



December 2023

The Antler

Official Newsletter of the Galveston Elks #126

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks A Fraternal Organization



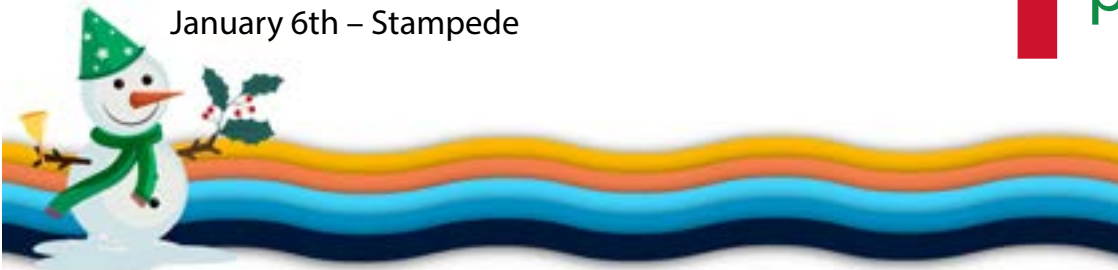
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Save the Date

December 2nd – Dickens on The Strand
December 3rd – Elks Memorial Day Celebration
December 8th – Christmas Caroling at Autumn House
December 10th – Christmas Caroling at The Strand
December 16th – Veterans Breakfast
December 16th – Christmas Partys
December 17th – Christmas Caroling at the Meridian
January 6th – Stampede

If you can't
donate money
DONATE
your time
instead. That's
priceless.





[National Elks](#)



[Texas State Elks](#)



[Elks National Foundation](#)



[Texas Elks Camp](#)

Click Squares Above to Visit Their Website



A word from the Exalted Ruler

Fellow Members of Galveston Lodge,

Wow! What a month. November went by as a blur. So much went on and so many of our members stepped up to every challenge.

First, we started with attending the Fall State Convention. Galveston can be proud of our attendance with so many of us showing up to represent. It was a fun time, and much was learned to advance and promote our lodge.

Next, we should all be proud of our partnership with the American Legion, the Marine Corp. League and the VFW for our celebration of Veteran's Day. The turn out was remarkable, with so many Vets recognized for their service to us all. Member, Eddie Janek was recognized as the oldest Vet there and having served the longest. Galveston

Elks Lodge was able, through a generous donation, to gift an automobile to a deserving Galveston Vet and Member, John McClain. This gift was much needed and has enriched his life greatly. Please join me in thanking Rachel Sanderson and her Veteran's Committee for all their hard work that made this possible.

Julie Molis and her ENF team put on a fantastic Greek Night with authentic Greek dancers and a special treat of Belly Dancers. I'm sure we all enjoyed our time and Julie was able to raise money for our lodge's contribution to ENF.

Hoop Shoot was a success with Natalie Robinson spearheading this very important program for our lodge. It was my first chance to attend a Hoop Shoot and it was well organized and attended by lodge volunteers. Not one rebound to the left was missed by your ER. Now let's all get behind Natalie as we prepare for District Hoop Shoot hosted by Galveston Lodge on January 27th.

Friendsgiving was served in the Lodge on Thanksgiving for all to join. This is the second year that Kris Graves and I have hosted



continued from page 2

this event, and we were proud to have so many attendees. It was a great meal and fellowship and I wish to thank all members that donated food and time to make it a success.

Jim May was given a task by the ER, to get our Neon sign working again. And I'm proud to report that his tenacity and perseverance has made this happen. It looks so great glowing up there. Thank you, Jim, for caring to make this happen.

Important Update! The Hall floor has been poured!!! It now must cure for a few weeks before we can stain and seal it. And we know what that means, STAMPEDE IS ON!!!!, at our Lodge! Ticket sales have increased but there is more to sell. We also need volunteers to help run activities and serve. If you can assist, please come to a Stampede meeting on Wednesday at 5:pm or call your ER. This is going to be a fun event on January 6th, at your Lodge.

