

THE LODGER

April 2023



Exalted Ruler Report

Welcome to our new year and I am so honored to be your Exalted Ruler for 2023-2024. We have some exciting plans for our lodge this year. We have many new officers and committee chairperson to help keep our lodge full of new and exciting things to do. Thank you to all of the officers and committee chairpersons for stepping up and volunteering this year. I also want to thank the outgoing officers and committee chairs on a job well done last year. And we want YOU our members to come join us and become involved and have a fun year!!

Remember when you joined this lodge, and you stood in front of the altar and took the obligation? YOU joined for many reasons...you wanted to help the lodge, our community, our veterans, and our kids. So, let's get back involved this year!!

We need YOU our members to help us help our community. We need YOU our members to get involved with a committee or help run an event to raise funds for our lodge and our charities. We have several committees to chose from....Veterans, Sweetheart (the kids), Membership, Hoop Shoot, and Youth....just to name a few. All the committees are located the lodge leadership page of the lodger with the name/phone number of the committee chairperson so you can call so say HEY, I WANT TO HELP, or HEY, I HAVE A GREAT IDEA!!

As you can see our theme this year is involvement and teamwork. One person cannot put on an event at this lodge by themselves as it takes a TEAM to make an event happen. So come on down to the lodge to say Hello and find out what we have going on and if you would like to help or just come have some fun at all the new and exciting things happening this year.

One of our first exciting items for this year that we got started last year (Thanks BOD!!) is a brand new POOL!! Yes, you heard that correctly!! It should be finished soon, and boy do we need to have one heck of a pool opening party. Be sure to come out to join us for this event to help break in the new pool. We have posted some pictures of the on-going construction within the lodge. More information to come so stay tuned.

We are also going to open our Kitchen to all our fabulous cooks out there in Elksdom. The 1st and 4th Friday of each month will be open to YOU to decide what YOU want to cook and serve that night. Look for more details in the "What's on the burner" section of our lodger. I also want to thank Jeremy and Jean Banks for cooking and being the DJ Karaoke for the ER Party in March. And WOW, we need to have a talent show as we had some amazing singers during the party. What a great event to show everyone what TEAMWORK is all about.

During April, we have many events going on at the lodge. We have our Gulf Coast District Interlodge April 15th and 16th. A very good way to see how all the lodges within our District work together. These meetings are open to all to attend. On April 22nd, Jean Banks our Sweetheart is having a Rib Sale and game day. Place your orders early to ensure you get one of those fingers licking good racks of ribs. We have our annual 3 day Blessing of the Fleet starting April 28th with a Sweetheart Scavenger Hunt Pub Crawl and Saturday our Gumbo cook off and car show. Can't wait to taste of the varieties of gumbo being cooked. We finish off on Sunday with the traditional Blessing of the Boats parade at the Kemah Boardwalk. See flyers within the lodger for more information on all of these events. A full month of fun things to do!!

Come on down and meet all of our new officers and committee chairpersons for this year. We would love to see you and say Hello! And remember to bring a friend.

It takes ALL OF US to Make a Difference! TOGETHER, WE ARE ONE!

Fraternally Yours,
Debbie "DK" Kuhnley
Exalted Ruler, Clear Lake Elks Lodge #2322
713-817-0423
DLK7717@aol.com



Lodge Leadership

Lodge Officers 2023-2024

Exalted Ruler: Debbie Kuhnley	713-817-0423
Leading Knight: Becky Jordan	713-865-0244
Loyal Knight: Terri Fisk	832-867-1547
Lecturing Knight: Ted Blanchard	713-412-5895
Secretary: Leisa McLeod	281-389-3161
Treasurer: Debbie Carmichael	713-862-5403
Tiler: Jack McLeod	281-334-9295
Chaplain: Marinda Haberer	713-385-2178
Inner Guard: Monica Blanchard	281-732-8525
Esquire: Bobby Griffin	281-786-9771
5th Year Trustee: Don Carmichael	832-212-1456
4th Year Trustee: Scott Thompson	832-743-1108
3rd Year Trustee: Dean Holtke	713-416-5726
2nd Year Trustee: Jeremy Banks	281-781-6089
1st Year Trustee: Jim Ott	713-829-2199

