



PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR SEBRING ELKS LODGE 1529 2618 KENILWORTH BLVD. • SEBRING, FLORIDA 33870 Email: elks1529@centurylink.net

#### ER MESSAGE JANUARY 2024



Happy New Year!!! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas spending time with family and friends. The Christmas spirit was strong this year with all of the events in and around the lodge and in our community. I want to thank everyone who visited the lodge for our Eggnog party and Christmas dinner, it was a fantastic time. Thank you Jimmy and Linda AKA "The Pattons" as well as Ken Wheeler for collecting all of the Christmas gifts from our local Walgreens stores. With the help of Walgreens and our community we were able to collect over 200 toys for needy children in the area. Thank you to our local Sebring Fire Department and Ag Angels for helping distribute the collected toys to the less fortunate

children in our community. This is exactly what Elkdom is all about! I hope everyone thoroughly enjoyed the fantastic New Years Eve Party! What a night it was!

Thank you to all who bought a ticket and attended. Thank you to Sheryl and Ed for doing a great job organizing the event and to all of our other members who helped to support this great event, Thank You. Sebring Elks really know how to celebrate in a big way and we have a lot to celebrate and be happy about. I look forward to 2024 being even bigger and better than 2023 at Sebring Lodge #1529 and I believe it will with the B.P.O.E "Best People On Earth"!

Keep an eye on January's Calender for all of the great meals and entertainment scheduled for January and I look forward to seeing you all at the Lodge.

Fraternally Yours Jonathan Spiegel ER/PER

### January 2024 Elk of the Month



The Sebring Elks Lodge #1529 has named Sheryl Teachout Elk of the Month for January 2024. Sheryl is a self motivated person who seems to excel in any task. She requested permission from the BOD last summer to have a New Years Eve party. She and her partner Ed Kwasnick, worked diligently to have one of the most successful parties with a complete sell out. Sheryl has graciously accepted the responsibility of selecting the musicians for our Friday night dances starting in April 2024, bakes for Friday night meals and is one of the Friday night servers.

Sheryl was born and raised in Southwest Michigan. She has one daughter and four grandchildren. As a testament of her self motivation, she went to college when she was 48 years old and graduated with a degree in physical therapy and then moved to Indiana to work in Home Health and Nursing Home care. In 2021 she moved to Sebring and promptly joined the Elks to meet people and to help her new community.

Sheryl, thanks for all you do and thanks for your way of greeting members and guests at the Lodge with a happy and smiling face.

#### ELKS YOUTH CAMP APPLICATIONS

This is to advise new members about Elks Youth Camp. If you have young children in your family between ages 9 thru 13, you need to consider youth camp. June 9 - July 27 (camping season). It is absolutely wonderful for the young boys and girls. No cost and is sponsored by your Elks Lodge.

My 39 year old daughter had the privilege of attending during her young years as well as 3 of her daughters. Now her fourth daughter will be attending for the first time this year.

If you have someone in your family or know of a child that would enjoy that privilege, contact Darlene at 863-385-8647. Brochure for camp can be obtained anytime. Bless our children.

N. Faye Robinson Bryant - 55 years of work in State and National Elkdom

## Sebring Elks Eggnog Party

On December 9, 2023, the Sebring Elks #1529 had their annual Eggnog Party. What a fun night. Eggnog with and without alcohol was served, members brought appetizers to share, and there was dancing to the music by Allen Warchak. Over 80 people were in attendance (in Lodge room & at the bar) for the party as well as the JROTC presentation. The Lodge was beautifully decorated for the season. Pictured in the kitchen preparing the eggnog and directed by Jim Mason are Colin Bernardo, Dylan Jones, and John David Spiegel. Jonathan, Christy, Ronna, Jim, & Marilyn made sure everyone enjoyed themselves at the eggnog bar!



It increases our media presence.

# "New Members"

On December the 7th, 2023, the Sebring Elks #1529 initiated 6 new members. This Lodge is becoming more and more successful due to new membership and the dedication of all its members. Anyone interested in joining this benevolent organization, please contact the office #863-385-8647. You don't want to miss out on the social aspect as well as the community activities! Pictured l-r: Gerald Adams, Gregory Griffin, Tony Bassett, Stanley Hale, Ruth Anne Winder-Carr, & Victor Divietro.



