bruce A. Checca	Gwenllian I. Clark	Troy M. McIntyre
08	John Harmison	30
Benny Graves	Eric Lynch	Carol Lee Baker
Susan Stockenberg	17	Verna Flexon
09	Brenda Caraballo	31
Paul E. Blanchard	18	Cody T. Brownell
Joseph Boyer	Carolyn J. Fisher	Michell Gaddy
Lisa Celentano	John Michael Whitaker	
10	19	
Charles Lowrence	Claudia Musselman	
Robin Russo	20	
Samuel W. Schroeder	Cody Wilkins	



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

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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

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