



## Message from the Exalted Ruler, Lowell Neinast

This year is moving quickly. Welcome to August! Just a couple more months of the heat and we can start enjoying the cooler weather, you know, in the low 90s. We had some great activities during the month of July. Of course, we started July with the Grand Lodge Convention in Minneapolis which was very exciting. The Texas hospitality room was the go-to location for Elks from around the country. On the weekend of July 21-23, there were members from several lodges attending the CASI Chili Cookoff which raised our Sweetheart over \$2500.00. If you missed it, you missed a great time. The pool was full and volunteers cooking the meals made us proud. Starting July 30, 2023, we are starting a Splash Day activity at the pool. The lodge will open at noon on Saturday's with hamburgers and hot dogs served at 3 PM. The food will be cooked on the outdoor grill. This will continue every Saturday until the weather changes. We wanted to try something different to offer members the opportunity to enjoy THEIR lodge.

During the month of August, we will have the Interlodge at Katy Lodge August 12-13. This is another great opportunity to meet members from around the Gulf Coast District. The Walk of Lodges will take place at 8:00 PM on Saturday, August 12. The lodge with the most members participating in the Walk of Lodges will bring home the traveling trophy. Houston #151 held this trophy several times in the past, but we need your help to bring the trophy back to Houston. The Interlodge meetings are very informative and can help you understand what Elks are doing around the Gulf Coast District and the State of Texas. Join us in Katy on August 12-13 to help support your lodge and the Gulf Coast District Elks.

On August 25, 2023, we will be hosting a Prime Rib Dinner and a Play. This event will be on a pre-registration basis so we can have an idea as to how much prime rib we will need to prepare. The play will be entertaining to say the least. The cost of this event is \$30.00. If that seems high I encourage you to go out to a prime rib dinner and a play and compare the cost. Again, we are trying different things to get members out to the lodge. We have new members proposing ideas and we are following through.

Once again, thank you so much to everybody who has stepped up to volunteer for cooking meals on both Fridays and Tuesdays. A special shout out to the volunteer of the month, Lisa Huddle. Lisa is not a member, but she has proved time and time again that the lodge can be supported by anyone willing to take the time. Thank you for everything you are doing.

Yours in Elkdom,  
Lowell D. Neinast  
Exalted Ruler





## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This will be a different type of article from me. Our Bulletin Editor PER Ramona Mishaga asked me to write about how and why I became an Elk, so here goes.

I first heard of the Elks in the summer of 1974 after my Dad had become a member. I was just a young man in those days. I worked one street over from the old Willow Drive address on Gasmer Street. At that point in my career with Southwestern Bell, I was climbing poles and installing phones. After Dad joined the Lodge I would meet him at the Lodge for a few cold beverages. My Dad was a great believer in paying your own way and asked me what I thought of the Lodge and would I be interested in joining. My reply was how much does it cost? Base pay for an Installer back in those days was less than five dollars an hour. Dad replied not to worry about that since I had a birthday coming in a few months. He offered to pay my Initiation Fee and six months dues and then I would be on my own. I gratefully accepted his offer and was initiated into the Lodge on September 24, 1974.

When I became a member I knew nothing about the Elks and what we do and stand for. I joined to be able to drink reasonably priced cold beverages with my Dad and play cards in the card room. Well, I was initiated on Tuesday and was dealing for the Lodge on Friday. The more I came to the Lodge the more I observed and learned about our Great Order. Somehow my youth and interest became apparent to our then Exalted Ruler, Buddy Ferguson who was in need of an Esquire and approached me about taking on that office. I did and finished out the 1974 – 1975 Lodge year as Esquire. I then served the next year as Esquire, then started through the chairs, Becoming Exalted Ruler in 1979. Since that time I have held numerous offices and positions in the Elks, none more rewarding than the current two. That is as your Lodge Secretary and as District Leader for the Gulf Coast. My almost 50 years as an Elk has been rewarding and enjoyable and remains the best Birthday Present ever received.