## JROTC

On December 9, 2023, the Sebring Elks #1529 made a special presentation to two local cadets of the JROTC. Representing Avon Park was Captain Riley Stivala with sponsor Jacob Williams Master Sergeant USAF (Ret.), and representing Sebring was Cadet Lt. Col. Eric Schneider with sponsor Dennis Green Chief Master Sergeant USAF (Ret.) The presentation occurred at the Lodge's annual Eggnog Party and over 80 people were in attendance as well as the cadets' families. The presentation consisted of a check for \$75.00, an Elks JROTC pin, and an Elk Certificate. The cadets were chosen based on their love of country as well as dedication to their respective JROTC units. ER Jonathan Spiegel handed out the awards.



### Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 Veteran Luncheon

On December 6, 2023, the Sebring Elks #1529 held their yearly Christmas luncheon for veterans. There were 31 veterans and their caregivers in attendance as well as Lodge volunteers, and Santa (Chip Boring). Ret. Sergeant Jose Santos gave the opening prayer and presented each veteran with a special veterans pin. A ham dinner was provided by the Elks but cooked by Chef Jacob Lyons from Hands for Homeless. There was a special treat when Elk member, Patsy Howard, sang "Proud To Be An American".



The Faults of our Members We Write Upon the Sand, Their Virtues Upon the Tablets of Love and Memory.

### Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 Toys for Children

This is the first year that the Sebring Elks #1529 was asked to participate in the Florida State Elks/Walgreens Christmas Toys for Children. The toy collection ran from November to December 17th, and one Avon Park Walgreens and two Sebring stores participated. Two of Sebrings winter residents, Linda Shuback and Jimmy Robbins (an Elk for 25 years from Haverstraw, N.Y., Lodge #877) picked up all the Sebring gifts, and Trustee Ken Wheeler picked up the Avon Park dona-

tions. Our Lodge donated the 201 toys to two different organizations, Sebring Fire & Rescue Dept., and Ag Angels. The Fire department listed their main recipients will be the Boys and Girls Club, a needy local family, and a local mission. Ag Angels will share theirs with a local migrant community and Guardian-AdLitem (court appointed foster care in Highlands and Hardy County). Scott Kirouac,

Chairman of Ag Angels was also presented a check for \$500.00 for the organization from the Lodge Charity Account.

Pictured in the Ag Angels I-r: Jonathan Spiegel ER, Linda Shuback, Scott Kirouac, and Jimmy Robbins.

Pictured in the Fire Department l-r: Capt. Austin Maddox, Jacob Figur, Jonathan Spiegel ER, Linda Shuback, Jimmy Robbins, Tyler Simmons, and Eric



#### Elks National Americanism Essay Contest.

The Sebring Elks #1529 participated in the Elks National Americanism Essay Contest. This year's theme was "What the Bill of Rights Means to Me". Two schools participated, Woodlawn Elementary and Sebring Middle School. The winners were given a check of \$75.00 for 1st, \$50.00 for 2nd, and \$25.00 for 3rd place, and the teachers were presented with a \$25.00 Amazon gift card.

Pictured from Woodlawn back I-r: Principal Jerry Wright, and Johnathan Spiegel ER front I-r: 2nd place winner, Adelyn Judah; 3rd place Janelle Tenneson, 1st place Nytaria Worrell, Diane Morse, Donna Howerton, Teacher Andrea McHargue, and Asst. Principal Christine Gilbert.

Pictured from Sebring Middle 6th grade l-r: Wainetta Holmes PER, 3rd place Joseph Scheipsmeier, 1st place Claire Brooker, 2nd place Lucia Guillen, Teacher Tammy Goins, Donna Howerton, and Diane Morse. 7th grade l-r: Wainetta Holmes PER, 1st place Gracelyn Cummings, 3rd place Jadyn Young; 2nd place Eli Raulerson, Teacher Kara Williams, Donna Howerton, and Diane Morse.

8th grade l-r: Teacher Tammy Williams, Donna Howerton, 2nd place Kylie Measner, 1st place Garret Bihl, and Diane Morse. The 3rd place winner, Yurali Mendoza was not pictured.

These essays will be sent to the SWC District for further evaluation and could possibly go to the Florida State and then the National Elks finals. Congratulations to all who participated!



#### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

As your ENF (Elks National Foundation) chairman, I would like to give you our status of donation as of 12-17-2023. As you know, through ENF Grants we are capable of helping so many people in our community. This past year we have received three grants, Gratitude, Spotlight, and Beacon totalling \$8,000.00! Our deadline for contributing for the 2023-24 year is February 1st, 2024. Sebring #1529 Board of Directors focused on two main areas with these monies this year - Veterans and Homeless in our area. Because we were able to meet our \$4.80/per member last year, we were able to receive the Gratitude grant. This year we are also asked to donate at least \$4.80 per member. I am saddened to say that the latest figures show only 3.62%of our membership have contributed. We have collected \$1,940.54 which shows that a small number of members have been very generous, while so many have not participated. Please help us help Highlands County by giving your share to ENF by donating using one of the following methods:

1- Send your donation (writing your member # on check & indicate you are from Sebring #1529) to Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, 1 60614-2256.

