

June
2025

News & Views

"Elks Care - Elks Share"

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

SLIDELL ELKS LODGE

NUMBER 2321

P. O. Box 5445
SLIDELL, LOUISIANA 70469
PHONE: 985.641.1266 ~ FAX: 985.641.5809



EXALTED RULERS MESSAGE

One of the most important days in the life of any Elk is the day they are initiated into our Order. The excitement of anticipation, of all the amazing possibilities, of being part of a new family, that is the start of initiation. Be just to your fellow man. Ever practice brotherly love. Be charitable to all mankind. That's how every Elk's trip into Elkdom begins. The initiation ceremony is a time-honored tradition that is designed to start the process of new Elks learning their way around the lodge. The officers and I have been making a very big effort to ensure each initiation is meaningful and memorable to our new members. We're practicing every month to be better at carrying out the ceremony and improve the experience for the initiates. What we really do need is for you to join us on initiation nights to show how our lodge will be supportive of the new members. My goal is to bring in at least one new member every month, so please plan on joining us at the second monthly meeting on the fourth Tuesday.

If you haven't been to the lodge lately, please come on out and see how the grounds are looking. Our Lodge and Auxiliary members have been working hard to beautify the exterior of the lodge while making it more welcoming and a pleasure to hang out by the pool. Grab the kids/grandkids and come on out and enjoy a day at the pool!

Lots of construction is going on at the Lodge. Things are moving along well with the restroom renovations in the Bar. Framing is just about complete with the help of one of our returning Elk members Dennis Silbernagel. Dennis is recently retired and he didn't think twice before coming out to help. We also have some exterior work being done that is long overdue. New drainage is being installed outside to help alleviate the swimming pool leakage. This has been an eyesore for a while and I am glad to finally have it fixed. We have lots of improvement projects to do -- please give me a call and tell me how your skill sets can help the lodge.

June will be another exciting month for us! The first weekend in June is the state convention in Alexandria. Our lodge secretary, Wayne Landry, will complete his year term as the state president. At the end of the month, I will be leading our lodge contingent to Kansas City, Missouri, for this year's Grand Lodge convention. We will also be restarting our tradition of weeknight summer dinners. This year, the dinners will be held on Thursday evenings starting at 6:30 pm. Leading up to the dinner, the lounge will have a Happy Hour starting at 4:00 pm. If you're interested in providing one of the meals, please sign up in the lounge. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the lodge soon!

Yours Truly, Exalted Ruler Jimmy Crippin / 985-960-0059 / jimmycrippin@yahoo.com

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

May was a very busy month. The Elks hosted a picnic for 152 STARC citizens. Thank you to the many Elks and Auxiliary members who came out to volunteer their time to make the picnic a success. Great job! Thanks also to Charlesray and Cathy Neight for organizing this very special event every year.

The Lodge jointly celebrated Mothers and Father's Day together with a luncheon. Thanks to the following people for decorating, cooking, Bar tending, serving, participating in our program, and cleaning up. Carol Daigle, Sam and Christy Masson, Barbara and Baldo Albrecht, Mary Clark, Peggy Hickman, Brandi Rousset, Alaina Miller, Laurie Burliegh, Randy and Lynn Bergeron, Randy Hennick, Cathy Neight, Tommy Oster, Star Lala, Julie Neck, Lynette Bourgeois, Greg Hanrahan, Ron Bald, Jimmy and Dawn Crippin and Wanda Rhodus.

The Elks hosted a luncheon, bingo games and fellowship for Veterans from local nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

The LEA State convention will be held on June on 6th, 7th and 8th in Alexandria LA. June 6th Friday night bingo may need workers to fill in for those attending the convention.

June will be the start of weekly Thursday dinners (formally Wednesday dinners) They run through July. The Elks will be looking for volunteer cooks.

At our next auxiliary meeting I would like to get suggestions from our members for this year's charitable donations. We will also need to plan our yearly budget for the donations.

Tickets for our fundraiser dance on July 26, 2025, can be purchased at our meeting or by contacting me at 985-259-0109 or Cathy Neight at 504-237-4152.