Remember, it all started over a cold beverage after work. This illustrates that you can get out of our Lodge what you put into it. Not all Elks want to be officers, and that's OK. There are so many ways to get involved and help. My Dad, never served a day as an officer, but was one heck of a worker bee. He was even awarded the great honor of Elk of the Year.

I hope this hasn't bored you too much, but the message is meant to be get out and get involved.

Fraternally,  
Jim Grissom  
Secretary and Gulf Coast District Leader



*Sickness and Distress is always in order*  
**Prayers are needed for....**

**PGER Chuck Williams**

**Sally Weiss, Wife of PGE Orville Weiss**

**Tom Nunkols**

**Jim Grissom**

**Susan Midyett**

**Jack Johnson**

**Rachel Agriesti**

**Granddaughter of Robert Wood**

**Courtney Medina. Friend of B.Y. Youngs**



## FROM THE ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT



Well we are five months into the new Elks year. We have had several interesting events so far: Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and The Fourth of July. We have a few events planned The Cassie Chili cook off, Prime Rib dinner, and Labor Day.

We are trying to get a some new events together such as Splash/pool day, so if you have any ideas for an event get with an officer so it can be planned. I hope to see everyone come out and fun at the lodge and as always if you have a grievance I'm here for you.

Respectfully yours,  
Richard Novak Jr.  
Esteemed Loyal Knight



## FROM THE PAST EXALTED RULERS ASSOCIATION



Greetings to all our members of Houston Elks Lodge 151 and all Friends of Houston 151,

Is it hot enough for you? Hopefully everyone's air conditioning is working well. I know that some of our folks have had problems with theirs this summer. Check up on folks who you don't hear from to make sure they are doing well in this heat. One of the events coming up at your Lodge for the month of August is "Prime rib dinner and a play" on the 25th. In September we will have our Labor Day BBQ on the 3rd. See flyers on Facebook and E-blasts for details.

Who likes to cook? Who has some favorite family recipes, some of which have been passed down from our grandparents or parents? Who would like to prepare one of those recipes for folks at your Lodge on a Tuesday or Friday night? Your Lodge is always looking for more cook teams. If you are interested in forming or joining a cook team let one of your officers know, or attend a House Committee meeting where your meal can be put on the calendar. Bingo is really picking up in attendance. The first Thursday of July there were 74 players, and the second Thursday there were 90. Folks, these numbers are very encouraging. When we initially started Bingo back up the crowds were fairly small, but over time they have increased in number. If you are interested in helping let Joy Olmos or Darlene Crisamore know so you can be put on the schedule. Bingo needs more workers in the back room, on the floor, to call the games, or act as operator.

Fraternally,

Mike Betenbaugh, PER Association President.

# Happy Birthday!

## Birthdays for the Month of : AUGUST

- 01 Nigel Delgado  
Farhad Salehian
- 02 Thomas David Gibson  
Edward Goodin  
Billy J. Palmer
- 03 Fred E. Collier  
Maria Finger
- 04 Larry Balding
- 06 Gary L. Richardson
- 07 Christy R. Trevino
- 08 Cynthia Rowland
- 10 Roy Turner
- 14 Brian Lee Youngs
- 15 Robert A. Freck  
Fred K. Wohlfahrt
- 16 Derrick S. Hancock
- 17 Christine Knierim
- 19 Nancy Gruber
- 20 Tracy E. Mathews
- 22 Alexanne Albert  
Kate E. Cavender  
Ronald Wayne Gruber
- 23 Benjamin B. Hammond  
Fred C. Scholibo
- 24 Troy Lynn Betenbaugh  
Connie Neal Brier
- 25 John C. Chambers
- 28 Karen Cullum  
Charles G. Hill
- 31 Kristen Baker  
R B McDaniel





# UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND PLAN TO ATTEND...

Aug. 4	Steak Night
Aug. 12-13	InterLodge, VP, & DD meetings at Katy Lodge
Aug. 18	Friends of 151 Dinner—Pat M's Hoagies
Aug. 25	<b>**Prime Rib Dinner &amp; Show Fundraiser</b>
Sept. 3	Labor Day BBQ
Sept. 14-17	Homecoming at Ottine Camp in Gonzales
Sept. 22	<b>**Pork Chop Dinner &amp; Show Fundraiser</b>

*\*\* event is by advanced ticket sales only—watch for more details to come \*\**

Volunteer for the Month of ....