December looks to be busy also, with many events planned. Elks Memorial Day on the 3rd, Galveston Elks first Dicken's on the Strand Booth will be

selling Mistletoe on the 2nd and 3rd, Christmas Caroling on the 10th and 17th, kids and adult Christmas Parties on the 16th, the Meridian Christmas tree is up so get your card and share in our community. I'm sure I'm forgetting something.

Lots of opportunities to volunteer and make a difference right here in Galveston.

Kris and I wish you all a very Happy Holiday!

Elks Please Remember:

"The faults of our brothers and sisters we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory."

Steph Cochran

832-984-0483

stefeman1@gmail.com





Elks of the Month

November



Robert Corkren is intricately involved in every aspect of our lodge by providing information to our members in the form of emails, facebook posts and the elaborate monthly newsletter he publishes. He brought us state recognition by winning 2nd place in newsletter publication at our Spring State Convention. He currently attends school at Texas A&M, and balances a busy work, volunteer, and Lodge schedule to support us and does it displaying his extraordinary talent in ALL of these many fields. If I were his professor he would pass with flying colors!! Thank you Robert for your dedication to our Lodge.

Kara Guthrie, our Sweetheart, Kara Guthrie is also our Member of the Month for November. Kara has taken the reigns of sweetheart and ran with it – in her first few months as sweetheart she was right on track for hitting her financial goal. Her successes include the Luau, the Sweetheart Sidewalk sale, Occtine Homecoming in October and this month she made over 30 pies all to help the Kids of Texas. She has creative ideas coming up with a Sunset Cruise and a Carnival in the Spring. When we support her efforts we are supporting the community spirit and the special needs kids of Texas. Thank you Kara for being our Sweetheart for 2023-2024.





From the Secretary

Merry Christmas Members!!

This is the time of giving. I know we have an angel tree in the lodge for the elderly at the Meridian. Be kind and make someone's Christmas by participating in that. I'm still trying to collect all delinquent dues for the year.

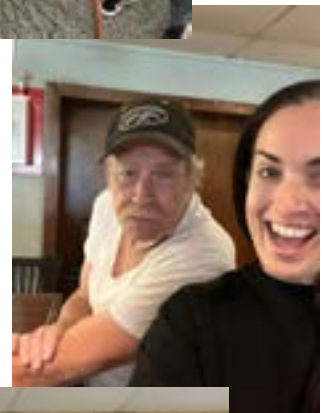
If you know someone who is struggling to pay their dues because of health or financial reasons please let me know and I can get with the relief committee and see what we can do. We have alot coming up this month. Get involved. We need to get new members in the lodge. ENF was a great success for us. Let's keep that going in the following months and next year.

I will be sending out notices next month on dropping of members that are not paid up

to date and have notified me in writing that they no longer want to be an elk. You must notify me in writing. If you have changed your address, phone number, or email. Please let me know. If not sure I have the right address/or any other information correct, get with me and let's check. I have all this information from the time you have become an elk. I know that a lot of times, people move or change phone numbers and emails without letting me know. I want to make sure you are getting the information from the lodge.

If you are not getting your Antler Newsletter, I need to know. If you want a hard copy let me know. I will assign someone to mail you a hard copy out.

Patricia Young
Galveston Elks Secretary #126





Happy December!!

Well, the month has just flown by. And before you know it, it will be a New Year.

The pie baking was a great success. I want to thank everybody who contributed.

We had a cancel the boat ride because of the weather which will be postponed until the Spring time. Keep an eye out for the new sate... it will be a great time! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I'm very honored to be elk of the month with Robert! Have a very Merry Christmas.

Again thanks to all who help me raise money for the kids!

Kara Guthrie
Sweetheart





Thanks to all the dedicated members who generously devoted their time to participate in the Galveston Elks 126 Hoop Shoot. This year Natalie Robertson Chair this Event. Your commitment to this event plays a vital role in making it a success each year.

The Elks National Hoop Shoot, a free-throw shooting contest, has been a cornerstone of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) since its inception in 1972.

