



Exalted Ruler

Hello to All!

Wow ! Did that month fly by quickly? Thank you to all of the new volunteers who have stepped up and joined a committee. There are many more opportunities to show your talents, so don't be shy, join in, make some new friends, and be part of making your lodge the best Lodge in the District. Please note the meeting changes on the calendar due to the State Convention happening May 22-24, if you have never been, you need to go! It is great fun and a great time to learn about Elksdom.

This month is packed with activities at the lodge so keep up with your Constant Contacts and don't miss out on anything!

New parking decals have been issued, they are red, please place it on the lower right side of your windshield in

Lodge 497

your car so the towing company knows you are in good standing and will NOT to tow your car. For our visiting Elks, we have temporary parking passes available from our bartenders.

We will celebrate **Mother's Day May the 11th with a Brunch** at the lodge; Mothers who are members, spouses of members, or widows will eat for free. Please bring the whole family!

Summer is almost here! Get involved and let's have a great summer at the Elks Lodge!!

**Fraternally,
Greg Eddins, ER**

Welcome New Members



WE NEED YOU!
A CALL FOR LEADERSHIP

**VETERANS DAY PARADE
COMMITTEE NEEDS A NEW
CHAIRMAN** (see page 4 for details)

Ladies of the Elks

Well, spring has definitely sprung on Pensacola Beach. Bands on the Beach is back, the shore is packed on days with nice weather, and the Ladies of Elks 497 are busy as ever!

In April, we held the annual Children's Easter party at the lodge. I will have a detailed recap of the event next month's Hoof Prints.

Nineteen ladies traveled to the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla the weekend of April 11-13 for the Florida Ladies of Elks retreat. Most arrived on Friday afternoon and were welcomed by the retreat committee for a meet and greet. Attendees were able to swim, make new friends, and enjoy the camp with other ladies from Elk lodges across the state. They were treated to a guided tour of the youth camp and had opportunities to get a massage, take a chair yoga class, and make a sound-healing journey of self-discovery and deep relaxation. There was also wine tasting and even a pirate murder mystery! Below is a photo of those who attended, all decked out in their pirate gear!!



I want to commend L.O.E. members Elaine Davis and Dorian Schaefer, and their husbands, for their recent effort to raise money for the KYDD Keeping a Breast Foundation. The group sold barbequed sliders, potato salad and baked beans at the lodge's March 24th bingo night. These four folks donated the food, did all the preparation, and served the meal. They raised \$1,720 for the Foundation, which included a large donation from the Elks. Pictured below from left to right are Brooks and Elaine Davis, Dorian and Tom Schaefer.



Finally, I'd like to welcome new members Barbara Concan, Donna Hoffman, Debbie Schultz and Kathleen Wheeler who joined our group in April. Membership is open to all female Elks or spouses/widows of an Elk. I'd like to invite anyone who is interested in joining our group to attend our meeting on Thursday, May 1st, or on June 5th at 6:30 PM in the third-floor meeting room. There is no commitment if you come, but I just know you'll want to join!!

