

“A Fraternal Organization”

Jacksonville Elks



Lodge #221

February 2026

Vol. #134 - Issue #2

ELKSHORN

1855 West Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Phone: (904)721-1155



Greetings Jacksonville Elks,
Another month has passed and we had a busy month of Elk'ing. Congratulations to Deb and her Crew for hosting the 7th Annual Military Baby Shower. Twenty-five of our Military Moms were showered with gifts, diapers, and blankets, and appreciation for their service.

We are looking forward to the February Quarterly at the Youth Camp on February 5-7th. If you have never attended... we will hear from our Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Klatt, as he will be at the Camp and will speak to the whole Florida Elks Herd!

Nominations for next year's Officers will be held on February 11th during PER Night. Balloting on those nominations will be held February 25th.

Volunteers are still needed for the spaghetti dinner on February 27, 2026, at the Alden Road Exception Student Center. We need to prepare sauce and spaghetti and transport it to the school. Please contact Pam Haley if you are able to volunteer.

As always, many thanks to all of our Committee Chairs and volunteers who make our Lodge a fun and active place to be. Participation is always the key to the Lodge's success. Bring a friend and participate. It's great to be a Jacksonville Elk!

***In the Spirit of Elkdom,
Brent Reedy – Exalted Ruler***



904-923-5665

Brent.mrcool@gmail.com



ELK of the Month chosen by ER Brent Reedy

Our February **ELK of the MONTH** goes to **DIXIE WILFONG**

Dixie, thank you for all you do
for our Members on Game
Nights.

We truly appreciate your
commitment.

Enjoy your well-deserved Elk
of the Month parking spot and
Elks Tumbler!



Lodge & Florida State Elks – Upcoming Events:

February:

Teddy Bear Drive for Police - All month

FSEA February Quarterly – **Grand Exalted Ruler Byran Klatt** visits the Florida Elks Youth
Camp in Umatilla – February 5-7

PER NIGHT/Nominations of 2026-2027 Lodge Officers – Lodge Meeting Feb. 11

STATE Hoop Shoot Competition – Umatilla Feb. 14

Elections for New Officers – Lodge Meeting Feb. 25

Lodge Clean-up – Feb. 21 9:00 AM

New Member Initiation – Saturday, Feb. 21 5:00 PM

Early Bird / New Member Meetup – Feb. 21 6:00-8:00 PM

Alden Rd. ESC Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Feb. 27 Volunteers Needed

March:

FSEA Officer Training – March 13-15 in Orlando

Bunco Fundraiser for Multiple Sclerosis– March 22nd 2:00 – 4:30 PM

Installation of Officers & Awards Banquet – March 28th

(Installation at 4:00 PM, Social Hour 5:00 PM, and Awards Banquet 6:00 PM)



Jacksonville Elks #221 Lodge Officers:

Exalted Ruler – Brent Reedy
Leading Knight – Cheryl Kehl
Loyal Knight – Susan Kelly
Lecturing Knight – Jim VanAken
Secretary - Deborah Reedy PER
Treasurer - Roberta Garland
Esquire – David Graham PER
Chaplain - Kathy Glass
Inner Guard - Tony Langhals
Tiler - Stephen Wilson

3 Year Trustee – Robin Pipkins PER
2 Year Trustee – Donnie Rowand
1 Year Trustee - John Pipkins

Lodge Advisor: Scott Wilson PDD
Presiding Justice: Erik Berger, Esquire
Mediator: William Steele PER

Elk of the Year: Pamela Haley
Officer of the Year: David Graham PER

District Leaders:

Ed Weston PER (Green Cove Springs): DDGER
904-657-1321 erwine58@gmail.com

Alise Taylor-Sindab PER (Orange Park): DVP
847-682-2987 sindabat@outlook.com

Lodge Committees:

Auditing Committee

Ginger Moore - Chairperson
Rich Medley, Jack Ward PER &
Cliff Coble

Public Relations Committee

Deborah Reedy PER - Chairperson

Activities Committee

Pam Haley – Chairperson
Susan Kelly Co-Chair

Community Activities: Brent Reedy ER

Drug Awareness: A.J. Jones

Youth Activities: Betsy Bryant

Hoop Shoot & Soccer Shoot: Brent Reedy ER

ENF MVS Scholarship: Deborah Reedy PER, William
Watson PER, and Pam Haley

Fraternal Committee:

