



## Exalted Ruler

## Lodge 497

What a fantastic Fall we are having! Thank you to DeAnna Barr for all of the beautiful fall decorations she supplied and placed in the lodge! I hope everyone is doing well and planning for an even better holiday season. On behalf of the entire Board, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please check the calendar for all of the special events we have planned to carry us through the New Year. Congratulations to the November Team of new members. We are looking forward to getting to know you at the lodge.

It is hard for me to convey how grateful I am to all of the many volunteers who did an outstanding job making our Veteran's Day Parade, the best ever!! Even under the stress of illness, Trish Welch, Veteran's Day Parade Chair, and her team ran a flawless parade that showed that Elks love and support our Nation's Veterans! Thank you to all who participated in the social time after the parade, I know our Veterans enjoyed that most of all. Above all, Thank you to our Veteran's, we know Freedom isn't free!

A shout out to all of our cowboys and cowgirls for coming out to Western Night with the Modern Eldorados! Celest Whisenant, Charlotte Field, and the volunteer team did an outstanding job putting this event on! Having fun and raising money for charity. We are definitely a "Party with a Purpose"!

Thanksgiving Day "Feeding the Troops" was a huge success! Thank you to all of our faithful volunteers for making it absolutely AWESOME! Special thank you to Jan Alverson, Trustee, and her team for organizing the meal, saving us money on the transportation of troops, and successfully herding our beautiful, hardworking, faithful cats. You know I love you all. Our Florida State Elks Mid Year Conference was a tremendous learning

experience for everyone who attended. Thank you to our lodge officers for participating, Gary Booker, Tammy Wilson, Kathy Lancaster, and Tammy Eddins, we learned a ton and had a great time doing it. We are looking forward to sharing this knowledge with our lodge and continuing to move our lodge forward. Conventions are open to all Elks in good standing so plan to attend when you can.

You can stay connected with our lodge events in many ways. I suggest following our lodge on Facebook, and making sure your email address is up to date with our secretary so you receive emails and Constant Contacts. Check the bulletin boards at the lodge and don't forget to read the walls in the elevator!!! Our meeting schedule for the month of December is also a little different so check the calendar.

It is common for lodges to slow in membership gain over the holidays and into the last quarter of the year. I would like to challenge all of our new members from 2025 to bring in a friend or two, introduce them to your new friends at the lodge, and then let's help them join our Lodge family before the end of our fiscal year 3.31.2026. You know how I feel about new members, they are the life blood our lodge! Lets keep it going!

In closing, let me also thank our amazing Club Manager, Terri Devinny, and her incredible staff for putting up with us when we don't deserve it, loving us when we need it, and serving us with a smile, EVERY time. You guys are killing it!!!

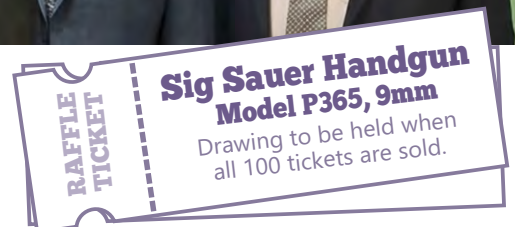
**See you at the Lodge!**  
**Fraternally,**  
**Greg Eddins**  
**Exalted Ruler**



**Welcome  
New Members**

## PERs Raffle

Sig Sauer gun raffle tickets are going fast! Get yours before they run out, the goal is to have them all sold and the winner drawn before the holidays. Tickets are \$20 each and only 100 will be sold at the bar.



**More Photos are Included on the Digital/Online Hoof Prints in Full Color**

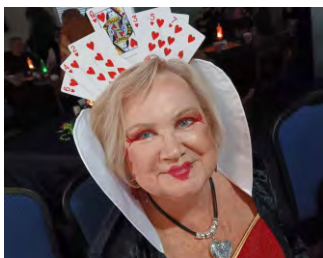
# Ladies of the Elks

Happy Holidays to all Elks and L.O.E.s! As I enjoy this festive season, I think of all the people in my life who make it truly worth living. Thank you to all my Lodge 497 friends who have supported me, assisted me, and encouraged me throughout the past year. The L.O.E.s have accomplished a lot around our lodge and have contributed a great deal to our community!