Committee Chairs 2023-2024

House Committee: Bobby Griffin	281-786-9771
Bar Manager: Elizabeth Buechier	832-961-0917
Auditing Chair: Carol Thompson	281-638-3399
Accident Prevention: Scott Thompson & Don Carmichael	
Americanism: John Anderson	281-910-5940
Government Relations: Debbie Kuhnley	713-817-0423
Hoop Shoot: Ted Blanchard	713-412-5895
Lodge Activities/Calendar: Debbie Carmichael	713-862-5403
TECSI Grants/Chairman: Debbie Kuhnley	713-817-0423
Elks National Foundation: Dean Holtke	713-416-5726
Flag Day: John Anderson	281-910-5940
Golf Committee: Trey Bobbitt	901-413-8166
Lodge Bulletin: Robin Houghton	409-267-7168
Mediator: Renay Bennett	713-832-7955
Membership: Debbie Carmichael	713-862-5403
Orientation: Debbie Carmichael/Becky Jordan	
PER President: Robin Houghton	409-267-7168
Presiding Justice: Lowell Neinast	281-380-8203
Pool Committee: Jeremy Banks	281-781-6089
Public Relations: Becky Jordan	713-865-0244
Sweetheart/Red Pigs: Jean Banks	972-571-7405
Ritual: John Dodson	281-253-0942
Scholarships: Mike Gannon	832-340-3795
Veterans: Leisa McLeod	713-882-5403
Webmaster: Robin Houghton	409-267-7168
Youth Activities: Ted Blanchard	713-412-5895

Best wishes for a Great Year!



Congratulations to the
2023-2024 Officers





Secretary's Corner

Hello my fellow Elks! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know how excited I am to be your new secretary. This is going to be a fantastic and exciting year!

The Secretary's office hours will be Tuesday, 10am-2pm and Wednesday, 7pm-9pm. I am always available via email at secretary2322@gmail.com, or via text at (281) 389-3161.

I will attempt to answer all questions or inquires in a timely fashion, but please be patient with me as I learn the ropes.

Our card readers will soon be changed and will only accept new membership cards. If you have not received your new membership card or haven't paid your 2023 - 2024 dues, I encourage you to do so, as you will need your new card to enter the building. We don't want any Elk to be unable to enter the building.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank past secretary Kristine Eads for the time she has taken with my training. Thank you, Kristine!

Fraternally,
Leisa McLeod, Secretary



I would like to invite any Elk interested in helping with our veterans to attend our first Veterans Committee meeting Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 pm.

This will be a brain storming session to plan activities, events, and fund raising for lodge veteran's events. All are welcome and we need your input!

We have two community veteran events scheduled for this year. Sailing Angels, Saturday, October 2 when we supply lunch and activities for approximately 250 veterans after Hydro Therapy and Salute to Military Service Friday, November 3 (dinner) and Sunday, November 5 (Brunch) for an estimated 150 veterans. We are working on grants for these two events.

I am excited to make this a great year for our Elk and community veterans!

Leisa McLeod, Veterans Chair



Sweetheart Beats



My name is Jean and I am the new Clear Lake Elks 2322 lodge sweetheart. I am so excited and honored to represent our lodge and help raise funds for the Texas Elks Camp. I have a strong passion for special needs children since I am currently an elementary intervention teacher for students who struggle with academics and/or behavior. I am also the case manager for students who are going through the referral process for special education testing on my campus.

I want to thank everyone who came out to the first sweetheart committee meeting in March and hope to see everyone again on Thursday April 13th. We will take some time to finalize plans for our April events as well as discuss some summer ideas utilizing our new pool. We will have some upcoming raffles/auctions so please consider donating items that can be used to raise funds. If you are unable to attend the committee meetings, please always feel free to share sweetheart fundraising ideas via phone, email, or when you see me in person.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year at our lodge and am so proud to be a member of 2322!

April Sweetheart Events:

April 22nd – Jeremy is cooking ribs! A full rack will be \$25 and will be ready for pickup between 2pm-5pm. Please preorder by texting or emailing me directly or there are sign-up sheets at the lodge. On this day, bring a full red pig and receive a drink from the bar on me!!