Brent Reedy ER - Chairperson

Americanism: Pam Edge - Chairperson, Sandy Tripp,
Angie Edenfield, and Anthony Langhals

Elks National Foundation: Robin Pipkins ER

CIP Grant Coordinators: Robin Pipkins PER &
Deborah Reedy PER

State Major Projects (HATF):

Flag Day: Bob Morgan - Chairperson

Memorial Day: Bob Morgan - Chairperson

Membership: Deborah Reedy PER

Investigation: Brooke Miller – Chairperson, Pat Harris,
and Patsy Hopson

Orientation: - Susan Kelly - Chairperson, Tony
Langhals, and William Watson PER

Veterans Services: Karen Tracy Chairperson, Anthony
Langhals, and David Graham PER

Additional Statutory Appointments

PER Association: Scott Wilson PDD

Ritualistic: William Steele PER

Government Relations: David Graham PER

Harry Anna-State Major Projects: Robin Pipkins PER

House Committee

David Graham PER- Chairman

Robin Pipkins PER	Susan Harrell
Ronnie Edge	Shannon Graham
Kathy Glass	Leslie Watson
Rod Kelley	Nancy Olds
Jim VanAken	Debra Principe
Tom Buzar	Loretta VanAken

Building Maintenance

Donnie Rowand - Chair and Rod Kelley

Accident & Prevention

John Pipkins, Trustee - Chairman

Hall Rental

John Pipkins – Chairman, Donnie Rowand, and Ronnie
Edge

Elkshorn Newsletter Editor

Deborah Reedy PER





Message from the GER Brian Klatt

Lodges elect new Officers, honor PERs in February

Happy birthday to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America! On February 16, we celebrate 158 years of our great organization. On a personal note, I wish everyone a happy Valentine's Day, especially to my wife, Susan.

This month is important for Elkdom as new Officer elections should be held at your last monthly meeting. Every Officer should be dedicated to making the Lodge active and effective, both internally and in the community. Also, the current Exalted Ruler and Secretary should recognize any Member who sponsored or reinstated three Members by awarding them the Grand Exalted Ruler Award Pin. The request form is available on elks.org. Go to the Grand Exalted Ruler page within the Members Only section, then click on Grand Exalted Ruler Award Forms.

It's time to recognize and encourage a group of Members who have shown a great deal of effort and dedication to what we do as Elks, the Past Exalted Rulers. Ask them to perform the ritual during the Past Exalted Rulers Night. PERs deserve to be thanked for all they have done and for what they continue to do for your Lodge.

The Contest "A" - All American Lodge Contest certification forms are due soon. It takes teamwork to achieve this very prestigious award. Honestly, most Lodges would qualify but don't fill out the form properly. It is important to score your efforts on the form provided. It's a great way for your Lodge to keep track of what you need to do.

If you need assistance, contact your Grand Lodge Area Fraternal Committee member. There are first, second and third place winners for each of the six membership divisions. Why not take the time to submit your form before the deadline?

Continue to demonstrate that you can Be The Difference by promoting "Elks Care—Elks Share."



From the Office of the Secretary

Dear Members,

Our regular Lodge meetings in February will be on the 11th and 18th at 7:00 PM. **On February 21st we will be holding New Member Initiation at 5:00 PM. Officers, please arrive at the Lodge by 4:30 PM.** All are welcome to attend.

On the same day, February 21st we will have our **EARLY BIRD & New Member Meetup Event**. Come to the Lodge to pay your 2026-2027 dues and receive your new Membership card that night. (PLEASE DO NOT THROW OUT YOUR CURRENT CARD UNTIL 4/1/2026) This is also a great night for new members to attend and meet other members of our awesome Lodge.

As we get ready to close out 2025-2026 on March 31st, I'm still working on our delinquent members list. We currently have 15 members who have not paid their dues for 2025-2026. Official 'Drop' Letters will be mailed in February to inform them that they will be dropped from our rosters for non-payment.

To these members, If you are having a difficult time paying your dues, we would like to see what we can do to help you and keep you active. Please contact ER Brent Reedy or myself directly.

Robin Bedwell	Tanner Kern
James D. Brown II	Darrell R. Martin
John Daniels	Deborah Miller
Ruth Eggers	Jacqueline Moise
Betty Garcia	Carolyn H. Rahn
Evan Goldman	Anthony Raso
William Karandos	Tresa VanGorder

Thank you.

