

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



May
2025

News & Views

"Elks Care - Elks Share"

EXALTED RULERS MESSAGE

It's May! That wonderful month between our two weeks of winter and hurricane season when flowers bloom, birds sing, the swimming pool opens, our campground buzzes, and there is optimism and hopefulness regarding the new ER and officers. Over the last month, I hope you've gotten a sense of how I operate. I rely on folks who are subject matter experts to do their great work. I keep all of our lodge business in the open and aim for full transparency in everything I do. Those traits aren't new - Lee Guillory, Dee Christian, and our past exalted rulers have done things that way, too. This lodge is special in that regard, and I intend to keep everything rolling while tweaking things where we need to in order to make things better for all of us and those we serve.

April was incredible with steak night, karaoke, bunco, game night, lots of visiting campers, the initiation of several new members, increased roles for our chair officers, bingo sessions, and new shelves behind the bar. We'll keep the momentum going this month! Elks Kids' Day, the opening of our repainted pool, a STARC picnic, our annual Mother's and Father's Day joint celebration, a game night, a veterans' luncheon, Memorial Day, spaghetti with a DJ, a performance by Witness, the start of our lounge bathroom renovations, and, of course, more bingo!

I can't stop smiling. Every time I turn around, I see our Elks doing great works of all types, but mainly supporting our community, helping each other, displaying kindness, and exhibiting brotherly love. Each of you is special, our lodge is special, and I can't thank you enough for allowing me to be a small part of your lives.

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

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

In March our lodge celebrated a very successful 2024 year. Congratulations to our award winners. Elk of the year, Baldo Albrecht, Elk Officer of the year Jimmy Crippin, Elkette of the year, Brandi Rousset, Auxiliary Officer of the year Tina Guillory. All awards were well deserved.

Save the date for our annual Auxiliary Fundraiser dance to be held July 26, 2025, 8: to 11:00. Music by Witness. The theme is Flower Power. The fashion if you choose is tie dye hippy style. We really don't care what you wear. We just want you to come and enjoy a fun evening with us. tickets are \$25 each. cash bar only.

I would like to thank the following ladies for coming out to make 15 beautiful floral center pieces for the State Convention. Barbara Albrecht, Mary Clark, Carol Graff, Lynn Bergeron, Cathy Neight and Christy Masson. Great job ladies!

The Elks are hosting a Veterans luncheon on May 22nd from 10:30 to 1:30. They are in need of helpers for this event. Please sign up to help in the bar.

The Lodge will be jointly celebrating Mother's Day and Father's Day on Saturday May 17th at 1:00. The menu for the luncheon is baked ham, baked macaroni, sweet potato casserole, green beans, rolls and everyone's favorite cake by Miss Cheryl. Please sign up to attend in the bar by May 10th.

Youth Chairmen Charlesray is planning a STARC picnic on May 9th from 10: to 2 all help would be appreciated.

Our next meeting will be held on May 7th at 7:00. We will be awarding checks to our scholarship recipients. Please come to congratulate these accomplished young people.

Our Ekette of the month for May is a lady who is always willing to lend a hand. She shows up to decorate the hall for events, volunteers to prepare food, is a talented florist who lent her know how to make center pieces for the State Convention and is someone I count on for advice. Congratulations and thank you Barbara Albrecht.

Wishing Happy Birthday and many more to Lynn Bergeron
Hope to see everyone at our May meeting!

Judy Hanrahan - Auxiliary President



ELK OF THE MONTH FOR MAY ERIC BURLEIGH, JR.