2- Call our office #863-385-8647 & give either the Secretary or Treasure your credit card information and they will help you with the donation.

3- Give your check or cash to the office or to Ronna Mason PER directly.

Thank you for HELPING! Ronna Mason PER ENF Chairman

#### National Veterans Wreath

On December 16th the Sebring Elks #1529 participated in the Highlands County observance of the National Wreaths Across America. This took place at the Lakeview Memorial Gardens in Avon Park on a cool, rainy day. The Lodge paid for 10 wreaths of the 528 total and they were placed on the graves by volunteers with a salute of appreciation. Ron Schilffarth (not pictured) from our Lodge represented the Elks Veterans Committee.









The Faults of our Members We Write Upon the Sand, Their Virtues Upon the Tablets of Love and Memory.

## January Happy Birthdays

01 Wood, Carl Wesley 03 Brown, Mac Horwitz, Bert 05 Collins, Dale M 06 Haviland, Gwendolyn Thompson, Jo 07 Cool, Maureen M O'Connor, Kimberly L Sites. Darlene D Stover, Heide 10 Rivera, Angel Ortiz 15 Kidahl, Kim Miller, Terri

16 Carkeet, Gregory S Halsey, Michael S Richards, Brenda Stockenberg, Joe 17 Watson, Michael 18 Denny, Charles F Propst, Martin David Sternberg, James H 19 Holmes, William L Dorsey, Wanda Rahl, Ronald R 22 Gossard, David Riddle, David L 24 Wile, Carl

25 Luck, Lucy 26 Cormier, Rodney J 27 Hill, Diane 28 Cesare, Brain Walburn, Rachel 30 Ahrman, Daniel J 31 Sweigert-Farmer, Elizabeth Lodge



Marylyn Adams Kim Albritton Don & Barb Amiott Richard Barney Gary Brockett William Brown Gwen Clark Ronald Cochran Gary Germaine Scott Kirouac Eugene Kissner Ernest Kuhn Bob & Deanna Lewis

# Bulletin Boosters

Charles Lowrence Sharon Mahaffey Marilyn Patno Dennis Redding Jeremias Ruiz Ron & Suzanne Scdhilfforth Donald Snapp David & Susan Spiegel Dan Turner Allen & Angie Warchak Michelle Woodhall Linda Woods Lorraine Woolever Norman Wolff

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If you would like to become a Bulletin Booster, Contact Lodge Office

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OFFICE OPEN MON, TUES & THURS 9 AM TO NOON

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Youth Activities

471-3557 385-8647 381-7159 Jonathan Spiegel PER 441-1943 Joe Stockenberg Gwen Clark 835-1233 Diane Morse 381-2321 Darlene Quel 724-622-1445 Joy Rink 385-8647 Mark Richardson 381-2002 Billy Brown 540-550-1846 381-4713 **Buddy Richards** Reggie Lemmen 863-446-5555 Ronna Mason, PER 446-0494 Bob Lewis 248-296-9681 Ken Wheeler 452-6462 Ron Schilffarth 273-2444 lim Mason, PDDGER 446-0441 OPEN OPEN Diane Morse 381-2321 Jim Mason, PDDGER 446-0441 **Billy Brown** 540-550-1846 Wainetta Holmes PER 214-3039 Office 385-8647 Judy Hanson, PER 239-823-7859 239-823-7859 Judy Hanson, PER 239-823-7859 Judy Hanson, PER Diane Morse 381-2321 Jim Mason, PDDGER 446-0441 Gwen Clark 835-1233 Mike Disler PER 385-5139 Judy Hanson, PER 239-823-7859 OPEN Brenda Richards 443-0862 381-4713 **Buddy Richards** OPEN Ralph Young 385-3843 Jim Mason, PDDGER 446-0441 Ronna Mason PER 446-0494 Gwen Clark 835-1233 OPEN Ronna Mason PER 446-0494 Ronna Mason PER 446-0494 239-823-7859 Judy Hanson, PER Rachel Wood 451-6116 239-823-7859 Judy Hanson, PER Judy Hanson, PER 239-823-7859 863-381-3104 Brenda Walton 385-7045 **Richard Vosburgh** Email: rmvosburgh@gmail.com Jim Mason, PDDGER 446-0441

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