Our Elkette for June is a lady who has returned to our auxiliary after some time away. She has jumped back in like she never left. She has taken on the role of our photographer, cooked for Mothers and Father's Day luncheon, works in the kitchen for Bingo, was a worker bee for the STARC picnic, the kids' day and volunteered to take care of lodge gardens. Congratulations and thank you Dawn Crippin.

Our next meeting will be held on June 2, 2025, at 7:00. Hope to see everyone there.

Auxiliary President Judy Hanrahan, 985-259-0109, Judyofslidell@yahoo.com



ELK OF THE MONTH FOR JUNE MARVIN FONTENOT

Marvin Fontenot is our Elk of the month for June. Marvin is the membership chairman and brought in five new members just in the month of May! He is also the Building chairman and is leading the beautification of the lodge's exterior. Through his leadership and hard work, Marvin has managed to get the swimming pool and the pavilion area pressure-washed, the picnic tables painted, and the gardens looking great. On Wednesdays and Fridays, you can see "Marvelous Marvin" working hard for our lodge while putting smiles on the faces of the bingo players. Marvin is simply an all-around great guy who loves our lodge and makes it a better place every way he can. Thank you and congratulations, Marvin!

COMMITTEE UPDATES

From Jimmy: Our lodge is truly blessed to have so many caring and energetic committee chairs. I've asked a few to provide updates on recent events and to recognize their support teams. Thank you Charlesray, Marvin and Star for your incredible efforts!

From Charlesray: I'd like to thank all of the many Elk families who came out to enjoy our Elk's Kids Day Picnic, especially Greg Hanrahan who grilled all the hamburgers. It is so nice to see our Lodge bustling with members enjoying all that we have to offer. Several families signed up for the pool and swimming lessons. Everyone ate hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and drinks while enjoying the beautiful weather, and lively conversations and fellowship. Elk Kids Week continued as we hosted the STARC for their annual picnic. We moved inside to escape the weather and fed and entertained 152 happy, smiling faces as they enjoyed music and games. A Huge Thank You to all who came out to help make this event a success. It takes many hands and hearts to make this happen. Many thanks to my wife Cathy, Judy and Greg, Randy & Lynn, Jimmy & Dawn, Alaina, Brandi, Star, Dave, Tommy, Paula P., Kathy S., Julie, Randy H., Wayne, Chris & Rami, and Shaun. Without all the help, this would not be possible. Thank you all!

From Marvin: I want to personally thank everyone who's been helping with all the outdoor projects around the Lodge. From painting the pool and pressure washing, to working in the flower beds, planting the garden, and even donating pavers—it's been a team effort that's made a big impact. Shoutout to Harris LaGrange, Dave Caldwell, Jimmy & Leslie Gilliland, James & Laverne Pulse, Tommy Ann Osten, Lynnette Bourgeois, Star Lala, Mark Moody, Frank & Linda Coates, EJ Majoue, and Dawn & Jimmy Crippin. Your time, tools, and elbow grease, as well as the sandwiches and lemonade, have helped us put our best foot forward to guests and visitors. Thank you all for showing up and pitching in.

From Star: I'd like to take a moment to give a big, heartfelt thank you to all the amazing volunteers who have shared their time, talents, and energy over the past several months. As our Lounge continues to grow into a vibrant, welcoming space to relax with friends and Elk family, it's your hard work and dedication that keep

everything running smoothly—whether it's cleaning, decorating, setting up lights, fixing intercoms, building shelves, assembling stools, or handling any of the behind-the-scenes tasks that make such a difference. A special shoutout to Nancy and Jeff Cooksley, Tommy Osten, Dawn Dericek, Lynette Bourgeois, Julie Neck, Tommy "Stroke" Martinek, Tina and Lee Guillory, Janice Prange, Harris LaGrange, Mark Moody, Dee Christian, Eric Burleigh, Hal Bigelow, Marvin Fontenot, and Rick Wooley. Everyone's efforts are appreciated and your continued support never goes unnoticed. I'm truly grateful to each of you for helping make our Lounge a clean, comfortable, and inviting place for all to enjoy.