Yours in the Spirit of Elkdom,

Deborah Reedy, PER

Jacksonville Lodge Secretary

Lodge: 904-721-1155 / Cell: 518-791-1025

BPOE.221.Elks@gmail.com



Welcome to our New Members Initiated on 1/28/2026



New Members (with Flags) I-r Patrick Phelan and Matthew Nolan are pictured with the Officers.

Congratulations and welcome to our Elks Family!



TEDDY BEAR DRIVE



Beginning in January through February we are asking for donations of stuffed teddy bears. The purpose of this bear drive is to donate stuffed teddy bears to our local police department. The bears will be put in police cars for the officers to hand out to a child in a traumatic situation. Far too often a child is exposed to unimaginable situations which can range from home invasions, drive by shootings, drug overdoses, family neglect and abuse, sexual assault, car accidents and more.

We are asking for the bears to be new and unused. They should be approximately 9 to 12 inches. The bears need to be "undressed" (meaning no sweaters, hats, or shoes, etc.). Please no dollar store bears.

Receiving something as simple as a stuffed bear will give the child something to hug and hold on to while going through these events, and possibly to talk to and hug while crying.

In the event you do not want to shop for a bear please donate towards the bear drive and somebody else will shop for the bears.

Our goal is to raise a minimum of 150 bears by March 1st and then deliver them to the police by the middle of March.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Haley. Thank you.



**We need
100 more
Bears to
reach our
Goal!**



Jacksonville Elks 221

Super Bowl Party and Chili Cookoff

Join Us for a Night of Football, Food, and Fun!

Hosted by the House Committee

You're invited to our annual Super Bowl Party and Chili Cookoff! Come enjoy the big game on Sunday, delicious homemade chili, and great company. Whether you're a football fan or just here for the food, there's something for everyone!

- **Date: Sunday, February 8, 2026**
- **Time: Kickoff at 6:30 PM (Doors open at 3:00 PM)**
- **Location: 1855 West Road**
- **Chili Cookoff: Bring a pot of your best chili to compete for bragging rights!**
- **Judging: Begins at 4:30 PM**



Dinner at 5:00 PM – Full Hot Dog Bar w/fixings will be provided. Bring an appetizer to share if you wish!

We look forward to seeing you there! Open to Elks and their Guests





Early Bird Event and New Members Meet & Greet!



Join us for a special event on Saturday, February 21st between 6:00-8:00 PM!

We are inviting ALL Members to gather together and meet our new Members who were initiated during the 2025-2026 Elk Year.

You will also participate in our Early Bird Event!

What's an "Early Bird"?

This is when you pay your dues early and get a special sticker for your membership card that shows everyone you paid your dues early!

We will have light appetizers available for *free* during this event – and bar food will be available for purchase.

Paying your Dues:

Cash or check payment is preferred for paying your dues!

Please bring your Dues Statement with you.

We will give you your new Membership Card once we receive your payment at this event!

Please join us for this fun event – and meet your fellow members!!

Thank you!

Deborah Reedy PER – Lodge Secretary

Jacksonville Elks #221





Veteran Services Report

Happy Valentine's Day!

Four Chaplains Day is observed each year on February 3rd to honor four US Army Chaplains of different faiths who bravely sacrificed their lives when their ship, the USAT Dorchester, was sunk by a German torpedo in 1943. After the attack, Lieutenants Fox (Methodist), Washington (Catholic), Poling (Dutch), and Goode (Rabbi) selflessly gave up their life vests to soldiers when the supply ran out. As the ship was sinking, they linked arms and said prayers. Each was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Distinguished Service Cross, and the Four Chaplains' Medal was authorized by Congress on July 14, 1960.

Our Lodge was once again gifted with 15 beautiful, handmade patriotic quilts by Comfort 'n Quilters on January 17th. Check out the photos elsewhere in the newsletter.

We delivered our first 2026 Welcome Home Kit, 45th overall, to a USAF female veteran the last week of January. She has 3 children and was most appreciative to receive the household items, food, and furniture. Thank you to David for helping with the heavier furniture.