Jamie Ferbezar
LOE President



Exalted Ruler	Greg Eddins
Leading Knight	Milton Andress
Loyal Knight	Ingo Starke
Lecturing Knight	Tammy Eddins
Secretary	Kathy Lancaster
Treasurer	Shannon Fell
Esquire	Scott Field
Tiler	Tom Luke
Chaplain	Christian Rabone
Inner Guard	Johnny Graves
Presiding Justice	John Unzicker
Lodge Advisor	Toni Palmer
BOD Chairman	Will Berry
5 Year Trustee	Ramsey Landry
4 Year Trustee	David Warren
3 Year Trustee	Vacant
2 Year Trustee	Phil Gambrell
1 Year Trustee	Will Berry
Accident Prevention	Ramsey Landry
Americanism	CK Dupuis
Army of Hope	Ken Branch
Asst. Dock Master	Dave Dalton, Jr.
Auditing	Scott Abel
Blood Bank	Celeste Whisenant
Club Manager	David Christian
Community Activities	Ron Christian
Dock Master	David Dalton
Drug Awareness	Brenda Purdy
ENF Fundraising	Sandy Milborn
ENF Grants	Sandy Milborn
ENF Scholarship	Rhonda Dorfman
Entertainment	Celeste Whisenant
Flag Day	Robert Randall
Harry-Anna	Chris Wells
Hoof Prints	Steve Dupuis
Hoop Shoot	David Dalton, Jr.
Investigation	Ron Castle
Lapsation	Shelli Branch
LOE President	Jamie Ferbezar
Lodge Activities	Ron Christian
Maintenance	Will "Dude" Hausmann
Marketing	Steve Dupuis
Mediator	Brooks Davis
Membership	Lisa Levchik
Memorial Service	Beryle Farmer
Nat'l. Foundation	Sandy Milburn
Nat'l Vet. Service	Pam McGinty
Orientation	Cap Pratt
Soccer Shoot	Jennifer Regan
Therapy Services	Chris Wells
Training	Greg Eddins
Under 40	Slater Dance
Veterans Services	Pam McGinty
Webmaster/PR	Steve Dupuis
Youth Camp	Larry Bragg

Officer Installation 2025 - 2026



Past Exalted Rulers (PERs)

The PERs were proud to have instituted your 2025-2026 officers on the 30th of March. We have every confidence they will make a positive impact on the lodge this year, and we stand ready to assist them in any way possible! Please support your incoming officers by leaning in and volunteering, for only if we stand together can we make a real difference in our slice of the world!

Also, your PER association is raffling off a Trager pellet grill, \$20.00 per ticket and the winner will be drawn after all tickets are sold. These tickets can be purchased from your PERs and will also be behind the bar.

Fraternally,
Jim Rodriguez, PER
FSEA State Membership Chair
NW District PER Vice President



We Need Some ELKS

WATCH FOR CONSTANT CONTACT
FOR NEXT MTG DATE LODGE 3RD FLR

Fore! Our Biggest annual Fundraiser, A Call Out to Fellow ELKs.
This Year's Golf Tourney is being scheduled for September. More info coming soon...



WE NEED YOU! A CALL FOR LEADERSHIP

The Lodge is seeking a new Chairman for the Veterans Day parade for 2025. Pam McGinty has served as the Chairman for the past two years and worked the parade for a total of 4 years. Jamie Ferbezar served as the graphics and computer person for the last 4 years as well. They both need to take a step back and train a new team to take over the organization and execution of the parade. They are willing and able to do a nice transition for the new Parade Team members by walking you through the process, paperwork and many points of contact. For 36 years the Elks Lodge has sponsored a Veterans Day Parade on Pensacola on November 11th. For the last 4 years, the parade has gotten increasingly more popular. It actually consists of three events; We team up with the American Legion to offer a hamburger/hotdog cookout to our veterans and volunteers under the Lodge from 11 AM to 1 PM. The parade itself kicks off at 2 PM on Via de Luna and Panferio. It concludes at the pavilion at Casino Beach. There, we have a patriotic ceremony. It involves a POW/MIA ceremony and a presentation by our Grand Marshall. Last year, our Grand Marshal was RADM Jeffrey Czerewko, NETC, Commander at Pensacola NAS.

Qualifications for the job are pretty easy. The Chairman must be well organized, a good delegator, and run meetings. The computer person should be good with spreadsheets and creating posters. Both should be patient and good natured.



Florida Elks Youth Camp June 15th-21st, 2025 Open for Registration



The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, would like to invite your child to Florida Elks Summer Youth Camp this summer. The camp is available for boys and girls between the ages of 9 through 13. Transportation to camp is being provided by Pensacola Beach Elks Lodge, #497 for Week 2-NWD Bus. Our week is June 15-21. Permission to register for camp and ride the bus **MUST** be obtained from the lodge representative in charge. For more information contact:

Larry Bragg 850-380-9275

Elks Care, Next Drive May 4th

Our next 'Dan Smith Memorial' OneBlood blood drive will be **Sunday, May 4th from 10 am until 3 pm** at the Elks Lodge. Registration is now open for appointments by simply going to **oneblood.org/donate**, clicking on the red donate tab and then entering the sponsor name/code: **16370**.