Our commitment to fostering the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and healthy competition is exemplified through events like the Hoop Shoot. Your active involvement at various levels of the competition, from local lodges to district, state, and regional contests, ultimately culminating in a national championship, significantly contributes to the success and impact of the Elks Hoop Shoot.

Once again, a sincere thank you to all those who took the time out of their morning to attend the Hoop Shoot to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the participants.

STAMPEDE tickets are still getting sold! We are converting Reverse draw tickets to Stampede tickets if you would like.

Stampede committee is meeting EVERY Wednesday until the event - January, 6th. Each week we will get an accurate count of where we are. Committees for Decorating and silent auction are still needed. Please try to attend – we need each member to buy or share with someone in buying a ticket. We are only selling 300 tickets – WE CAN DO IT!! This is the largest fundraiser our lodge has and we NEED YOUR SUPPORT with tickets, raffle items, silent auction items and sponsors.





Volunteers Needed for DAP

Did you know that Elks National Drug Awareness Program is the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the United States? My name is Eric Ayles and I'm thrilled to be the new DAP Chair for the Elks 126. The Elks National Drug Awareness Program strives to teach all children and parents about the dangers of illegal drug use and prevent the abuse of legalized and prescription drugs. <https://www.elks.org/dap/aboutDAP.cfm>

This program started in 1982 but we need it now more than ever in our community. I work at a treatment center in Angleton called Serenity Light and my job is to help people find treatment options but sometimes it's too late. There is an epidemic of overdoses in our Galveston community due to fake drugs containing fentanyl. We must educate teens and young adults that fake pills are on the streets that look like other drugs and one pill can kill. Know that if you volunteer on this committee you can actually play a part in saving lives!

Please email me if you would like to participate on the DAP committee: Eric.Ayles@gmail.com

Thanks,
Eric

ELKS HOOP SHOOT
District Competition
Texas Gulf Coast #8560
McGuire-Dent Recreation Center
2222 28th Street
Galveston, Texas 77550
January 27, 2024 at 9am
For more information scan here
Sponsored by Galveston Lodge and community



DEC 2023



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

02

03

04

Lodge is Closed

05

06

Stampede Mtg @ 5pm

Steak Night @ 5:30pm

Bingo

07

PER Meeting @ 5pm

Membership @ 6pm

BoD/House @ 7pm

08

Caroling @ 1pm
Autumn House

Basket Meals @ 5:30pm

Prize Bingo

09

DAP Meeting @ 4pm

10

Caroling @ 2pm
The Strand

11

Lodge is Closed

12

Grant Cmte @ 5pm

Veteran Cmte @ 5:30pm

Lodge Meeting @ 7pm

13

Stampede Mtg @ 5pm

El Nopalito @ 5:30pm

Bingo

14

15

Basket Meals @ 5:30pm

Prize Bingo

16

Veterans Breakfast @ 9am

Christmas Party
Children @ 12noon, Adults 6pm

17

New Member Initiation @ 1pm

Caroling @ 2pm
The Meridian

18

Lodge is Closed

19

20

Stampede Mtg @ 5pm

Steak Night @ 5:30pm

Bingo

21

22

Basket Meals @ 5:30pm

Prize Bingo

23

24

25

Lodge is Closed



26

Grant Cmte @ 5pm

Veteran Cmte @ 5:30pm

Lodge Meeting @ 7pm

27

Stampede Mtg @ 5pm

Chicken Fry @ 5:30pm

Bingo

28

29

Basket Meals @ 5:30pm

Prize Bingo

30



The Elks National Foundation (ENF) Greek Night

on November 17, 2023, transcended expectations, creating a night of laughter, cultural celebration, and community support. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this memorable event. I was so excited to see Sally DiPalma and John Atwood from Elks Lodge 151 drive down to spend the evening with us!

The night was filled with joyous moments as attendees reveled in the performances, discovering hidden talents within the Elks community, including some impressive belly dancing skills. The fusion of cultural experiences and shared talents created an atmosphere of unity and celebration.