Feb 3	Four Chaplains Day (1998) and USO Incorporated (1941)
Feb 19	Coast Guard Reserve Birthday (1941)
Feb 23	Iwo Jima Flag Raising (1945)

Regards,
Karen Tracy, USN (Ret)
Veteran Services Committee Chair

*So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
will never forget them!*



Welcome Home Kits

On January 17th we were visited by Mary Lou and Jan, two talented quilters with Comfort n' Quilters. As they did in 2023 and 2024, this time they delivered 15 beautiful, handmade Patriotic quilted throws.

One quilt is added to each Welcome Home Kit our Lodge delivers. Including the previous donations, this brings a total of 35 Veterans we have and will be able to gift a quilt to.

Karen Tracy
Veteran Services Chairman





NEWS FROM THE COURT



The FL North Regional Hoop Shoot Contest was held on January 17th at Columbia County HS. Thanks to all the volunteers from 4 Districts for helping out and congratulations all the winners advancing to States in February at the Youth Camp!

Brent Reedy – North Florida Regional Hoop Shoot Director





“Exceptionally You” – Community Project Alden Rd. Exceptional Student Center

January 20th found five members of our Lodge volunteering at the Alden Rd. ESC for their Literacy Week festivities and the Grand Opening of their new Student Library! Members assisted students in Literacy games, reading, and making snack bags. A Member also donated \$120 to the Center to be used for special software to help students in the Library.





Military Baby Shower

On January 24, 2026, our Lodge held our 7th Annual Military Baby Shower with the use of the Elks National Foundation Spotlight and Gratitude Grant funds.

We hosted 25 Military Families this year and showered them with gifts from their personal baby registries, which included bassinets, strollers, car seats, and lots of baby items, as well as homemade burp cloths & bibs and crocheted blankets made by our members, and blankets made by the Daughters of the Revolutionary War organization, books, and diapers donated by our generous members! Thanks to our Members who donated so many diapers!

Guests enjoyed lunch and dessert, and we played baby games and gave out lots of prizes! Prizes were donated by our awesome members!

Special guests included Blue Star Families of Jacksonville and Florida State Elks Association Children's Therapy Services' OT Melanie Sarris from our District.

We have an amazing Elks family at our Lodge – a special thank you to our shoppers, cooks, decorators, and set up crew, especially Beth Clark, Pam Haley, Sandy Trippe, Cheryl Kehl, Jack & Anne Paulischak, Kelly Paulson, and Brent Reedy, for the many hours spent working on this event! It was truly special for the families!

Deborah Reedy
Event Chairman



Photos from the Military Baby Shower



Diapers
Donated!



CIP
Celebrates 20
Years of
Giving



Photos from the Military Baby Shower

Check out our FaceBook page for more photos!

@JaxElks221





Military Baby Shower 2026





Thanks to the House Committee, Members had an outstanding time dancing to the Salt Run Band and enjoyed the fabulous wings prepared by this crew right here! Thank you!! Lots of photos can be found on our FB page!





BUNCO FUNDRAISER for Multiple Sclerosis

Support Mary's Musketeers at the MS Walk!

Join us for a fun-filled Bunco Fundraiser supporting Multiple Sclerosis on **Sunday, March 22, 2026, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM**. Your \$20 admission includes exciting games, delicious heavy appetizers, and chances to win fabulous door prizes. Participate in our Chinese and 50/50 raffles! Bunco Lessons at 1:45 PM.

All proceeds will benefit Mary's Musketeers as they prepare for the MS Walk, taking place on April 11, 2026, starting at the Friendship Fountain in Jacksonville.

Come roll the dice, enjoy great company, and help make a meaningful impact.

Ticket Sales will end March 15th.

Contact Mary Walkowski at

412-480-9926

or Deb Reedy at 518-791-1025

to sign up





We are currently seeking volunteers for kitchen support.

Whether you have experience or are simply eager to lend a hand, your support will make a real difference in our daily operations.

All are welcome! We encourage anyone with a passion for helping others and working as a team to get involved. No prior culinary experience is needed - just a willingness to learn and contribute!

If you are interested in volunteering in the kitchen, please call or text David Graham at (845) 798-9167.

This is a great opportunity to meet new people and to be a supportive part of the Elks!

Unfortunately, if we don't have volunteers to assist on different days, we may have no choice but to close the kitchen for that evening. Specifically, we are in need of volunteers to serve hotdogs and bar food.