From Dee: On the day before we start June, the lodge is holding a dance with the band Witness – join us on May 31st starting at 7:00 for a great evening of fun! See Dee for tickets! Let's have a great turnout! Once we get into June, we'll have our Thursday night dinners starting on June 5th and running through the end of July.

FLAG DAY CEREMONY

Join us in the Hall on Saturday, June 14 at 1:00 PM for our annual Flag Day Ceremony. Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. After being proposed in 1861 and proclaimed by President Wilson in 1916, the U.S. Congress officially established National Flag Day in 1949. Saluting our flag is part of the opening of our Elks meetings and the flag serves as the emblem of the station of the Exalted Ruler.

UPCOMING SLIDELL ELKS AUXILIARY DANCE

The Slidell Elks Auxiliary is hosting their annual fundraiser dance on July 26th. Witness will be playing at this dance also! Tickets are \$25, and the dance will take place from 8:00-11:00 pm. The theme is Sixties Flower Power! Please contact Judy Hanrahan at 985-259-0109 or Cathy Neight at 504-237-4152 to purchase tickets.

SWIMMING LESSONS

You can still register as a 2025 pool user for a small fee which covers your entire family and allows attendance at this year's free swimming lessons at our pool! Cheryl Quinn will conduct a swim camp during the week of June

NEWS & VIEWS

Monthly Publication
B.P.O.E. #2321, Slidell, LA
(985) 641-1266 Normal
(985) 641-5809 After 4 p.m & Weekends
Email: BPOE2321@aol.com
2025-2026 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler James (Jimmy) Crippin
Leading Knight Jesse Howard
Loyal Knight Ronald (Ron) Bald
Lecturing Knight Howard (Rick) Wooley
Secretary Wayne Landry
Treasurer Jan McAllister
Esquire Joseph (Joe) Gaspard
Chaplain Lynette Bourgeois
Inner Guard Samuel (Sam) Masson
Tiler Michael (Shaun) Ruegger
Presiding Justice Ron Bald
Alt. Rep to Grand Lodge Dee Christian

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1 Year Trustee William (Bill) Graff
2 Year Trustee Randy Bergeron
3 Year Trustee Dee Christian
4 Year Trustee W. Hope Bald
5 Year Trustee Lee Guillory

SECRETARY'S HOURS

Monday - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Wednesday - 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Meeting nights - 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
All others by Appointment only

PROPOSITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Pending applicants will be posted on the bulletin board; candidates interviewed; and processed during the month.



23-27 for Elk children, teens, and grandchildren. Classes will be offered at various levels of swimming proficiency including infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and Progressive Levels I through VI. The infant, toddler, and preschooler classes are based on age. The progressive classes are based on skill level. Students will learn multiple swimming strokes, swimming and entry skills, personal safety, and rescue skills. The 2025 pool fees are \$15 per person up to \$60 per family.

THIRSTY THURSDAY HAPPY HOUR

Thirsty Thursdays are here! Join us for Happy Hour at the lounge every Thursday from 4 PM until 7 PM. We've kicked things off with this new feature because you deserve more than a reason to smile after 5 o'clock! Start the weekend a little early with good drinks, light snacks, great company and drink specials! Canned/bottled beer is \$1.50, draft beer is \$1.00, and mixed drinks are BOGO'd (buy one get one). Whether you're winding down or gearing up, make this a favorite weekly tradition! Bring a friend, bring a co-worker – let's make the lounge your go-to Thursday hangout to unwind, mingle and reset!

LOUNGE GAME NIGHT

Our next Game Night in the Lounge will be on Saturday, June 28, starting at 7:00 p.m. This is quickly becoming a lodge tradition that gives another opportunity for Elks to join together for fun, laughter, and friendship. The bar will be open and a main dish will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but please consider bringing a dish, side, or dessert to share with the crowd. All of our entertaining games will be available! Come join in!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We are still accepting membership renewals for the 2025-2026 Elk year. Dozens of our members have not yet submitted the \$138.50 renewal fee. Please check with your Elk friends to ensure they have renewed so they can enjoy all we have to offer. A list of those who have not yet renewed their membership is posted in the lounge. Please contact Jimmy or any officer or trustee with any questions or concerns. Payments by check, money order or cash can be mailed to the lodge or given to Wayne. Have friends that wish to join? Please see Marvin to learn how to bring your them into Elkdom.