Beyond the entertainment, the primary goal of spreading awareness about the Elks National Foundation was achieved. The community came together to support a noble cause, contributing to the success of the fundraising efforts. The generosity displayed underscores the commitment of the Elks community to making a positive impact.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the individuals who played pivotal roles in making Greek Night a night to remember. Special thanks go to Manual Kastis, Paul Alvarado, Tom and Mary Scott, John Bullacher, Tracey and Norma Garcia, Pat Young, Taylor Gance, Brittany Collier, Kris Graves, Rocio Ramirez, and Rachel Sanderson. Their dedication and hard work were instrumental in creating a night that will be remembered for years to come.

In addition to the amazing team, I would also like to thank the Galveston Knights of Columbus also for generously providing their hall for the event. Their support and collaborative effort with the ENF team exemplify the strength of community bonds and the impact that can be achieved when organizations come together for a shared purpose.

If you were unable to attend the event and would like to donate towards ENF please reach out to me or Pat Young in the office.

Julie Molis
ENF Chair



**Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.**





I am still in awe of how the event turned out, and it's thanks to the incredible efforts of everyone involved. We served over 200 dinners and had an estimated 225 people in attendance, making it an evening that will be forever etched in our memories. The collaborative efforts of Dean Growcock and the exceptional team at VFW Post 880, Jim Long



from American Legion Post 20, Pete Rhymes and Boy Scout Troop 177, and the incredibly talented Amy Larison, made the evening truly unforgettable. A special thank you to Julie Molis for bringing together the three veteran organizations.

Our gratitude extends to our proud sponsors who made this event possible: Julie Molis, Jerry Jackson, El Napolito - Rosa Martinez, Dean Growcock, Jim Long, Tina & Walter Whiteman, Last Minute Event Essentials - Rocio Ramirez, Tom & Mary Scott, Stanley Chain & Spot,

Augie & Cynthia Molis, Paul Alvarado, Tracey & Norma Garcia, and the Carrasco Family.

During the event we were able to gift a car to one of our members, John McCain. Mr. McCain is USMC Veteran that has had a very difficult year. We would like to ask that you continue to keep him and his family in your prayers. Behind this amazing experience was the dedication of the Galveston Elks Lodge 126 Veteran Committee, Dream Team, Stanley and Spot Chains, Tom and Mary Scott, Galveston Marine Corps League - Commandant Art Vega, and Clayton Tucker. I am immensely proud to be part of an organization that makes such a positive impact on the lives of our veterans.

As we continue to honor and support our veterans, I am pleased to announce that our Veterans Breakfast is thriving. This month, the Dream Team will be preparing pork chops and eggs. The breakfast will take place on December 16, 2023, starting at 9 am. It is FREE for ALL veterans, including the public, and non-veterans can join for a nominal fee of \$5.

Looking ahead, we are working on organizing a fishing trip and exploring the opportunity presented by Sailing Angels, a program that takes veterans sailing free of charge. Keep an eye out for upcoming news and events!

Our next Veteran Committee meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2023, at 5:30 pm. Remember, you do not have to be a veteran to be part of the committee, and we welcome any ideas that our community may have to further assist our veterans.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support, and I look forward to continuing our journey of making a positive impact on the lives of our veterans.

Warm regards,

Rachel Sanderson
202-699-1050





Chaplain's Corner

As we have all had the time to reflect and give thanks over Thanksgiving let's remember that with Christmas coming it's the season of giving and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!

What better way to celebrate

the birth of Christ than giving of your time, love and affection to those around you. Giving doesn't have to be in a material or monetary way. For children Christmas has so many meanings and a true sense of magic and excitement as they anticipate the coming of Christ and opening presents from Santa Clause on Christmas morning. Parents and family create the Christmas magic for their children. We need to continue as adults to keep the Christmas magic alive for each other in our every day lives. Christ is inside every one of us.

Holidays can be very hard for those who have lost loved ones and need the comfort or attention of a friend. Be someone's magic and make their Christmas a Merry Christmas! I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

If I may be of service to you please reach out to me at 281-935-9950. May God bless you and keep you until next time.