Thank you for considering this opportunity! As always, we appreciate your generosity and look forward to working with you!

House Committee



EVERY MONTH is ENF Month!

Let's do our part as members of Jacksonville Lodge #221 to support the Elks National Foundation

Did you know distributions from ENF for 2025-2026 total \$17.6 million for the Community Investment Programs ("CIP") and our Lodge receives a portion of this through our Grants? CIP marks its 20th anniversary and going strong Enabling us to take our dreams of bettering our community to reality making a significant difference to ALL!

**What is your passion? How do you want to help?
Get involved and help promote ENF!**

JOIN THE FIDELITY CLUB, ENF'S WAY OF MAKING IT EASY FOR YOU TO DONATE! YOU CAN HAVE AS LITTLE AS \$5 A MONTH AUTOMATICALLY WITHDRAWN AND NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE!

Let me know if you need any assistance in signing up or if you want to give a single donation – I am always here to help! Together, as members of Jacksonville Lodge #221, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

**ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE
Thank you!
Robin C. Pipkins, PER
ENF Fundraising Chair/Grant Coordinator**



HARRY-ANNA INVESTMENT FUND, INC.

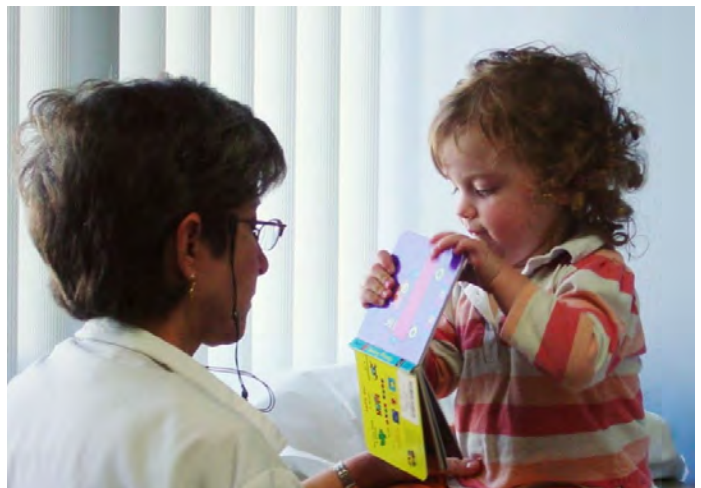
Together We Can Do Great Things

Of everything that the Florida Elks do, perhaps nothing is more important than our work with the state's youth. Sowing the seeds of accomplishment and commitment through our Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services and Florida Elks Youth Camp programs, children are given the opportunity to grow and learn beyond their dreams.

The trust fund started in 1951, was named after Harry and Anna Miller who donated land and a building to establish the original Florida Elks Hospital for Crippled Children. Its purpose was, and continues to be, the collection of donations and the acceptance of endowed gifts.

The trust fund is restricted, which means that only the income derived from it may be used to support our major projects: the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services and Florida Elks Youth Camp programs.

Please consider becoming a sustaining donor – thank you!
Go to Floridaelks.org/harry-anna to sign up online.



Lottery Scratch-Off Tickets Fundraiser

One Entry is \$20.00 each and only 20 spots are available each round.

(Only one entry per person – you may buy tickets in advance for future rounds)

Once all 20 spots have been filled, we will draw a winner that evening or the next day.

The Winner of the round will receive \$200.00 in Florida Lottery Scratch-Off Tickets!!

(The winning Scratch Off games will be the same denomination every time)

Once a “round” is completed, we will start the next round right away. This will be an on-going opportunity for you to WIN BIG and help support our Lodge.

Please see one of following to get your entry spot:

Patsy, Deb, Susan K., Cheryl, or Kathy G.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the Lodge.

Thank you!

Members only.

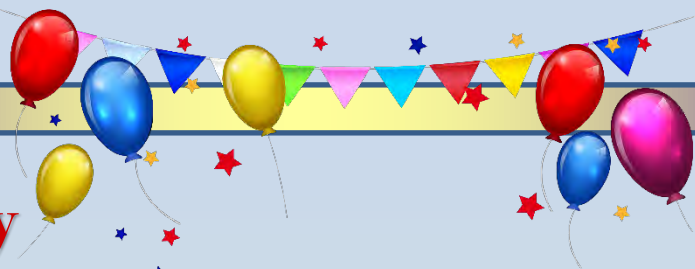


ROUND 17
NEW!!