April 28th – Join us for the Blessing of the Fleet Pub Crawl. We will meet at the lodge between 6-7 pm and we will be having a team photo scavenger hunt at local bars for prizes. Immediately following the pub crawl, Jeremy will be hosting another fun night of karaoke at the lodge to keep the party going.

Reach out to me anytime with any thoughts, ideas, or questions!

Jean

jean@horizoninvestments.cc

972-571-7405



Sweetheart Committee Meeting Thursday, April 13th @ 7:00 p.m.

SWEETHEART RIB SALE!
SAT, APRIL 22ND

PORK RIBS FULL RACK \$25.00
PICK UP FROM 2 - 5 P.M.
COME GET SOME AMAZING RIBS AND STAY FOR SOME GREAT FUN & GAMES.

TAKING PRE-ORDERS CONTACT JEAN OR JEREMY TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.
JEAN (972) 571-7405
JEREMY (817) 781-6089



BRING IN A FULL RED PIG BANK AND RECEIVE A FREE BEVERAGE COURTESY OF JEAN, SWEETHEART

WHAT'S ON THE BURNER

I want to introduce Jeremy Banks as our Kitchen Manager this year. He is gonna work hard to bring new and exciting events to our lodge and our kitchen. We have decided to try some new concepts and we are always open for suggestions this year. So come on down and have some dinner and lets us know what we can do for you.

We all have that one fabulous meal we all love to cook.....right? Well for some of you anyway....LOL What we would like to try is on the 1st and 4th Friday, we will have a signup sheet at the lodge for the open Kitchen nights that are available for you to cook your meal. You purchase the items you need to cook your meal, bring your receipts to the lodge to get reimbursed. Let Robin know the weekend before so she can let the lodge know on Monday during her video of "Awesome Elk News" and of course we will email out to the lodge who is cooking and what they are cooking. We normally serve anywhere from 15-20 meals on a Friday and its first come first serve for dinner.

The quantity of dinners many need to be increased depending on our membership coming back to the lodge to enjoy some good ole homemade cooking. We would like to keep the meal cost to around \$10-\$12 for the members of the lodge and guests.

Leisa McLeod team is taking the first weekend of April 7th to get us started. So the following Fridays are currently available and sign up is first come: May 5th - ?? May 26th - ?? June 2nd - Panama & Michelle are cooking!! June 23rd - ?? And basically the rest of the year.....come sign up before they are all taken!! Let us know if you have any questions - Debbie "DK" and Jeremy



FRIDAY NIGHT KITCHEN IN APRIL

- April 7th - Sweetheart/Veteran's Kitchen - Fish Dinners
- April 14th - PER Kitchen - Steak & baked potatoe or fish dinner
- April 21st - TMCA Night - Smoked chicken special
- April 28th - Blessing of the Fleet Pub Crawl - No Kitchen

All Menu Items are subject to change



'Zombie' drug raises alarms

By William J. Bryan, Acting Director Elks Drug Awareness Commission

While I would much rather talk about what the Elks are up to this month, I feel obligated to speak about what the drug traffickers are up to.

A veterinary sedative, xylazine, is being mixed with fentanyl and has found its way to America's streets. For several years, the Elks' DAP has been teaching kids about the dangers of fentanyl, and now it has become even more dangerous. Fentanyl, as we all know, is already 50 times more powerful than heroin.

Xylazine has been found laced in illicit injectable drugs, especially fentanyl. It's often referred to as "tranq" or "tranq dope" on the street. People who use it tend to slip into a state of unconsciousness for hours. The sedative effects of xylazine are so powerful that, for example, a person can suffocate if lying face down on a pillow!

The drug has also been linked to reports of skin abscesses, not unlike cases seen in other injectable drug users. In some instances, the wounds are so severe that amputations are necessary. Thus it is also known as a "zombie" drug.

Perhaps most alarming, this new cocktail of drugs is less resistant to Narcan, the nasal spray used for the treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose emergency.

Just when we think it's time to relax, we realize that those traffickers bent on destroying our youth keep us on guard. The Elks' DAP will always counter the bad with the truth.

Grand Lodge Article



Citizen of
the Year
2022 -
2023
Space City
Cruisers



Elk of the Year
2022 - 2023
Leisa McLeod
Officer of the
Year 2022 -
2023
Debbie
Carmichael