# AUGUST

## *Lisa Huddle*



## What's Happening around the LODGE.... 4th of July Party





***What's Happening around the LODGE ....  
Recipient's of the GER Membership AWARD***



***CASI Cook Off donations makes our Sweetheart shine***



***Visiting Elks having fun during our Wednesday Wings n Things***



# ***Houston 151—Gulf Coast District at Grand Lodge Convention Congratulations Lowell Neinast***

***Gulf Coast Rocks !***





## ***Houston 151—at Grand Lodge Convention Congratulations to John Atwood***





# *Saturday Splash Day*

*Lodge opens at Noon*

*Food Served Starting @ 3:00 p.m.*

*Choice of 2 hotdogs and chips or  
hamburger and chips \$8.00*

*Come Beat The Heat!  
It's always cool at #151*





**Texas Gulf Coast District #8560**  
**Interlodge, August 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Katy Elks Lodge #2628 (281) 391-2763**  
**1050 Katy-Ft. Bend Rd., Katy, Texas 77493**

**Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm ..... Pasta Dinner & Games for any that come early.

**Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> Schedule**

9:00 am ..... Registration for Fun & Games

10:00 am ..... Fun & Games

Noon ..... **\$8 Lunch:** Hamburger & fries

2:00 pm ..... Interlodge Meeting

3:30 pm ..... Sweetheart Meeting

4:00 pm ..... District PER Meeting

5:30 pm ..... **\$12 Dinner:** Taco Bar, Enchiladas, Rice, Beans, Chips, Salsa, Queso & Dessert

**Mexican Fiesta will be the Theme for the Night**

6:30 pm ..... Fun & Games

7:00 pm–11 pm . . . Entertainment by Steven & Sue Reynolds

8:00 pm ..... Walk of Lodges

11:00 pm ..... Eleven O'clock Toast

**Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> Schedule**

Morning ..... Breakfast Tacos

9 am ..... District VP Clinic

10 am ..... DDGER Clinic

Meeting times are subject to change due to over runs or under runs.

**Hotel Information**

**Hilton Garden Inn Houston West/Katy**

2409 Texmati Drive, Katy, TX 77494

Hotel: 281-644-2400

\$129/Night including breakfast for two per room

Contact Hotel directly:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/thekatyelkslodge2023/>

**Comfort Suites Katy Mills Mall**

25115 Katy Freeway, Katy, TX 77494

Katy, TX 77494, 281-505-8356

Room: \$99/Night

Contact Hotel directly:

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/RK30Q6>





Let's  
**CELEBRATE**  
our  
**HARD WORK**



# LABOR DAY BBQ HOUSTON ELKS #151

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD**

**BRISKET, SAUSAGE, CHICKEN,  
BEANS, POTATO SALAD AND  
DESSERT \$15**

**SERVING STARTS @ 2:00 P.M.**

**FOOD FUN & FELLOWSHIP**

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOU  
SWIMSUIT!! THE POOL IS  
READY AND WAITING!**



*Elks* Care - *Elks* Share



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A Fraternal Organization

*Elks* Care - *Elks* Share

**August 2023**

## LODGE OFFICERS 2023- 2024

Exalted Ruler	Lowell Neinast, PER
Est. Leading Knight	Cindie Pridy
Est. Loyal Knight	Richard Novak
Est. Lecturing Knight	John Gerber
Secretary	Jim Grissom, PDDGER SRDL
Treasurer	Joy Olmos, DDGER
Tiler	Chris Novak
Esquire	Lynn Harris
Chaplain	Terrie Wetz
Inner Guard	Susan Midyett
1-Year Trustee	Renay Bennett , PER, GCVP
2-Year Trustee	Andy Mishaga, PSP, PDDGER
3-Year Trustee	Martha Gutierrez
4-Year Trustee	Sally DiPalma, PDDGER
5-Year Trustee	Mark Sal Haney

