



# Buck and Doe

B.P.O.E. Lodge 2731 Newsletter



Zephyrhills, FL

[www.elks.org/2731](http://www.elks.org/2731)

October 2023

## EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE



Our Northern friends are starting to return to the sunshine state, and I am sure we will see more activity around the lodge. Also, the RVers will be starting to roll in and they offer a lot of their time to the lodge, so let's make them feel welcomed.

The past six months have been a personal experience that I don't have the words to express how much I have learned about the lodge and our members. As most of you know, I am stepping down October 1, 2023 as Exalted Ruler for health reasons and moving to the Air Force Village in Shalimar, FL. I'll miss seeing you all, but look forward to staying in touch!

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and understanding during this time. I have made new friends and the memories that I take with me are all positive. Thank you!

Paul Nutting will be assuming the Exalted Ruler position and I know he will do a fantastic job.

Enjoy your lodge and have a fun time at all the functions coming with the holiday season.

*Marie Vesta*

Exalted Ruler



## The Elks National Foundation Helping Elks build stronger communities



The lodge continues to need donor members for ENF to achieve the lodge per Capita of \$4.80. The lodge must reach the per Capita to continue to receive grants for the children at the elementary schools and our veterans.

Please ready the letter from Rita Smith, the ENF State Chair, that is included in this newsletter for a great outline of what ENF does.

Fidelity Club needs more donors, with a monthly donation from a credit card or checking account. A donation starting at \$5.00, will start your donor account.

Thank you to all current donors. The lodge standing in the Florida Central District is THIRD, with a per Capita of \$1.89 per member.

Thank you to all ENF donors.

*Judy Osgood,*

## HELP, HELP, HELP!

Won't you please help.....When finished with your beverage from the bar please return your glasses to the bar, and any other dishes to the dirty dish station.

As you know, this is an all volunteer Lodge in many of the areas and we could use your help. We often find it difficult to find volunteers to work the dining and bar areas, and if you could help with this duty we would appreciate it.

Thank you,  
*Mary Crosier,* PDDGER



## Elk of the Month

It is my pleasure and privilege to award Elk of the month to **Nick Schwob**. During the past six months, he has guided, educated, cautioned, and encouraged me on the Exalted Ruler position. Without his guidance it would have been an unproductive time. Nick puts in more hours at the lodge than required and as most everyone says, he knows the lodge inside and out. Thank you Nick for your guidance and friendship.



From The  
Lodge Secretary  
Nick Schwob



## Volunteer of the Month

I am pleased to award Volunteer of the month to Bobbie Schwob. Bobbie does a great job with the lodge newsletter, is always ready to send out a needed blast, and works behind the POS on Friday nights fish fry. Thank you Bobbi for all you do, it is appreciated and so are you.



Happy Birthday!!!



Clip Coupon for Free July Birthday Drink!

### New Candidates

Candidate
Kathy L Cummings
Sandra Kirkemeier
Robert L Pouliot
Scott Roth
Dwight Laylon



10/06/23	Reel Players
10/13/23	Alan Chamberlain
10/20/23	Johnny/Friends
10/27/23	Karl Sapp

Elks Care - Elks Share

### Dress for General Meetings

The Lodge General Meeting is once a month now and since we are asking our new members to wear business casual clothing for their initiation, it is only fair that we ask our members who attend to wear the same,  
This would include long pants for our gentlemen members and no shorts for either gender.

## New Hours

SUNDAY:	CLOSED
MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	1:00 PM—8:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	1:00 PM—8:00 PM
THURSDAY:	1:00 PM—8:00 PM
FRIDAY	1:00 PM—8:00 PM
SATURDAY	CLOSED

## RED SHIRT FRIDAY'S

Our idea of showing solidarity and support for our troops with dignity and respect is by wearing RED SHIRTS on Friday's. Let's get the word out and lead with class and dignity, by example, and wear something red every Friday. Everyone who loves this country should share this with acquaintances, co-workers, friends and family.



**LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT BY WEARING SOMETHING RED!**

## Chaplains Corner



Summer is over and fall is here. In our neighborhoods we see homes and yards all decorated for fall. We are so anticipating cooler weather.

This September we had illness and death in our lodge. David Moyer is home from the hospital and doing good. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim Sullivan and his family on the loss of his wife Sue. Nick Schwob is back in the hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and Bobbie.

If you know of any member that is sick or in need of a thinking of you call, please let me know.

Have a wonderful summer and don't let the **Ghouls and Goblins** get you.

Anne Mc Donald, Chaplain  
813-395-4723

## Growth hinges on membership retention

By Rick Gathen, Membership Marketing Manager

Membership retention begins with a welcoming atmosphere in the Lodge.

Be sure to reach out to new Members and let them know their presence is appreciated. It's also important to give new Members the chance to be actively involved. Let them know about volunteer opportunities and encourage them to become active in strengthening the Lodge and reaching out to assist the community. People who volunteer to help others usually will also find themselves more deeply attached to the Elks.

The next step in Elk's involvement is leadership. If there's a new Elk who has become an active volunteer, encourage them to take the next step with a leadership role by joining a Lodge committee or even becoming an Elks Officer.

