



Deep Creek Elks #2763 The Bugle

July 2026

From Our Exalted Ruler

Members,

We continue to march forward with another great month of participation from our members. Thank you! Your enthusiasm, support, and involvement are what make our Lodge such a special place, and we truly appreciate all that you do.



July promises to be even better, so buckle up and hang on! We kick off the month with a fantastic celebration of the 250th Birthday of our great country, featuring a weekend filled with top-notch entertainment, delicious food, and plenty of fun. Be sure to include your Lodge in your holiday celebration plans!

Keep an eye out for details on other exciting events you won't want to miss this month, including Christmas in July, a Sunset Cruise, our first-time partnership with the Animal Welfare League for "Yappy Hour," the return of Lady Z and the Suncoast Swing, and an exciting performance by YA YA Diamond and the Dream Chasers.

Please remember that many of these incredible events help support our charitable programs, and we look forward to your generous participation and support. Together, we continue to make a positive difference in our community.

And don't forget about our daily bar games and activities that provide fun and fellowship throughout the week.

Your team of officers, trustees, volunteers, and the LOE are working hard every day to make your time at the Lodge enjoyable and rewarding. Thank you for being part of what makes this Lodge great, and we look forward to seeing you throughout July!

Ladies of the Elks Check In

Happy July,

The Ladies are busy planning exciting events for this Fall.

In the meantime, get out of the heat and join us for Show Me the Money on Mondays at 2 p.m. Remember, proceeds from the game go toward scholarships for Charlotte Technical College in Port Charlotte.



Fourth of July is right around the corner. Lots of fun is planned at the Lodge.

Our next LOE meeting is July 9 at 11 a.m. in the Veterans' Room. The meeting is open to all lady Elks, spouses of Elks and widows of Elks. Hope to see you then.

Fraternally,
Pam

House Committee Report To Members

House Committee Update – Deep Creek Elks #2763

Your House Committee and Events Team have been working overtime to address your comments and suggestions while continuing to bring a variety of new events, entertainment, and activities to the Lodge for your enjoyment.



We appreciate the feedback you provide and are committed to making continuous improvements to enhance your Lodge experience. In July, you will see additional changes to our menu based directly on member input. We hope these updates reflect your preferences and provide even more reasons to gather with friends and fellow members at the Lodge.

We also hope you are enjoying our expanded communications through The Bugle, This Week at Your Elks Lodge, and our Facebook posts. Our goal is to keep everyone informed and connected with all the exciting things happening at the Lodge.

Be sure to keep an eye out for details and updates on the many events planned this month. Whether you're looking for great entertainment, fun social activities, opportunities to support our charitable programs, or simply a chance to enjoy fellowship with friends, July has something for everyone.

Here are just a few of the events you won't want to miss:

- July 3rd to 5th - 250th Birthday Celebration of America Weekend

- July 14th - Double Trouble and Dinner to follow to support our Children's Youth Camp (2 pm start time)
- July 25th - Christmas in July
- July 26th - Sunset Cruise
- July 27th - Yappy Hour with the Animal Welfare League
- July 30th - Lady Z and the Suncoast Swing (Ticketed Event)
- July 31st - YA YA Diamond and the Dream Chasers (Ticketed Event)

As always, come out and ENJOY!

Respectfully,

Your House Committee and Events Subcommittee

Board Of Directors Report To Membership

Dear Members of Deep Creek Elks Lodge #2763,

The Board of Trustees would like to share an update on the significant progress made over the past several months to improve, protect, and modernize our Lodge. Our goal has remained consistent: to manage costs responsibly while addressing long-overdue infrastructure needs that ensure the Lodge remains safe, efficient, and welcoming for all members.



Recent Accomplishments

Through careful planning and competitive contracting, the Board has completed the following major projects:

1. Full Lodge Re-Plumbing—The Lodge will undergo a complete plumbing overhaul to correct long-standing leaks and failures. This work included repairs and replacements in the kitchen, bar, and all three bathrooms; installation of new sinks and faucets; repair of the water fountain; extension of gas flex lines for the kitchen fryers; and replacement of the missing outdoor faucet.
2. Repair of All Exterior Entrance Doors—All three Lodge entrance doors were repaired to eliminate air leaks. Members may notice that you can no longer see daylight through the center seams—an important improvement that will help reduce air-conditioning loss and lower utility costs.
3. WiFi System Upgrades—We are actively improving the Lodge's WiFi performance. New, higher-capacity signal boosters have been purchased and will be installed in strategic locations to ensure stronger and more reliable coverage throughout the building.
4. Professional Cleaning Services—The Lodge has contracted with a new professional cleaning company. Their first task is a comprehensive deep cleaning of the entire facility. Following that, a professional crew will clean the Lodge six nights per week to maintain a consistently high standard of cleanliness.

Looking Ahead

While we are proud of the progress made, there is still more work to be done to keep our Lodge operating efficiently and cost-effectively. One of the next major projects under consideration is the repair and improvement of the parking lot. We have also not forgotten the Tiki project. As funds become available, the Board will continue evaluating these and other necessary upgrades.