February Birthdays

1	Robert	Eastwood
1	Kyle	Smith
2	Chris	Ladopoulos
2	Jennifer	Rodriguez
4	Miller	Dickinson
4	Gary	Harris
4	Virginia	Scott
5	Darrell	Martin
6	Amber	Chandler
6	Tiffany	Ezelle
7	Will	Moore Jr.
8	Pamela	Collier
8	Jeffrey	Iglesias
8	Erika	Story
10	Lydia	Butler
10	Ginger	Moore
10	Carla	Rhymes
11	William	Danko
11	William	Edenfield
12	Cary	Jordan
13	Thomas	Buzar
13	Daniel	Hughes
15	Jenni	Sukovich
16	Erik	Berger
16	Michael	Steele
18	Kathleen	Glass
19	Susan	Costello
19	Jerry	Fowler
20	Kenneth	Rouls
23	Jessica	Fox
24	David	Austin
24	Seba	Bates
25	James	Brown
26	Robin	Bedwell
26	Brooke	Braitwaite



GAME Night!!

Stop by the Lodge for a fun night with friends!!

“BINGO” Feb. 5th and 19th with Dixie!



“SHOW ME THE MONEY” Feb. 12th and 26th with Tina & Patsy!

BUNCO Feb. 10th with Leslie

LCR Feb. 16th with Leslie



February 2026

Elk's Lodge #221

Phone: 904-721-1155

Club Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 5pm - 10pm

Friday and Saturday 5pm - 11pm

Sunday: 1pm - 9pm

FEBRUARY IS HARRY ANNA TRUST FUND MONTH
POLICE DEPT TEDDY BEAR DRIVE ONGOING THIS MONTH!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CRUISIN CLASSICS H-burgers/hotdogs Canceled due to weather Bar Food w/ Kim	BAR FOOD LCR w/ Leslie	 Jim and Jennifer 6:30 pm HC Meeting 6:30 pm	 SHRIMP NITE Marcis & Crew 6:30 pm PER - 6:30 Activities 7:00	BINGO with Dixie Hotdogs & BAR FOOD <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	 Jim Bryant & Crew 6:30 pm	Feb Quarterly Umatilla <i>Karaoke w/ Delightful Dave</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SUPER BOWL SUNDAY open at 3:00 PM  w/ Hot Dog Bar Melissa Kickoff - 6:30	COIN CLUB MEETING BAR FOOD BOD 6:30 pm	 Larry, Curley & Moe 6:30 pm BUNCO w/ Leslie	PER Lodge Meeting  NOMINATIONS 7:00 PM	SHOW ME THE MONEY with Tina & Patsy Hotdogs & BAR FOOD <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	Chicken Sausage GUMBO Larry & Gail Horne 6:30 pm	 Lodge Breakfast 9:00 am - 11:00 am VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER <i>Karaoke w/ Rockin Sue</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
 Pulled Pork chips & pasta salad Kim	ELKS BIRTHDAY 158 YEARS OLD! BAR FOOD LCR w/ Leslie	 Scott, Greg 6:30 pm IIC Meeting 6:30 pm	POLISH NIGHT! KIELBASA w/ Sauerkraut and HALUSKI Kim 6:30 pm	BINGO with Dixie Hotdogs & BAR FOOD <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	Pork Chops Grilled or fried Don, John & Rod 6:30 pm	Initiation 5PM LODGE CLEANUP 9:00 am EARLY BIRD/NEW MEMBERS SOCIAL HOUR 6:00-8:00 <i>Karaoke w/ Jammin Jim</i> TOP 50 COUNTRY! Queen of Hearts 7:30
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, carrots Melissa	BAR FOOD	 Tom & Mona 6:30 pm	Lodge Meeting  7:00 PM ELECTIONS	SHOW ME THE MONEY with Tina & Patsy Hotdogs & BAR FOOD <i>Thirsty Thursday</i>	 Ronnie & Crew 6:30 pm	<i>Karaoke w/ J'Man</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
MEMBERS: PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FLYERS FOR DETAILS OF EVENTS ON CALENDAR!!					Feb 13 th - Alden Rd Treat Bags 10:00 AM	Feb 27 th - Alden Rd Spaghetti Fundraiser