

History of Sebring Lodge #1529 – Sebring, Florida

(Written by Lowell Allen, Bill Dunn & Gene Nason in 1977)

“Like many other history-making epochs in the State of Florida, Sebring Lodge was a product of the famous Florida boom of the 1920’s. Ed Wolf, one of Sebring’s foremost developers and civic leaders, had been a member of the Elks in Bluffton, Indiana and he saw the potentials for an Elks Lodge in Sebring. It was primarily through his efforts that a dispensation was granted for a lodge here. On October 20th 1926, under the sponsorship of Lakeland Lodge #1292 and Dr. W.S. “Doc” Irvin District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, the Sebring lodge was formed with a class of 23 initiates and 3 transfers, Ed Wolf, R. N. Durrance, and W. H. Williams, as charter members. The charter was granted in July 1927.

The 26 original members were from a representative cross section of the professional and business hierarchy of the county and, with a charter membership of men of that high standing in the community, other men immediately evidenced a desire to join in the association for the betterment of the community. At the second meeting, the lodge accepted 23 applications for membership and by the end of the first 6 months, the roster stood at 105”

Submitted by : Ronna Mason PER