Eric has taken on a leading role as Assistant Bingo Manager, working nearly 100 bingo sessions per year; performing quarterly bingo inventories with Lee; participating and calling bingo for veterans' luncheons; visiting veterans in nursing homes and assisted living centers, as well as enjoying lodge banquets and our many social events. Laurie Burleigh is now an Auxiliary Officer for 2025-26 and accompanies Eric at all events. Thank you both for your hard work and dedication!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7,14,21 & 28 – Wednesday Bingo
May 2,9,16,23 & 30 – Friday Bingo
May 4 – Elks Kids Day & Pool Opens
May 5 – Board of Directors & Auxiliary Meetings
May 9 – STARC Summer Picnic
May 13 & 27 – Lodge Meetings
May 17 – Mother's Day & Father's Day Luncheon
May 17 – Game Night in the Lounge
May 22 – Veterans Luncheon
May 24 – Spaghetti Dinner & DJ Donna Smith
May 25 – Memorial Day Picnic & BBQ
May 31 – Dance with Witness
June 4,11,18 & 25 – Wednesday Bingo
June 6,13,20 & 27 – Friday Bingo
June 14 – Flag Day & Celebration
June 28 – Game Night
July 4 – Fireworks
Join us at the lodge!

LOUISIANA ELKS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

The 89th Louisiana Elks Association (LEA) state convention will be held June 6-8, 2025, at the Hotel Bentley, 200 Desoto Street, Alexandria, LA. The deadline to register is May 23rd. There is no late or "day of" registration this year. The convention is open to all Elks and their guests, but everyone must register by the May 23 deadline. The \$75 registration fee includes a Friday night block party with a buffet dinner and DJ, as well as the Saturday evening awards banquet. The Hotel Bentley has established a room block for the Louisiana Elks that is available on a first-come, first-served basis until May 23rd. The discounted rate for a room with a king bed is \$129. For a double-queen room, the rate is \$139. Let's have a great showing from our lodge to honor outgoing State President Wayne Landry and his officers! Call Wayne or Jimmy for registration forms or additional information.

ELKS NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

As requested by the Grand Exalted Ruler, the first week in May is designated as Elks National Youth Week. This week is set aside to honor the outstanding youth in our community. Our Lodge will kick off Youth Week with our youth picnic and pool opening on Sunday, May 4. The lodge will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and fountain drinks. Come out with the family for a fun-filled day!

On Friday, May 9, we will host the STARC "kids" for their summer picnic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. These loving individuals love to visit our beautiful grounds and enjoy our attention. Please join us in helping serve hamburgers and hot dogs and entertaining our guests.

SWIMMING POOL AND SWIMMING LESSONS

At our pool opening during the May 4 Kids' Day, members can pay their annual pool dues of \$60. This small amount covers the member's entire family! The pool was fully drained, cleaned, renewed, painted and refilled in April. Come see it on Kids' Day and enjoy the fun!

Worried that your kids aren't swimmers? A free swim camp conducted by Cheryl Quinn will be held at the Lodge June 10-14 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. You may sign up at Elk Kids Day on May 4, which is also the official opening of the Lodge pool. The fees are \$15 per person up to \$60 per family. These fees are used to defray the costs of maintaining the pool. Guest fees are \$3 per person, per day.

RENOVATIONS

The board authorized a round of renovations for the lounge during its April meeting. The women's and men's lounge restrooms will be fully renewed using approximately \$54,000 in lodge operating funds. A dozen new bar stools will be purchased for just over \$100 each. These improvements follow the renovations to the hall bathrooms and the hall anteroom which have garnered only positive comments from the Elks members and auxiliary, bingo patrons, hall renters and guests. The hall renovations were completed using bingo charitable gaming funds.

LOUNGE GAME NIGHT

Our next Game Night in the Lounge will be on Saturday, May 17, starting at 7:00 p.m. Join your fellow Elks for a great evening filled with laughs, good times, and a little competitive fun. The bar will be open and a

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) Rueggar

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 Gullory

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.



Attendance Jackpot

We have a winner!! Guy Landry was present on April 8 when his name was pulled for the attendance jackpot! The pot starts over with the April 22 meeting. All members who register before a regular lodge meeting with a one-dollar donation and are present at the meeting are eligible to win that day's attendance jackpot. Congratulations, Guy!!

Special thanks for these special donations: Marvin Fontenot – 8 wooden whiskey barrel planters; Aaron Moreau – 35 gallon RV portable waste tote; James Gilleland – 2 RV portable waste totes; John Raymond – TroyBilt riding mower & 4-foot table; EJ Majoue, Jr. – 100 concrete landscaping blocks.

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. The dart boards, pool tables, board games, and other entertaining options will be available. Let's build on our April game night and continue to grow our fellowship!

