

“A Fraternal Organization”

Jacksonville Elks



Lodge #221

June 2023

Vol. #132 - Issue #6

ELKSHORN

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



My fellow Elks,

Thank you for sending me to the State Convention. Had a fantastic time! Our lodge won 1st place again for the Lodge Bulletin Contes and 3rd place for membership gain. AJ Jones was recognized for his work with the drug awareness program and played a huge part in selecting the winner for our lodge 2022/2023 Enrique S. Camarena award. That recipient went on to win the State award.

In Elkdome one privilege of being an ER and a PER is giving the 11 O'clock toast. While reciting the correct words is important, delivery is just as important. This year our secretary Deb Reedy entered into the State 11 O'clock Toast Ritual Contest, practiced rigorously and won! While beating out many competitors, one who had placed 13th in nationals last year proves practice pays off! Earlier that day our new Florida State Elk President, Joe Cooper was installed, and Deb was given the honor to recite the very first 11 O'clock Toast under his new year. Huge congratulations to you Deb and we wish you the best in Nationals!

Flag day is an important celebration for Elkdome. This year we will be holding our Flag Day ceremony on Sunday, June 11th at 2pm I encourage every one of you to you to come down and witness our rendition of the history of the American Flags, followed by an American Flag retirement ceremony. The ceremony is informative, moving, and worth taking time out of your Sunday to come and participate. If you have any flags that are worn and tattered, please bring them so we can honorably dispose of them. Hope you can make it.

Calendar raffle is back for the month of July. Tickets are now being sold. If you did not get yours in the mail, please let Shannon Graham 845-866-9055 know and she will mail you more or stop by the lodge. There will be some at the bar.

June 18th is Father's Day. To all the dads and stepdads, enjoy your day.

In closing, please stay safe and remember, as long as there are Veterans, Elks will never forget them and never forsake them.

David Graham ER/PER

Cell: 845-798-9167

Davidgraham1968@yahoo.com





Jacksonville Elks Lodge Officers:

Exalted Ruler – David Graham PER
Leading Knight – Robin Pipkins
Loyal Knight – Brent Reedy
Lecturing Knight – Jim VanAken
Secretary - Deborah Reedy PER
Treasurer – Robbie Garland
Esquire – Karen Tracy
Chaplain – Carole Shapley PER
Inner Guard – Tony Langhals
Tiler - Stephen Wilson

3 Year Trustee - John Pipkins
2 Year Trustee - Jim Bryant PER
1 Year Trustee - William Watson PER

Scott Wilson PER/DDGER: Lodge Advisor
Presiding Justice: Erik Berger, Esquire
Mediator: David Levesque

Elk of the Year: Susan Harrell
Officer of the Year: Anthony Langhals

District Leaders:

Dayna Miller PER (Gainesville): District VP
Scott Wilton PER (Jacksonville): DDGER

Lodge Committees:

Auditing Committee

Ginger Moore - Chairperson
Rich Medley and Jack Ward PER

Public Relations Committee

Deborah Reedy PER - Chairperson

Activities Committee

Sarah Schillesinger - Chairperson

Community Activities: David Graham ER/PER

Drug Awareness: A.J. Jones

Youth Activities: Betsy Bryant

Hoop Shoot & Soccer Shoot: Brent Reedy

MVS Scholarship: William Watson PER

Fraternal Committee:

Karen Tracy - Chairperson

Americanism: Carla Rhymes – Chairperson,
Lonnie Foster PER and Tony Langhals
Elks National Foundation & HATF: Robin Pipkins
- Chairperson