We appreciate your continued support as we work to preserve and enhance the Lodge for the benefit of all members. Together, we are ensuring that Deep Creek Elks Lodge #2763 remains a place we can all be proud of.

Fraternally,
Lou Polito
Chairman Board of Trustees

Flag Day

If you missed our Flag Day Celebration, you missed an extraordinary commemorative ceremony.

Our ER Jed Koontz presided over the presentation of the flags. One by one, members of the Ladies of the Elks solemnly placed each flag in its place, beginning with the 1775 Pine Tree Flag and ending with our 50-star flag today and the POW-MIA Flag.

Treasurer Jeff Kempton recited the meaning of the 13 folds when a flag is folded and officially presented while Richard Deschamps and Ashley Deschamps Gildart executed each step. (See below for details,)



Folds of Our Flag

The 13 folds of the American flag—often seen at military funerals and ceremonies—transform the flag into a tight, triangular blue field of stars, resembling a cocked hat. While not written into official U.S. Flag Code, the ceremonial meaning of each fold is deeply cherished.



The meanings for each of the 13 folds are:

1. Life: Symbolizes life and the preciousness of it.
2. Eternal Life: Signifies a belief in eternal life.
3. Veterans: Honors and remembers veterans who have departed and given a portion of their lives for the country's defense.
4. Human Weakness: Represents our human weakness and serves as a reminder to turn to divine guidance in times of peace and war.
5. Tribute to the Country: Acknowledges and pays tribute to the United States.
6. Hearts and Allegiance: Honors where one's heart lies when pledging allegiance to the flag.
7. Armed Forces: A tribute to the military that protects the country against all enemies.
8. Those Who Passed: Honors those who faced death for the sake of others' freedom and mothers for whom the flag flies.
9. Womanhood: A tribute to women and mothers, whose devotion has shaped the character of the country.
10. Fatherhood: Pays tribute to fathers who have given their children for the protection and defense of the country.
11. Jewish Heritage: Represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon.
12. Christian Belief: Represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
13. In God We Trust: Completes the process and, with the stars uppermost, recalls the national motto, "In God we trust."



HELPING OUR VETERANS

Veterans Village in Punta Gorda needed help and members of Deep Creek Elks #2763 rose to the occasion.

We collected about \$2,000 in donated cleaning products, personal hygiene necessities, underwear and socks and, an added bonus, a couple of walkers and a shower chair.

Pictured below are:

Treasurer Jeff Kempton and ER Jed Koontz (top photo, left) with one of two fully loaded vehicles ready to go; Jed Koontz, ER, Leonard Raymond, a Village resident, and Jeff Kempton, treasurer

(top photo, right);

Jeff Kempton, Kaymeron Smith, clinical coordinator Veterans Village, Janie Williams, nursing home administrator, Melvin Boyd, program manager Veterans Village, Barbara Wastart, Lodge communications director, Pam Setchell, LOE president, Randy Ferguson, maintenance manager Veterans Village, and Jed Koontz, (bottom, left);

Jeff Kempton, Melvin Boyd, Jed Koontz and Randy Ferguson (bottom right).



Punta Gorda Veterans Village (1250 Taylor Street, #322, Punta Gorda) provides safe, stable transitional housing and comprehensive supportive services for Veterans experiencing homelessness in Charlotte County.

COLOR MY WORLD



Deep Creek Elks Lodge 2763 donated 250 coloring books to Drug Free Charlotte County, Port Charlotte, FL.

Cindy King, prevention program manager for the non-profit Drug Free Charlotte County, accepted the coloring books at the Deep Creek Lodge on June 8. King will distribute the books at libraries in Punta Gorda, Englewood and Port Charlotte throughout the summer.

"Kids start to become curious about drugs right around age 10 and 11," King said. "It usually starts with vaping, which they see around them, then progresses to marijuana and stronger drugs. Some

Jed Koontz, ER, and Barbara Wastart, Lodge communications director, (right) presented Cindy King, program manager for Drug Free Charlotte County with 250 coloring books.

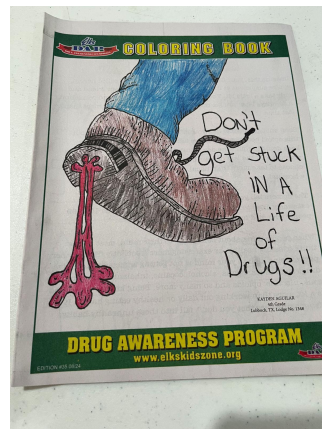
of them start vaping in school. They think it's not a drug, but it's addictive.

"When they come to the table to get a coloring book, it gives me a chance to talk to their parents

or guardians, many times their grandparents, about drug awareness and drug prevention. Many parents aren't aware their children are curious about drugs at that age, but they are."

The coloring books were made available from the Florida State Elks Association.

Shown below: the coloring book cover (left) and some happy kids ready to get drawing.



Please Consider Contributing

Christmas

IN JULY

WE NEED YOU!

STEP FORWARD TO SPONSOR
A SILENT AUCTION BASKET!