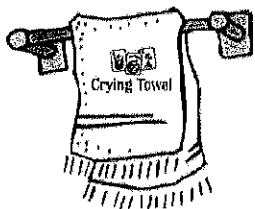
INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS

We are hosting our annual fireworks display on the Fourth of July as twilight turns to dark around 9:00 pm. Nearly all of the funds used to purchase the fireworks comes from individual donations. Brian Rhodus and his crew are planning a great show. You can support their efforts by making donations to Brian or giving them to Wayne, Jimmy, or a bartender.

ATTENDANCE JACKPOT

We have another winner!! Two months in a row! Tommy Osten was present on May 13 when her name was pulled from the drum for the attendance jackpot and walked away with \$46! The pot has restarted and we are looking forward to the next winner! This is another reason to attend our regular lodge meetings. Sign in with a one-dollar donation before each meeting, be present for the drawing, and you're eligible to win that day's

attendance jackpot. Congratulations, Tommy!!



"MY ELKS" app

This app will keep you connected to 'your' lodge with real-time updates and reminders, event calendars, volunteer opportunities and nearby lodge locations – ALL ON YOUR PHONE!!

Use this QR code or search "MyElks" in the Google Play or Apple Store, today.



If you have any questions, contact Star (985.634.0082).

Approximately 69 of our lodge members have joined the My Elks app. Use the QR code to download the app to your phone or tablet so you get all of the up-to-date notifications of upcoming lodge events, parties, and activities. Contact Star Lala if you need any assistance with the app!

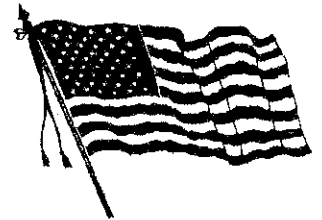


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Slidell, Louisiana 70469
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LEE A GUILLORY
 34211 ELKS RD
 SLIDELL, LA 70460-3009



June 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Auxiliary & Board Meeting 7:00 PM	3 Start of New Elks Year	4 Bingo 11:30 AM Kitchen: René	5 Happy Hour in Lounge 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM	6 Bingo 7:00 PM Kitchen: Randy H	7 LEA Convention * Alexandria, LA Lodge Work Party 9:00 AM
8 LEA Convention Alexandria, LA	9	10 Vote Meeting 7:00 PM	11 Bingo 11:30 AM Kitchen: René	12 Happy Hour in Lounge 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM	13 Bingo 7:00 PM Kitchen: Tina	14 Flag Day Ceremony 1:00 - 2:00 PM
15 Happy Father's Day	16	17	18 Bingo 11:30 AM Kitchen: Randy H.	19 Happy Hour in Lounge 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM	20 Bingo 7:00 PM Kitchen: Christy / Sam	21 Orientation in Anteroom 6 - 6:30 PM Meal & Entertainmant 6:30 - 10 PM
22	23	24 Initation Meeting 7:00 PM	25 Bingo 11:30 AM Kitchen: Randy H.	26 Happy Hour in Lounge 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner - 6:30 PM	27 Bingo 7:00 PM Kitchen: Dee / Wanda	28 Game Night in Lounge 7:00 - 10:00 PM
SWIM LESSONS • SWIM LESSONS • SWIM LESSONS • SWIM LESSONS • SWIM LESSONS						
29 Grand Lodge Convention Kansas City, MO June 29 - July 3	30 Grand Lodge Convention Kansas City, MO June 29 - July 3	1 Grand Lodge Convention Kansas City, MO June 29 - July 3	2 Grand Lodge Convention Kansas City, MO June 29 - July 3	3 Grand Lodge Convention Kansas City, MO June 29 - July 3		