Flag Day: Bob Morgan - Chairperson

Memorial Day: Bob Morgan - Chairperson

Membership: Susan Kelly Chairperson, Mary
Thornton and Deborah Reedy PER

Investigation: Loretta VanAken - Chairperson,
Carole Shapley and Shannon Graham

Orientation: - Chairperson Susan Kelly and
William Watson PER

Veterans Services: Karen Tracy Chairperson,
Susan Kelly and Tony Langhals

Additional Statutory Appointments

Accident Prevention: Donnie Rowand

PER Association: Scott Wilson PER

Ritualistic: William Steele

Government Relations: ER David Graham

Harry Anna-State Major Projects: Robin Pipkins

House Committee

Donnie Rowand, Chairman

Cathy Rowand

Ronnie Edge

Kathy Glass

Rod Kelley

Lois Price

Jim VanAken

Robin Pipkins

John Pipkins

Susan Harrell

Shannon Graham

Loretta VanAken

David Levesque

Building Maintenance

Donnie Rowand - Chair and Rod Kelley

Elkshorn Newsletter Editor

Deborah Reedy PER





Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler: Bruce A. Hidley

Honoring our Flag, remembering our fathers

The Esteemed Leading Knight's charge to our new Members opens with: "The Emblem of this station is the Flag of our country; and its motto is Charity, the cornerstone of every Elk structure, the highest virtue of every Elk creed." New Members listening to this charge may gain an understanding of what the Flag means to us as Elks.

Across our great country, Flag Day is observed on the 14th day of June each year to honor and commemorate the adoption of the American Flag. The Second Continental Congress adopted this date in 1777, and President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1916 establishing June 14 as national Flag Day.

In our great Order of Elks, the Grand Lodge, by Resolution, designated June 14 as Flag Day. In 1911, the Grand Lodge adopted a mandatory observance of Flag Day in all of our Lodges.

Americans celebrate Flag Day by displaying the red, white, and blue in front of homes and businesses. Flag Day events are held by Lodges all across our great country with ceremonies, parades, essay contests, and, most importantly, our Elks Flag Day Ceremony. The American Flag is the emblem of the "land that I love." Our Flag symbolizes the land of the free and home of the brave for all Americans.

June also has another special day for all of us as we honor and celebrate Father's Day. This year the holiday falls on Sunday, June 18. No matter how far away you may be, take the time to reach out and say happy Father's Day. This is not only a special day for your father but it is also special for your grandfather, your great-grandfather, your brother, and your special uncle. Happy Father's Day.

June is the beginning of our summer months. Children are home from school, graduation ceremonies are held, and families begin summer vacations. Celebrating our Flag and participating in June activities in our homes and at our Lodges truly show "Elks Care — Elks Share." I encourage each of you to continue "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" by bringing joy, happiness, love and lots of sunshine to one another.

God bless all of you. God bless our troops, past and present. Most of all, God bless America.



From the Office of the Secretary

Dear Members,

Our Lodge meetings for June will be held on the 14th and the 28th at 7:00 PM. Please attend lodge meetings. Come and share your ideas.

Congratulations to our newest member Velda Tolson who was initiated on May 24, 2023! Please give her a warm wELKome when you see her in the lodge.



We are down to 61 members who have not paid their 2023-2024 dues! Thank you to every who has paid.

We've had an increase in members paying their dues online this year, which is a nice feature for our members. The website is: search.revopay.com/elkslodge. In the link, type in "Jacksonville" for your location and then select "Jacksonville Elks". You can choose to either set up a personal account or select 'Express Pay'. Through the help of a couple of members we have discovered that you need to leave off the preceding "0" of your membership number to find "you". There is a service fee when you pay online.

Reminder: Please add bpoe.221.elksnews@gmail.com to your email contact list to ensure you receive our weekly email blasts and the monthly newsletter and calendar.

Happy Father's Day to all our dads and grandfathers!

"Unity and Dedication Create Success"

State President – Danny Tabor

Deborah Reedy, PER
Jacksonville Lodge Secretary
Lodge: 904-721-1155
Cell: 518-791-1025





June's Elk of the Month chosen by ER David Graham

Elk of the Month goes to..... Ronnie Edge!

Congratulations Ronnie Edge on being Elk of the month! Thank you for all of your help with anything that has been asked and jumping right in to Elkdom! Volunteering to cook Friday night dinner, pizza night and helping out whomever and wherever is greatly appreciated. Enjoy that parking spot!



Upcoming Elk Events - Save the Date!

June 11 – Flag Day Ceremony at 2:00 PM. This event is open to everyone – please bring your family and friends!

June 13 – Bunco at 6:30 PM. \$5.00 to play. Cash Prizes!

Upcoming activities in the Fall in the planning process are a flower arrangement class, wreath making class, Luau, Low-Country Boil, 50's Sock Hop and more!