The first-ever Halloween Party hosted by the L.O.E.s was a great success. The tickets sold out early and a huge crowd showed up the night of October 31st for the event! Fuzzy's chili was delectable, and Engrid's charcuterie and sandwiches were frightfully delicious! Twenty door prizes were awarded to lucky ticket holders and awards were presented to the best male, female, and couple costumes. **To top it off, the L.O.E.s raised over \$1,300 for charity!**



1st Place Couple  
Deb Turner & Terry Brotherton



1st Place Female  
Debbie Hinnners



1st Place Male  
Ken Trump

Finally, in November, the L.O.E.s donated \$1,000 to Santa Rosa Kids House, a Child Advocacy Center that has been serving abused and neglected children in Santa Rosa County since June 2008. L.O.E. Treasurer, Harriet Gossett, is pictured with Chairman of the Board, Wendell Hall, and Facility Coordinator, Narissa Greer.



I'd like to welcome Cecile Spiegel to the Ladies of Elks 497! She joined our talented group of gals in November. If you are a female Elk, or the spouse/widow of an Elk, and would like to find out more about our group, please attend our meeting on Wednesday December 3rd at 6:30 PM on the third floor of the lodge. The 2nd floor will be closed that day due to the installation of new flooring and dance floor, so please come directly to the 3rd floor! Once you meet us and see what we are about, I know you'll want to join...

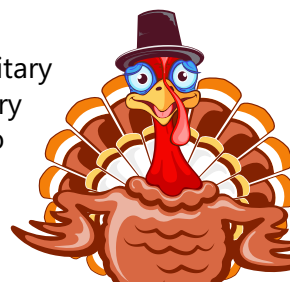
*See Ya' at the Lodge!*  
**Jamie Ferbezar**

Exalted Ruler	Greg Eddins
Leading Knight	Ingo Starke
Loyal Knight	Wayne Barr
Lecturing Knight	Tammy Eddins
Secretary	Kathy Lancaster
Treasurer	Tammy Wilson
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	Jan Alverson
3 Year Trustee	Gary Booker
2 Year Trustee	Trish Welch
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	Terri Devinny
Community Activities	Celeste Whisenant
Dock Master	David Dalton
Drug Awareness	Brenda Purdy
ENF Fundraising	Sandy Milborn
ENF Grants	Sandy Milborn
ENF Scholarship	Tammy Eddins
Entertainment	Charlotte Field
Flag Day	Jan Alverson
Harry-Anna	Chris Wells
Hoof Prints	Steve Dupuis
Hoop Shoot	Matt Alt
Investigation	Ron Castle
Lapsation	Shelli Branch
LOE President	Jamie Ferbezar
Lodge Activities	Jan Alverson
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	Matt Alt
Therapy Services	Chris Wells
Training	Greg Eddins
Under 40	Slater Dance
Veterans Services	Carey Seigle
Webmaster/PR	Steve Dupuis
Youth Camp	Larry Bragg

## Feeding the Troops' Thanksgiving Celebration

Many thanks to all the volunteers who provided desserts, turkeys, hams, and other food items, and also to those who worked tirelessly to make this the best Thanksgiving Day for the service members. Additionally, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to **Jim'N Nick's Bar-B-Q** on Davis Highway, Pensacola, for their generous donation of the delicious side items of cornbread dressing, gravy, macaroni and cheese, as well as their famous cheese biscuits.

Their thoughtful contribution greatly enhanced our event and was enjoyed by our visiting military troops. On top of that, last month **Jim'N Nick's Bar-B-Q** catered our special event, the Country Western dinner and dance. Everyone complimented the food at both events. When you go to Jim and Nick's Bar-B-Q, please let them know how much we appreciate their community support.





## District Deputy Homecoming Dinner

Dec 6th / Cocktail hour is at 5pm / Dinner beginning at 6pm. Members of our home lodge are invited to attend but need to make reservations with the bartenders by 11/30. Please contact Jan Alverson at 850-287-1172 if there are any questions.

## Charitable Donations Total \$17,500 Approved at the Oct 23, 2025 Lodge Meeting

**Families in Need at Christmas.** An allocation of \$3,000 was approved to support families facing hardship during the Christmas season. This year, support has been extended to four families, doubling the usual two.

**Friends of Bear, Inc.** will receive \$2,000. This organization focuses on purchasing bicycles for children at Christmas, in collaboration with the Toys for Tots program.

A donation of \$2,000 will be provided to **OnBikes Pensacola, Inc.**, which supplies bicycles and helmets to underprivileged children in our community as holiday gifts.