In appreciation of your lifesaving gift, OneBlood will give each donor a \$20 eGift card, a cool Trucker Hat, plus OneBlood will provide a wellness check to include blood pressure, iron level, temperature, pulse and cholesterol screening. The OneBlood website has a FAQ section that will answer many of your questions about eligibility and donating blood.



- Celeste Whisenant



**REGISTRATION
IS OPEN!**

Registration is now open for appointments by simply going to **oneblood.org**, clicking on the red donate tab and then entering the sponsor name/code: **16370** or clicking on this link:

<https://donorportal.oneblood.org/donate-now>



May



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 PER Meeting 6:30 PM 2nd Floor LOE Meeting 6:30 PM 3rd Floor Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	2 The Koolerators (Paul & Jeff) 6:00 - 10:00 PM	3 Kentucky Derby 4:00 - 'Till
4 BLOOD DRIVE 10:00AM - 3PM	5 CINCO DE MAYO THEMED Bingo 6:00 PM LOE Officers Meeting 1:00 PM 3rd Floor	6 Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM New Member Interviews Start 5:30PM	7	8 Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	9 DIZZY Juke Band 6:00 - 10:00 PM	10 KARAOKE with Shannon & Birthday Bash
11 Mother's Day BRUNCH	12 Bingo 6:00 PM	13 Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM	14	15 BOD Meeting & Governing Body 6:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	16 Platinum Premier Duo (Misty & Loren) 6:00 - 10:00 PM	17
18 WAHOO BASH Sunday May 18 1:05 PM LODGE 497	19 Bingo 6:00 PM	20 Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM	21	22 Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	23 DINNER & 'Tomato' 6:00 - 10:00 PM	24
25	26 Bingo 6:00 PM	27 Taco Tuesday 5:00 - 7:00 PM New Member Orientation 6PM	28	29 Lodge Meeting & Initiation 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	30 Southern Breeze Band 6:00 - 10:00 PM	31

Mother's Day
BASKET
RAFFLE

Tickets
at the Bar
\$1 for One
\$5 for Six



LOE BASKET
DRAWING
MAY 1st
AT LOE MEETING

TACO TUESDAY
Just Show Up...
We Can Always
Use Help!

There's a Signup List at the Lodge as well...



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From the Secretary

As of April 1st, the readers were swapped out and you can no longer gain access to the lodge if you have not paid your dues. If you have not paid, you will need to pay and pick up your cards at the Lodge because you missed out the bulk mail out. We also have new decals for your vehicles. If you did not receive one with your membership card, you can pick them up from the bartenders. Please remember that the new red decals should replace the old ones on all vehicles. This is an important security measure to ensure that only current members are utilizing the parking facilities.

Thanks,
See You at the Lodge!



Sunday May 4th BLOOD DRIVE

10:00AM - 3PM
(See Page 4 for Details)

May

Interviews: Tuesday, May 6th on the 2nd floor beginning at 5:30pm. Please sign in on the sign-up sheet by the library.

Orientation: Tuesday, May 27th 3rd floor 6pm.
Initiation Meeting: Thursday, May, 29th, Meet on the 2nd floor at 6:15pm for further instructions.

Kathy Lancaster
SecretaryElks497@gmail.com

Office Hours Mon & Thurs 1-5pm

Club Hours

Mon-Thurs : **Noon - Til**
Friday : **Noon - Til**
Saturday : **Noon - Til**
Sunday : **Noon - Til**

Phone: (850) 932-4444
Secretary: (850) 932-8050
Reservations: (850) 932-4444
Club Manager: beach.elks497@yahoo.com
www.elks.org/Lodges/home.cfm?Lodgenumber=0497



Please attend Lodge meetings.
Project 50 Percent: One meeting a month, 12 hours a year. It's not too much to ask.

Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks
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