Veterans Services Report

Greetings Elks!

Operation Barnabas is one of the organizations our Committee selected to support the homeless veterans they work with as the veteran transitions to a more stable, healthy state. Founded in 2017 and grounded in faith, Operation Barnabas, which means "Son of Encouragement", assigns a mentor to work with the veteran in setting goals, securing transportation and finding employment. Their program assists both men and women veterans work through any mental or physical health issues, including Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), in their journey to wholeness. Providing immediate living locations, food and other daily necessities are just some of the services they provide. Additionally, in 2021, Fort Grace I was established in Clay County as a veteran housing community that has five small houses for Operation Barnabas occupants. Plans for Fort Grace II is in progress with work being done on the Middleburg property. We will be collecting food donations for Operation Barnabas during the month of June. Please be generous!

June is PTSD Awareness month, and veterans are at a higher risk of being diagnosed with PTSD due to deployments, training accidents and combat situations. PTSD impacted 11-20% of Iraq/Afghanistan War veterans, with 12% of Gulf War veterans experiencing this disorder. This diagnosis is not limited to our recent wars. Veterans from WWII and Vietnam have also been treated for PTSD. Original studies reported 15% of Vietnam Veterans diagnosed with PTSD; however, over time that number is estimated to be closer to 30%. The VA's statistics for women veterans are also slightly higher due to additional trauma from assault or harassment while serving in the military.

June 6	D-Day (1944)
June 12	Women Veterans Day
June 14	Army Birthday (1775)
June 14	Flag Day (1916)
June 27	National PTSD Day (2010)

Regards,
Karen Tracy
Veteran Services Committee Chair

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

Elks in Action!

Our Veteran Services Committee was able to deliver Welcome Home Kits to two veterans in March. Amon received a partial kit using donated funds to complete what he needed for his new place. Michael was exiting homelessness with essentially nothing, so we were able to provide a kit with all the household essentials, along with furniture that was donated from the Lodge and Lodge members. Also, food donations collected in the Lodge during March and April were directly donated to the NE Florida Women Veterans, Inc. in honor of Women's History Month. We collected 109 food items along with the two Aldi gift cards previously posted – THANK YOU ELKS!!





PER NEWS:

Six PERs were at the May meeting (*Bryant, DeCicco, Graham, Shapley, Steele, & Wilson.*) The PER Association continues its work on fund raising plans to replace the proceeds from the annual barbeque that will not be held this year due to higher costs amongst other issues. On the front burner is a reverse draw with David Graham & Dave Hosch heading up that committee. Other actions taking place at the May meeting was a vote to keep the meetings on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm, discussion on having a 'Cruzin Car Show' (*insurance issues to be investigated*), discussion on the holding events on the property with must have prior notification & approval, and disposition of the veteran's trailer that Jimmy Solana, PSP is working on.,

Jim Bryant informed the Association that the repairs or replacement of the PER Memorial fire pit would be completed within the next 90 days (*which has since been completed.*) 'Social Butterfly' Bill Steele reminded everyone about his annual 'Derby Day' party the 1st Saturday in May, it's always a fun non-political function with plenty of mint juleps & horse sense.

*Submitted by
Ralph DeCicco, PER*

Past PER Chairman Ralph DeCicco presented Stephen Wilson a new scroll saw at the last Lodge meeting in May to recognize Stephen for his dedication to the lodge and for his staying true to his responsibilities and duties this past year during some tough times.





Elks New Members Meet and Greet

May 21, 2023



Hello fellow Elks,

Our first ever Elks Jacksonville 221 new member meet and greet was a success. New members and seasoned members alike attended. The committee chairs gave a brief overview of their committee's goals. They also shared events from 2022 and upcoming events for their committees in 2023. It was a small but enthusiastic group.

The maintenance committee acquired two new members, which was very appreciated by Donnie Rowand.

We are planning on continuing the new member meet and greet. This year we will have two, one at mid-year and one after our year end in March.

Please keep this in mind and join us in welcoming our new members in 2023. Dates and times to follow as we get closer to midyear.