**Dignity and Discipleship Evangelistic** will receive \$3,500. This organization assists individuals experiencing homelessness in Escambia County by helping them secure lodging and employment. Their program involves working closely with each homeless person for an entire year.

**Independence for the Blind of West Florida** is to receive \$3,500 in support of its mission of educating the blind and visually impaired of West Florida.

**Thanksgiving Day Feed the Troops:** \$1,800 has been designated to cover bus rental costs. These buses will transport troops from the Naval Base to our Lodge for the 2025 Thanksgiving Day Feed the Troops meals.

Through the **Kiwanis Club of Pensacola Foundation Inc.**, \$1,700 will be used to purchase wreaths for the Wreaths Across America initiative at Barrancas National Cemetery.

## Calling Elk Crafters

**Craft Show Sun Dec. 14th**  
**1:00-4:00PM / Wine Tasting**

**\$10 Small Table, \$20 Large Table. For more info Contact Charlotte 850-516-4129**

## Club Manager's Corner

Dear Elks members, I hope you are all doing well. We have implemented several new changes and updates within the Lodge. A Keurig machine has been installed, enabling you to purchase K cups at the bar for two dollars and enjoy a warm beverage during the cold weather. Furthermore, we are offering special drink promotions to complement our coffee selection, as outlined on the sign above the coffee station. Our menu has been enhanced with the addition of thin crust pepperoni pizzas, which have received excellent reviews. I am currently working to introduce additional lunch options, and I encourage you to stay tuned for updates. We have a range of exciting holiday events planned, and I encourage you all to participate. The Ladies of the Elks consistently organize outstanding events for everyone's enjoyment. As we approach the holiday season, the Lodge will experience increased activity, and I kindly request that you exercise patience and courtesy towards our bartenders, who will reciprocate with exceptional service. The suggestion box is located outside my office, and I welcome your ideas on how to enhance the Lodge experience. My ultimate goal is to create a warm and inviting atmosphere where you can create lasting memories.



Thanks, **Terri**  
See You Soon!

## Elks Care and Save Lives

The November 2025 Elks Lodge 497 Dan Smith Memorial Blood Drive was a tremendous success. Our dedicated members came together to donate 24 units of blood, demonstrating their generosity and commitment to the community.

The late Dan Smith was a valued member of our Lodge, serving selflessly in numerous capacities over many years. He notably held the position of Exalted Ruler on two occasions. Dan was especially passionate about the life-saving importance of blood donation. Through his leadership and vision, our blood drives were reinstated on August 9, 2020, after a period of inactivity. Thanks to his initiative, these drives have taken place every quarter since then.

Since the reinstatement of our blood drives, our Elks Lodge 497 has donated an impressive total of 65 gallons of blood. This ongoing commitment reflects the spirit and dedication instilled in us by Dan Smith.

**Celeste Whisenant**  
Blood Bank Chairman

## Honor Roll

Thank you for participating in the blood drive at  
**Pensacola Beach Elks Lodge #497 on Sunday, November 2,**

ALONSO JR ANDRES  
FIELD CHARLOTTE  
CHUDY CHRISTOPHER  
WHITEHURST GLORIA  
MARTIN JASON  
ROSE JOANN  
MARTIN KIMBERLY  
FANFALONE NINA  
WHISENANT RICKEY  
WILSON TAMMY  
RABONE TIFFANY

WHISENANT CELESTE  
RABONE CHRISTIAN  
DAVIS ELAINE  
RODRIGUEZ JAMES  
COLLEY JEFFERY  
OERTING JOHN  
CHILDS NATALIE  
ROARK PATTI  
ROQUE ROBERT  
HINES TERRI  
GRINSELL WILLIAM