Momentum is building for another gain in membership. Last year we attained a 19,558 net gain in membership. This has generated remarkable momentum for this fraternal year. Membership retention is the key to sustainable membership growth.



Looking for fun things to do? Join a bowling league at the lodge. We have lots of fun and meet new friends. We will be starting in October. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

If you have any questions, please call Shirley LeClair at 813-355-3499.

## Line Dancing

Line dancing will begin Wednesdays in October from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Everyone is wel-







Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America  
*A Fraternal Organization*

**Rita Smith, PER, State Chair  
ENF Fundraising Committee**

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**Benevolence is in our Name.**

Because you are an Elk, I am sure that you contribute to nonprofit charities throughout the year. Maybe it's your grandchild's PTA fundraiser, the annual appeal to purchase a meal for the needy at Thanksgiving, the Salvation Army red bucket in-front of the store at Christmas. Do you say yes when the grocery store or restaurant asks you to "round up" for the charity they decided to support? Of course, you support Harry Anna. But what do you know about Elk's National Foundation?

When you support The Elks National Foundation (ENF), you are supporting a charity that supports the communities where Elks live and work. Last year, the members and lodges in Florida donated \$433,292.23 to ENF. It sounds like a lot of money. But I bet you did not realize ENF sent more than \$1,638,400 back to Florida. I say, "more than" because there were 16 scholarships awarded to Florida students that were not projected in these numbers, most of the relief to the victims of Hurricane Ian are also not reflected in these numbers, the travel expenses of those staff who attended our schools and seminars are not included, and neither is the Drug Awareness Program.

To accomplish that kind of return, the Elks National Foundation must invest its capital carefully, and keep its operating costs low. In fact, the ENF spends 92% of their income on direct mission expenses. *Less than 8% is spent on advertising and administration.* Compare that to the administrative and advertising expenses of the top charities in the country – according to Charitywatch.com, Feeding America spends 21%, Toys 4 Tots spends 21%, Salvation Army spends 18% and even the beloved American Red Cross spends over 9%.

Florida was nowhere near the top of the heap when it came to reaping benefits of our top-rated charity. There are a lot of different formulas for the different programs, but it is simple to understand that the more your state gives, the more your state gets in return.

So I ask : **"Can you make a donation today?"**

Can you log in at [Elks.org/enf](http://Elks.org/enf) and make a recurring donation by joining the Fidelity Club? \$15 per month is the default, but they will accept a \$5 donation if that is all you can budget. If that does not appeal right now, you can also log in and make a one-time donation. You can choose which ENF program you want to support. YOUR donation will help YOUR Lodge get bigger grants, YOUR community get more services, and YOUR state get more money for our major projects. And, for some of you, it will help YOU pay less in taxes. When you hear the word Benevolence – Think, **"ENF!"**



**"Florida Elks Shine Bright"**

**Wednesday Menus  
Are On The  
Tables in Lounge  
4:30-6:30PM**

# October 2023

**LOUNGE HOURS**  
1:00—8:00 PM  
Tuesday thru **Friday**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 House Committee Meeting 9 AM BOD Meeting 10 AM	3 Pizza & Pitcher Beer or 10 Wings & Pitcher Beer \$15 Bar Bingo	4 Wednesday Night Games 5:30-7:30PM Wednesday Meals See Above Line Dancing 10 AM—noon	5 Bingo Doors Open at 4 PM	6 <b>FISH FRY</b> 4:30—6:30 PM Music: Reel Players	7
8	9	10 Pizza & Pitcher Beer or 10 Wings & Pitcher Beer \$15 Bar Bingo	11 Wednesday Night Games 5:30-7:30PM Wednesday Meals See Above Line Dancing 10 AM—noon	12 Bingo Doors Open at 4 PM	13 <b>FISH FRY</b> 4:30—6:30 PM Music: Alan Cham- berlain	14
15	16 House Committee Meeting 9 AM BOD Meeting 10 AM Orientation 6PM Lodge Meeting 7 PM	17 Pizza & Pitcher Beer or 10 Wings & Pitcher Beer \$15 Bar Bingo	18 Wednesday Night Games 5:30-7:30PM Wednesday Meals See Above Line Dancing 10 AM—noon	19 Bingo Doors Open at 4 PM	20 <b>FISH FRY</b> 4:30—6:30 PM Music: Johnny & Friends	21
22	23	24 Pizza & Pitcher Beer or 10 Wings & Pitcher Beer \$15 Bar Bingo	25 Wednesday Night Games 5:30-7:30PM Wednesday Meals See Above Line Dancing 10 AM—noon	26 Bingo Doors Open at 4 PM	27 <b>FISH FRY</b> 4:30—6:30 PM Music: Karl Sapp	28
29	30	31 Pizza & Pitcher Beer or 10 Wings & Pitcher Beer \$15 Bar Bingo	1 Wednesday Night Games 5:30-7:30PM Wednesday Meals See Above Line Dancing 10 AM—noon	2 Bingo Doors Open at 4 PM	3 <b>FISH FRY</b> 4:30—6:30 PM Music: Reel Players	4