Susan Kelly
Membership Committee Chair
904-962-3961
suocean@comcast.net

**Elks
Do!**





Americanism Committee

Jacksonville Elks Lodge 221 visited Waterleaf Elementary School to promote Americanism among the Hard of Hearing and Deaf Class on Thursday April 6, 2023. We opened our presentation with the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. We taught the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance, flag etiquette, presented a Classroom Flag and Pledge Kits to each student which included a personal flag, flag stickers, activity worksheets and a take home flag lapel pin stapled to the Elks U.S.A "About our Flag" brochure to share with their parents. The children were excited to receive the flags and the Pledge of Allegiance memory worksheets so they can practice at home with family and memorize the Pledge of Allegiance. Our goal is to reinforce Americanism in our communities.

The lodge donated \$300.00 to jump start this program for the 2023-24 term and hope to accomplish a diverse impact for Americanism in our community.

Our goal was to stimulate and reinforce Americanism awareness in our communities, genuine respect and pride for patriotism with stepping-stones between schools, community and home.

When the children were asked what American Fun Fact, enjoyed the most. One child responded, "Don't put your flag on the closet floor with your stinky shoes". SUCCESS!

The American dream belongs to all of us.
Carla Rhymes - Chairperson





The American Dream belongs to all of us!
Continued.....

Jacksonville Elks Lodge 221 performed a 30-day followed up visit with Ms. Fernandez's Kindergarten and First Grade Class (Hard of Hearing and Deaf) at Waterleaf Elementary on May 4, 2023.

Previously we visited this Duval County Public School on April 6th to promote Americanism with a Class Room Flag and Pledge Kits. After a fun-filled 2-hour group session the children were excited to take home their very own personal American Flag and a Pledge of Allegiance memory worksheet to practice with their family. During our surprise visit we learned our goal to reinforce true American Patriotism in our community was accomplished.

We are thrilled to announce the majority of the class memorized the pledge from beginning to end. One of the students that required minimal assistance was upset and asked to try again. If that is not the perfect example of patriotic awareness and pride from a Kindergartener; then what is.

We are a distinctively an American organization and the youth of America is our oldest tradition. Jacksonville Lodge #221 is asking all Elks across the United States of America to quicken your spirit and be patriotic, children must know as much as they can about their country.

Remember they are not "JUST KIDS" they are our future leaders.

Carla Ray Rhymes



Photo left to right: Ms. Fernandez, Malachi Rackley, Jace Gibbs, Tyrelle Franklin, Eli Smith, Keilia Kwizera Jolly and Carla Ray Rhymes



02 Colin	Foster
02 Beverly	Harpas
03 Dixie	Wilfong
04 Judy	Lee
05 Bruce	Clark
05 John	Solomon
06 Dorothy "Jackie"	McCollough
06 Mary	Thornton
07 Lonnie	Foster PER
08 Susan	Harrell
08 Tim	Meusel
09 Ruth "Poofie"	Eggers
12 Michael	Kaminski
13 Melissa	Clark
13 Patrick	Dowd
13 Suzanne	Van De Kamp
15 James	Snow
17 Jerry	Igo PER
18 Andrew	Townsend
19 Daniel	Andrews
19 David	Levesque
20 William	Kuhn Jr.
23 Michael	Padgett
24 John	Bryant
24 Moneda	Ruble
27 Clinton	Irvine

**Our Birthday Celebration will be on
June 17th !
Please bring a dish to share.**

Thursday Nights! FUN Nights!!

See the Calendar for
Dates & Times!!

Always on a Thursday!

Bring your friends too for a
fun night!!

**"BINGO" June 1st & 15th
with Dixie!**

**And NEW...
"SHOW ME THE MONEY"
June 8th & 22nd
with Tina & Patsy!**



The ENF Fidelity Club



The Foundation's Monthly Giving Program

The easiest way to support the ENF all year round!

Do you contribute to the Elks National Foundation often? What if you could donate without having to think about it? Well, you can! Enroll today and become a member of the Fidelity Club—the ENF's monthly giving program.

Why Join the Fidelity Club?