Funds raised at this event will be
used to improve facilities at
DEEP CREEK ELKS #2763.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE REACH OUT
ON OUR FB PAGE AND SOMEONE
WILL GET BACK WITH YOU.

JULY 25
A FUNDRAISER FOR
DEEP CREEK ELKS
#2763

PEACE
JOY
ELKS

MERRY
&
BRIGHT

THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING
OUR LODGE!

Sunset Cruise

ON THE
KING FISHER FLEET

Join Us
FOR A BEAUTIFUL EVENING
ON THE WATER!
Out of Fisherman's Village.

WHEN:
Sunday, July 26
7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

PLEASE ARRIVE:
By 6:30 P.M.
At Fisherman's Village.

ONLY
SOFT-SOLED
SHOES
ALLOWED

INCLUDES
LITE BITES

CASH BAR
AVAILABLE

NO SMOKING
OR VAPING
ON BOARD

A Perfect
Evening on
the Water!

MAXIMUM OCCUPANCY:
120 GUESTS
SO GET YOUR TICKETS SOON!

THIS IS A FUNDRAISER
for local charities.

\$35 PP

INCLUDES LITE BITES,
WITH CASH BAR

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
AT THE BAR!

Relax, unwind, and enjoy a beautiful sunset on the water!

Don't Miss The Festivities In July

Watch Facebook for details about our Christmas in July, Sunset Cruise
and dining specials.

Find the lineup of entertainment listed and "git on that dance floor."

Tell Us What You Think

You have thoughts. Ideas. Things you wish took place at the Lodge.

Things you think would be better if...

We want to hear from you. Good or bad, crazy or sane.

We're open to any and all ideas and will consider them all.

Send an email to the board secretary -- secretary.elks2763@gmail.com.

Or you can simply click [here](#) to begin.

Want to remain anonymous? Write it down, slip it to a bartender, or slide it under the office door. We want to hear from you.

SUMMER HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

TUESDAY 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

1ST & 3RD THURSDAY MEETINGS - CLOSE AT 9:00 P.M.

FRIDAY 12:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

SATURDAY 2:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

SUNDAY 12:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

 JULY 2026 ACTIVITIES EVENTS ENTERTAINMENT 6-9P Fri & Sat 2-5P Sun LUNCH Monday - Friday 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. DINNER Tuesday, Friday, Saturday 4:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 DAV Consulting 11a Vets Support Grp 11a	2 BARGO 2p	3 BAR GAME 1p Hot Rod Hearts	4 250 WEEKEND CELEBRATION Lynn & Judy
5 250 WEEKEND CELEBRATION Pop Rox BOWLING 1p	6 SMT\$\$ 2p	7 DOUBLE TROUBLE 1p	8 Vets Support Grp 11a CORNHOLE 2p	9 LoE 11a BARGO 2p Orientation 6p	10 BAR GAME 1p TAT 2	11 Taylor & Taylor
12 BOWLING 1p	13 SMT\$\$ 2p Line Dance Lessons 4p	14 MEGA DOUBLE TROUBLE 2p Pulled Pork Sandwich FUNDRAISER	15 Vets Support Grp 11a Vets Bingo 12p CORNHOLE 2p	16 BARGO 2p Initiation 7p	17 BAR GAME 1p Holly Rae	18 Patti & Johnny
19 BOWLING 1p	20 SMT\$\$ 2p TRIVIA 6p	21 DOUBLE TROUBLE 1p KARAOKE 5:30p	22 Vets Support Grp 11a CORNHOLE 2p	23 BARGO 2p	24 BAR GAME 1p Take 3	25 CHRISTMAS IN JULY Hot Rod Hearts
26 BOWLING 1p SUNSET CRUISE FUNDRAISER 6:30P	27 SMT\$\$ 2p YAPPY HOUR AWL Fundraiser 4p	28 DOUBLE TROUBLE 1p EUCHRE 5:30	29 Vets Support Grp 11a CORNHOLE 2p	30 BARGO 2p VBA SPEAKEASY SOIREE 6p	31 BAR GAME 1p Ya Ya DIAMOND & DREAM CHASERS 6p	
 Good Friends GREAT TIMES! RESERVATIONS PLEASE: 239-413-8244 20 MINUTE TABLE HOLD  FB Deep Creek Elks Lodge #2763						

Calendar subject to change.

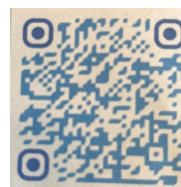
Are You Missing All The Fun?

Keep up with what's happening at the Lodge every day and every weekend. Follow our NEW Facebook page.

Search for Deep Creek Elks Lodge #2763 or click [HERE](#) to take you to our page.

Remember to click the FOLLOW button.

Or use this QR code:



Important Contact Information

Reservations ONLY

239-413-8244

Office: Lodge business

941-764-6925

House Committee:

Answering Machine for booking parties and bands

941-249-8067

Bar ONLY

941-764-6825

Check our public Facebook page

(Deep Creek Elks Lodge #2763) for event information.

Deep Creek Elks Lodge 2763 | 1133 Capricorn Blvd. | Punta Gorda, FL 33983 US

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