2024-2025 ELKS NATIONAL FUND (ENF) RESULTS

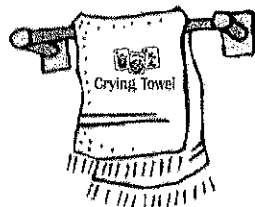
The ENF year runs in parallel with the Elks membership year – April 1 through March 31. Per capita giving numbers are calculated based on each lodge's membership as of April 1 each year. The Slidell Elks donated \$13,458.11 during the 2024-2025 ENF year. Based on 209 members, we finished with a per member average of \$64.393. Amazing! We led the Louisiana lodges in both total amount and per member giving (exceeding the donations of the other 7 lodges combined) and we finished 26th nationally in per member giving. Our contributions will help the Elks national programs and our lodge will be recognized with grants from the Grand Lodge that will help us support local youth and veterans. Well done and thank you to all who have supported and continue to support ENF!!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Oh, no. We made a huge mistake. After we sent out the membership renewal notices, we received word of an insurance cost increase from the Grand Lodge. Instead of \$130, the 2025-2026 membership charge is actually \$138.50. Members should have received a letter asking for their continued support to the lodge by providing an additional \$8.50 in cash or check to cover their membership. We truly regret the error. Please contact Jimmy or any officer or trustee with any questions or concerns. Please see Marvin to learn how to bring your friends into Elkdom.

WELCOME BACK TO OUR SECRETARY AND TREASURER

We welcomed back our elected secretary and elected treasurer last month. Both secretary Wayne Landry and treasurer Jan McAllister returned to their lodge duties as they continued to improve and recover from medical issues. Thank you, Wayne and Jan, for all you do and your continued service to the lodge and your fellow Elks!



"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.



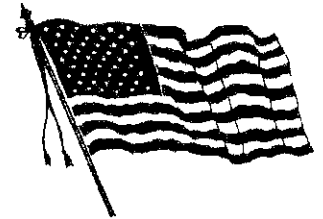
If you have any questions, contact Star (985.634.0082).

Approximately 54 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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May 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Start of New Elks Year		Youth Week 1 May 1-7 Bayou Elks Campers	Bingo 2 7:00 PM Kitchen: Randy H Bayou Elks Campers	Pavillion Reserved 3 Bayou Elks Campers Crawfish Boil All Day
YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK						
Elks Kids Day 4 Pool Opens Free hamburgers, hot dogs, fountain drinks Bayou Elks Campers	Auxiliary & Board Meeting 5 7:00 PM Troops 315B - 315 G 7:00 - 8:00 PM		Bingo 7 11:30 AM Kitchen: René		Bingo 9 7:00 PM Kitchen: Tina STARC Picnic 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Hall Rental 10 Chris Battle 6:00-10:00 PM Youth Room Reserved Troops 315B & 315G Patrol Leader Training 9 AM - 4 PM
YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK - YOUTH WEEK						
Happy Mother's Day 11		Vote Meeting 13 7:00 PM	Bingo 14 11:30 AM Kitchen: René		Bingo 16 7:00 PM Kitchen: Christy / Sam	Pavillion Reserved 17 Dennis Burke 12:00 PM - Until Mother's / Father's Day 1 PM - 3 PM Game Night Lounge 7 - 10 PM
Pavillion Reserved Class Reunion All Day 18			Bingo 21 11:30 AM Kitchen: Randy H.	Veterans Luncheon 22 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM	Bingo 23 7:00 PM Kitchen: Dee / Wanda	Youth Room 24 Rental & Pool Party Leslie Mizell 12 - 4 PM Orientation - 6 PM Spaghetti Dinner & DJ Donna Smith 6 - 10 PM
Elks Memorial Day Picnic & BBQ Pool & Waterslide 25	Memorial Day Holiday 26	Initiation Meeting 27 7:00 PM	Bingo 28 11:30 AM Kitchen: Randy H.		Bingo 30 11:30 AM Kitchen: Randy B.	Pavillion/Grounds 31 Slidell PD Family Crawfish Boil 8 AM - 3 PM Dance with Witness 7:00 PM