Sincerely,

Chaplain Joe

Merry Birthday

Wish these Elks a Happy Birthday!

DECEMBER

Member	Day								
Travers	Powell	02	Rosa	Martinez	10	Loraine	McKinney	18	
Douglas	Caradec	03	Donald	Mayville	10	Patricia	Young	21	
Debbie	Socias	03	Mendi	Strnadel	10	Greg	Gaona	23	
Thomas	Whiteford	04	Theodore	Muller	11	James	Riley	23	
Stanley	Chain	05	Anthony	Claunch	12	John	Schreiber	23	
Steven	Meyers	05	Janice	Connard	13	Tammie	Caballero	24	
Ronnie	Woods	05	Carl	Hill	13	Victor	Cascio	24	
T	Donaldson	06	Vicky	Sinclair	15	Michael	Landry	25	
Geraldine	Ondrasek	06	John	Smith	15	Emory	Brockway	27	
James	Bacon	07	Sophia	Smith	15	Charles	Johnson	28	
Ursula	Sedgwick	07	Bill	Adamik	16	Rose	Leon	28	
Christopher	Criner	10	Gayla	LaGrappe	16	John	Graff	30	
			Edward	Watkins	17				



2023-2024 Officers

Exalted Ruler	Stef Cochran
Leading Knight	
Loyal Knight	Rachel Sanderson
Lecturing Knight	Don Wade
Secretary	Pat Young
Treasurer	Julie Molis
Chaplain	Joe Simmons
Esquire	John Bullacher
Tiler	John DaPra
Inner Guard	Jim May

2023-2024 Trustees

5th Year	Kris Graves
4th Year	Dianna Puccetti
3rd Year	Patricia Legg
2nd Year	Stanley Marinos
1st Year	Tommy Leigh

2023-2024 Committee Chairs

Committee	Chairperson
Accident Prevention	Stanley Marinos
Activities	Karen Crummett
Americanism	Kathy Aaron
Auditing and Accounting	Jim May
Community Projects & Activities	Steph Cochran
Drug Awareness	Eric Ayles
Elks Memorial Day	Steph Cochran
Elks National Foundation (ENF)	Julie Molis
Flag Day	Natalie Robertson
Fraternal	Kathy Aaron
Government Relations	Steph Cochran
Hoop Shoot	Natalie Robertson
Lodge Activities	Karen Crummett
Membership	Julie Molis
PER President	Jim May
Public Relations	Pat Legg
Ritualistic	Steph Cochran
Soccer Shoot	N/A
State Major Projects	Steph Cochran
Veterans Service	Rachel Sanderson
Youth Activities	Natalie Robertson



We are always looking for volunteers for the kitchen, bingo, events, etc. Let an officer know if you're interested in sparing an hour of your time in service of the Lodge, Every bit helps.



PERs

Chubby Lauzon (1967-68) - Mainland
Jack Cross (1974-75) - Mainland
Michael Burkett (1983-84) - Mainland
Rusty Carnes (1991-92) - Galveston
Bill Jamison (1997-99) - Galveston
Richard Carroll (2000-02) - Galveston
Dianna Puccetti (2011-13) - Galveston
PDVP (2015-16)
Dennis Zapalac (2013-14) - Galveston
Paul Rogers (2015-17) - Galveston
PDDGER (2019-20)
Loraine McKinney (2017-18) - Clear Lake
Julie Molis (2019-20) - Galveston
Jim May (2020-22) - Galveston
PDChaplain (2012-22)
Joe Miller (2022-23) - Galveston

Local Lodge Committees

Bingo Chairperson	Kris Graves
Clubroom Manager	Steph Cochran
Entertainment	Kris Graves
Garden / Yard	Stacie Fowler
Grant / Scholarships	Julie Molis/ Dianna Puccetti
Indoctrination	Dianna Puccetti
Investigations	Jimmy Puccetti
Kitchen Manager	Kris Graves
Memorial Team	Jim May
Newsletter / Communications	Robert Corkren
Visiting Chairperson	Joe Simmons
Volunteer Chairperson	Karen Crummett





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