- **Ease:** The ENF Fidelity Club recognizes automatic, regularly scheduled donations through your bank account or credit card. These donations occur monthly (minimum \$5).
- **Eco-Friendly:** Save a tree and save time with paperless donations!
- **Convenience:** No need to purchase stamps or mail a check. It takes just five minutes to sign up, and you're good to go!
- **Flexibility:** You can increase, modify, or cancel your gift at any time.
- **Security:** It's safe, reliable and allows the ENF to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission.

Ready to Join?

Becoming a member of the Fidelity Club is simple! Enroll online at enf.elks.org/recurring and start your gift today! If you prefer to sign up through the mail, we have enrollment forms in the social quarters.

Questions? Contact **Robin Pipkins** or ENF directly: enf@elks.org or 773/755-4728 for additional information about starting a monthly gift and joining the ENF Fidelity Club.

What are the Benefits?

The longer you are a member of the Fidelity Club, the more benefits you'll receive!

- **Fidelity Club Sticker:** Following your first monthly gift, you'll receive a special Fidelity Club sticker for your membership card, and your name will appear in the online [Fidelity Club Honor Roll](#). At the end of each calendar year, you'll receive a new sticker with your annual statement.
- **Fidelity Club Pin:** Once you've made 12 monthly gifts, you'll receive the ENF Fidelity Pin!
- **Pin Attachments:** Each time you reach an additional benchmark—starting at 25 monthly gifts—you'll receive a pin attachment to wear with your Fidelity pin. Additional attachments will be sent at 50 and 100 gifts.

Robin Pipkins

Lodge ENF Fundraising Chairperson



Support our Major Projects today!

**Your one-time donation goes
to help those in need.
Your recurring gift goes even
further. It's that simple.**



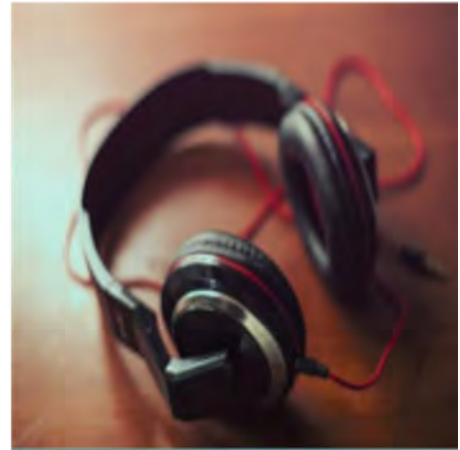
\$19

Can provide a pair of shoes for
a child in need at camp.



\$25

Can provide kid's therapy
writing curriculum.



\$50

Can help buy auditory
equipment for children with
Autism.

To Learn more visit:

www.floridaelks.org/camp

<https://www.elkstherapy.com/>

"Changing lives one mile at a
time"

Welcome to the Quarter Board!!

What is a Quarter Board?

Entertaining and engaging way to raise money for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund ("HATF") and the Elks National Foundation ("ENF").

How do I participate?

Pick up an empty plastic roll, write your name, initials, etc. on the label to identify your roll, and place the plastic roll inside the board. Empty your pockets and gradually fill up with your roll with quarters (only!) as you visit the Lodge and Social Quarters – every quarter counts!! Take 2 plastic rolls and label one for HATF and one for ENF!!

What happens when my quarter roll is full?

Your quarters will be rolled up and turned in for you to receive credit towards a donation.

Thank you!

Robin Pipkins
Harry-Anna State Major Projects
ENF Coordinator



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

The mission of the Elks National Foundation is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We help youth develop lifelong skills, send students to college, meet the needs of today's veterans, support the charitable work of the state Elks associations, and fund projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities.

Like all Elks, the Foundation values the belief that charity is the greatest of all virtues and that by sharing and giving, we have the power to replace sorrow and despair with hope and confidence. Donations to the Foundation help us fund programs that match our cornerstone values of knowledge, integrity and community.

HARRY-ANNA TRUST FUND

The Harry-Anna Trust Fund funds the two main charity projects of Florida Elks. The **Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services** and the **Florida Elks Youth Camp**.

The **Florida Elks Youth Camp** is dedicated to enriching the lives of children from the state of Florida. The Florida Elks Youth Camp is located on 405 acres of rolling hills, forests, lakes, and open space in Marion County, Florida.

Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services ("FECTS") provides in-home physical and occupational therapy to Florida children in need of such services and priority is given to children who do not have ready access to therapy as a result of financial considerations.

Services focus on child-centered treatment and family education. The program is based on the premise that skilled therapy services combined with the completion of an individualized home program, exercises and activities designed by the therapist will positively impact children and families. FECTS believes children and their families or caregivers need to be viewed in a holistic manner. The therapists are employed by the Florida Elks, licensed to practice in the state of Florida and treat children throughout the state covering most of its 67 counties.

Organ & Tissue Donation Program



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA has joined forces with Donate Life America to increase donations of organs, eyes and life-saving tissue.

The Grand Lodge, Fraternal Committee is asking Elks Lodges nationwide to promote the Organ Donor Program in their Lodge Bulletins and Lodge Web sites to help inspire members and citizens in their communities to make these life-saving donations.

Even though 95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor, only 54% of the U.S. adult population, are registered organ, eye and tissue donors. Nationally, nearly 33,600 patients began new lives in 2016 thanks to organ transplants. 683,000 have taken place since 1988. Every year 1.5 million tissue transplants are performed. 48,000 patients have their sight restored through corneal transplants each year and 1,500,000 since 1961! Unfortunately, 119,000 men, women and children currently need life-saving organ transplants. Then, add another name to the national organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. No wonder an average of 22 people die each day from the lack of available organs for transplant!

We Elks Members can help close the gap! The effort of Lodges to promote the program through their Bulletins and Web site can gain them five points in their quests to be named an All-American Lodge. More incentives will be announced in coming years as the program takes shape throughout Elkdom.

For more information on the importance of donation and how to become a registered donor in your state, click on the Donate Life icon to go to the *Donate Life*SM web-site, or by logging onto www.donatelife.net. This is a great way to show that *"Elks Give from the Heart."*

www.donatelife.net

"Elks Give From The Heart"

JUNE 2023

Elk's Lodge #221

Phone: 904-721-1155

Club Hours:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Thursday: 5pm - 10pm

Friday: 5pm - 11pm

Saturday: 5pm - 11pm

Sunday: 1pm - 9pm

JUNE FOOD DONATIONS TO SUPPORT OPERATION BARNABUS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				BINGO with Dixie Hotdogs & BAR FOOD Thirsty Thursday	 Ronnie & Co. 6:30 pm	<i>Richie Rich</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
 Illinois 300 at 3:30 Chicken Speedie Sub, potato salad MELISSA	 CLOSED	 PER 6:00 pm HC Meeting 6:30 pm Activities Meeting	SHRIMP NITE  Jim & Crew 6:30 pm	SHOW ME THE MONEY with Tina & Patsy Hotdogs & BAR FOOD Thirsty Thursday	 Leslie & Crew 6:30 pm	Lodge Breakfast 9:00 - 11:00 <i>Richie Rich</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
 Ceremony at 2:00 Sunday Buffet Sampler MELISSA	LODGE OPEN 5:00 - 10:00 Coin Club BOD Meeting 6:30 pm	 Susie, Lois, Robin 6:30 pm BUNCO - 6:30	LODGE MEETING 7:00 pm 	BINGO with Dixie Hotdogs & BAR FOOD Thirsty Thursday	Pork Chops Grilled or Fried Don, John & Rod 6:30 pm	 <i>Richie Rich</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 Stuffed Red Bell Pepper, mashed potatoes, gravy MELISSA	 CLOSED	 Scott & Greg 6:30 pm HC Meeting 6:30 pm Activities Meeting	WING NITE  David & Crew 6:30 pm	SHOW ME THE MONEY with Tina & Patsy Hotdogs & BAR FOOD Thirsty Thursday	 Jim & Crew 6:30 pm	<i>Richie Rich</i> Queen of Hearts 7:30
25	26	27	28	29	30	
 Nashville at 7:00 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, salad MELISSA	 CLOSED	 Ronnie & Co. 6:30 pm	LODGE MEETING 7:00 pm 	Hotdogs & BAR FOOD Thirsty Thursday	TBD	Sunday, 6-11  Sonoma at 3:30