**Mark your calendars for Our Next  
Drive: Feb 22, 2026**



# VETERANS DAY PARADE



More Photos are Included on the Digital/Online Hoof Prints in Full Color







# DECEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Nov 30th</b> NEW YEARS EVE TICKET SALES 2:00PM  "Timeless at the Elks, Countdown to 2026"	<b>Bingo</b> 1 6:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	<b>Taco Tuesday</b> 2 5:00 - 7:00 PM  <b>New Member Interviews</b> Start 5:00 PM  <b>PER Mtg</b> 6:30 PM	<b>CORN HOLE</b> 3   <b>LOE Meeting</b> 6:30 PM / 3rd flr  <b>2ND FLOOR LODGE CLOSED</b> Reopen on Thurs (Dec 4th) Evening	<b>Lodge Meeting</b> 4 7:00 PM  Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	<b>DINNER</b> 5  <b>Koolerators (Paul &amp; Jeff)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM  <b>P'COLA BEACH BOAT PARADE</b>	6  <b>DISTRICT DEPUTY HOMECOMING DINNER</b> See Top of Page 3 for Details
<b>ANNUAL ELKS Memorial Service</b> 7	<b>Bingo</b> 8 6:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	<b>Taco Tuesday</b> 9 5:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>CORN HOLE</b> 10  <b>BAR FOOD &amp; BEER SPECIALS</b> 5:00 - 8:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	<b>Queen of Hearts</b> 11 ~8:00 PM  <b>BOD &amp; Gov Mtg</b> 6:00 PM	<b>DINNER</b> 12  <b>DIZZY JUKES</b> 6 - 10PM  <b>KARAOKE</b> w/Stacey Ramey Birthday Bash 6:30 - 10PM	<b>ELK'S CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PARTY</b> 13 <b>11:00-2PM</b>
<b>Craft Show 1-4PM/Wine Tasting</b> 14 See Top of Page 3 for Details	<b>Bingo</b> 15 6:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	<b>Taco Tuesday</b> 16  <b>New Member Orientation 6PM</b>	<b>CORN HOLE</b> 17  <b>BAR FOOD &amp; BEER SPECIALS</b> 5:00 - 8:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	<b>Lodge Meeting &amp; Initiation</b> 18 7:00 PM  Queen of Hearts ~8:00 PM	<b>DINNER</b> 19  <b>Platinum Premier Duo (Misty &amp; Loren)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 PM	20
21	<b>Bingo</b> 22 6:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	23 <b>NO TACO TUESDAY</b> TAKING A LITTLE BREAK	24	<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>  <b>Lodge Opens 3:30pm</b> <b>Thanks Colleen</b> A LODGE TRADITION	<b>Milton &amp; Debbie's Merry Elk DINNER</b> 26  <b>SOUTHERN BREEZE</b>	27
28	<b>Bingo</b> 29 6:00 PM  <b>LODGE Lunch</b> Noon - 3:30 PM	30 <b>NO TACO TUESDAY</b> TAKING A LITTLE BREAK	31 <b>HAPPY NEW YEARS EVE PARTY</b>			

## — Timeless at the Elks, Countdown to 2026 — NEW YEAR EVE

Featuring

## VINYL REVIVAL



**NOTE: More November 2025 Photos of the Veteran Parade, Western Night, Halloween Party & Karaoke Night will be Included in Online Hoof Prints.**

More Photos are Included on the Digital/Online Hoof Prints in Full Color

## Country Western Costume Winners for Hoof Prints



Best Male: Frank Fazio



Best Female: Ebba Dampier



Best Couple: Cap & Helen Pratt



### Gulf Breeze Optimist Club Christmas Tree Sale

Gulf Breeze HS sports field.

Lot hours are: Sat & Sun 9am - 5:30pm  
Mon-Fri 2:30 - 5:30pm / Open Black Friday 9-5



## Compliments of Flounders Chowder House

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## Crabs on the Beach

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Take Care & God Bless...

Peace On Earth and  
Goodwill to All!



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*Merry Christmas*



**Charlie  
Rotenberry**  
Broker Associate

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# From the Secretary

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving Holiday. Please remember to have your membership card with you when you come to the lodge. There are new bartenders, so please help them out. There is a new digital card available for those that travel and visit other lodges. Log into [elks.org](http://elks.org) and on the main page you see Digital Membership Card. Click on it and you will see a copy of your card. You can download it onto your phone so you will always have a copy of your card with you.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!  
Thanks, see you at the lodge!



## December

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

**Orientation:** Tuesday, December 16th 3rd floor 6pm.

**Initiation Meeting:** Thursday, December 18th, 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: [elkslodge497@gmail.com](mailto:elkslodge497@gmail.com)  
[www.elks.org/Lodges/home.cfm?Lodgenumber=0497](http://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.

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# VETERANS DAY PARADE





# VETERANS DAY PARADE





# Elks Country Western Night 2025 Thanks Ya'll!





# Elks Country Western Night 2025 Thanks Ya'll!



## Elks Saturday Night Karaoke With Stacy





# Elks Halloween 2025, A Great Time Had By All!