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COORDINATORS 2023–2024

Accident Prevention	Mark Sal Haney
Americanism	Al Olmos PER
Auditing & Accounting	Ken Boyd PDDGER
Bar Manager	Ann Grissom
Bingo	Joy Olmos, DDGER
Community Activities	Cindie Pridy
Drug Awareness	Richard Novak
Elks Memorial Day	Ramona Mishaga, PER,PFL
Elks National Foundation	Renay Bennett PER
Flag Day	Lowell Nienast PER
Fraternal Comm.	Jim Grissom PDDGER SRDL
Friends of 151	Ann Grissom
Grant Coordinator TECSI	Sally DiPalma PDDGER
Grant Coordinator CIP	Ramona Mishaga PER
Government Relations	John Atwood, SDGER,
Hoop Shoot	Ken Boyd PDDGER
Indoctrination	Mike Callahan, PSP
Investigation	Jack Grabby PER
Kitchen Manager	Renay Bennett
Lodge Activities	Kristen Dube
Lodge Bulletin	Ramona Mishaga, PER,PFL
Membership	Sally DiPalma PDDGER
Membership Retention	Jim Grissom, PDDGER,SRDL
National Veterans Service	Lynn Harris
PER Association	Mike Betenbaugh
Public Relations	Ramona Mishaga, PER, PFL
Ritual	Andy Mishaga, PSP
Scholarship	Cindie Pridy
State Major Project	Amber Lindsey
Veterans Services	Lynn Harris
Youth Activities	Cindy Harris



**Bingo is at the Lodge every Thursday at 6pm!**

**Volunteers are needed...  
Contact Joy Olmos**



**Donate to**

**Elks National Foundation**  
*"it's the best buck you will ever spend"*

**elks.org**


















**American Red Cross**

**Donate today!**

*your donations makes a difference*

## August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Pork Dinner 6pm \$11 <i>By TroyLynn Betenbaugh</i> Membership Mtg 7 pm w/ balloting 7:30pm and PER meeting to follow	<b>2</b> <b>Wings n Things</b> 5-6:30pm Queen of Hearts  Drawing 7:30pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Steak Night Dinner</b> 6pm \$10	<b>5</b> <b>Queen of Hearts</b>  Drawing 6pm
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> No Lodge Meeting No Dinner	<b>9</b> <b>Wings n Things</b> 5-6:30pm Queen of Hearts  Drawing 7:30pm	<b>10</b> BINGO 7 pm HC/BOD mtg 6:30 pm TEXANS PRE SEASON GAME (away) 6pm 	<b>11</b> Blood Drive at Galveston Lodge 1-4pm	<b>12</b> No Drawing <i>Interlodge at Katy Lodge</i>
<b>13</b> VP & DD Clinics at Katy Lodge	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> Lodge Meeting 7:30pm w/ Balloting <i>Tracks Deadline</i>	<b>16</b> <b>Wings n Things</b> 5-6:30pm Queen of Hearts  Drawing 7:30pm	<b>17</b> BINGO 7pm	<b>18</b> <b>Dinner 6pm \$11</b> <i>Friends of 151</i> Pat M. Hoagies	<b>19</b> Queen of Hearts  Drawing 6pm TEXANS PRE SEASON GAME (home) 3pm 
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b> No Lodge Meeting No Dinner	<b>23</b> <b>Wings n Things</b> 5-6:30pm Queen of Hearts  Drawing 7:30pm	<b>24</b> BINGO 7pm	<b>25</b> <b>Prime Rib Dinner</b> <b>and Show \$30</b> ( advanced ticket sales only)	<b>26</b> <b>Queen of Hearts</b>  Drawing 6pm Lip Sync Dinner & Show at Clearlake Lodge
<b>27</b> TEXANS PRE SEASON GAME (away) 7pm 	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> Dinner 6pm \$ 11 Chicken Teriyaki by <i>Novak &amp; Dube</i> Lodge Meeting 7:30pm w/ Initiation	<b>30</b> <b>Wings n Things</b> 5-6:30pm Queen of Hearts  Drawing 7:30pm	<b>31</b> BINGO 7pm		