

OFFICERS OF 1879

Exalted Ruler
Sherry Amerson*

Leading Knight
James Carnley*

Loyal Knight
Karla Boyse*

Lecturing Knight
Frank Bishop*

Secretary
Gretchen Morrow*

Treasurer
Marian Tucker*

Esquire
Donnie Ryals

Chaplain
Mike Herrin

Tiler
JeanAnn Seals

Inner Guard
Jim Trainer

Trustees
5 TBD*
4 Gordon Bell*
3 Randy Svitak*
2 Patrick Seals*
1 Danny Pulliam*

Grant Coordinator
Patty Ginder

*Board of Directors

Lodge will meet on the
2nd Thursday, 2nd
Sunday & 4th Thursday
in January
8th, 11th & 22nd
* * *

January 8th
7pm Balloting,
January 11th
2pm Orientation &
3pm Initiations,
January 22nd 7pm
Regular Meeting.
* * *

If you're applicant is
being initiated please
plan to attend.

Thank you!



EXALTED RULERS MESSAGE

As we begin 2026, we are pleased to announce plans to revamp the lodge, starting with the restrooms. Our fundraising goal is \$20,000. We invite all members and supporters to contribute to these improvements.

To review plans and discuss donation options or to make a pledge, please contact our Secretary, Gretchen Morrow, or myself.

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Christmas Party. Great food and awesome gifts were shared. Trivia and Karaoke remain popular, and we continue to offer meals three days a week. I enjoy meeting our newer members and visiting with long-standing members.

We have a trustee position open and would like anyone interested in filling that role to attend the meeting on January 8th at 7pm. We will have nominations for that position, followed by an election.

Our commitment to community service remains strong. Recent initiatives include hosting a veterans' fishing day at Oak Hollow



Farms, distributing food baskets and toys to families in need, and supporting youth programs in our area.

We have acquired a grant to allow us to provide equipment to the

local Scouting America Council for their outdoor activities.

We encourage members to volunteer for our programs, especially meal service and charitable initiatives. Assistance is needed with food preparation, serving, and cleanup, as well as general support for our charitable activities. Please let us know how you would like to help. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with suggestions, questions, or concerns.

Your support is vital to our success. Please consider making a donation today to help us reach our fundraising goal and continue our work in the community.

Sherry Amerson, Exalted Ruler
251-680-0979



01	Douglas	Hall
01	Daniel	Mitchell
04	Terry	Thompson
05	Lawrence	DiAmco
05	James	Duffy
05	Brett	Jackson
05	Douglas	Mansmann
05	Harold	Saden
07	William	Ashley
08	John	Hamrick
09	Stewart	Behrle
10	Teddy	Winstead
11	Katherine	Barton
11	Matt	Pressler
12	Scott	Erb
12	Darryl	Fisher
12	Jennifer	Pizzotti
12	Jennifer	Satriano
14	Ronald	Phinney
15	Catharine	Sherman
16	Raymond	Crabtree

16	Elizabeth	Miller
17	Carol	Bittner
17	Jerie	Smith
18	Stacy	Earls
18	Paul	Grimes
19	Thomas	Beagle
19	Gretchen	Morrow
20	Patricia	Brinkman
21	Lewis	Bryant Jr.
21	Jerry	Fields
21	Ronald	King
22	Brad	Chandler
22	Andy	Willis
23	John	Adams
24	Chris	Riley
28	Alex	Brush
30	Donald	Chmielewski
30	Ashley	Taylor
31	Merry Beth	Agans
31	Ronald	Galloway

Waiting Initiation

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Proposer</u>
Mary Lee Matzenger	Amber Carrier
Stephanie Sandefer	Amber Carrier
Suzy Tucker	William MeNefee
Scott Jackson	William Menefee
Jaela Robbins	Gretchen Morrow
Lisa Catherine Word	Russell Cowles
Randall Lee Word	Russell Cowles
Buddy Hart	Joseph Roberts
Anthony Walker	Seth Arnold
Jennifer Steiniger	Joseph Roberts
Wendy Glaze	Nancy Mooreman
Grayson Glaze	Nancy Mooreman
Lorrie Hanna	Danny Pulliam
Gary Langswager	Donald White
Laura Carter	Bonnie Corner
Daniel McKenzie	Beth Parris
Darrin Swan	Jason DeVane #1887 Dothan, AL
Tamara Wintzell	Joseph Roberts
Gavin Wohlmacher	Gretchen Morrow
Alice A. Key-Myrick	Chris Moore
Deborah Whitney	Chris Carrier
Claire Godwin	Betsy Key

Transfer Dimit Requests

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Location, Elks Lodge</u>
Douglas Borer	Eatonton, GA #2849

A note from the Secretary ...

Happy New Year!

Hopefully you have had a Wonderful Holiday and your New Year is off to a great start!

We are currently reporting **510** members for our Fairhope Lodge, 38 of these members are past due and are in danger of being dropped on March 31, 2026. The full list of delinquent members is posted on the bulletin board in the lounge hallway - If you happen to notice an acquaintance or a friend's name on the list that you haven't seen around lately feel free to reach out to them, invite them down to the lodge for a meal, to play Bingo or to simply just try to catch back up with them.

On Sunday January 11th, Initiations will be held with a Potluck to follow. There potentially will be 23 new member initiates joining this great club, please know that these candidates are not numbers on a report; they are future Elks, future volunteers, future leaders, and most importantly the future of this lodge.

The yearly Dues for the upcoming 2026 - 2027 year will be \$141 per member and \$66 per Life member. We are asking members to please consider donating an additional \$10 at the time of your dues payment to the Elks National Foundation (ENF) - lets make our lodge #1 in the State in the upcoming Elk year!

I am usually in the office on Mondays and on meeting nights. Do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need assistance with anything - I can be reached by phone, via email, or you can always drop a note in the "red mailbox" in the hall.

As always, if you have something to include in an upcoming edition, please send me all articles, photos and calendar information for the next newsletter by the **20th of January**.

Thank you,

When Elkdom Shines, Elkdom Grows!

Gretchen Morrow, Secretary
elks1879secretary@gmail.com



Fairhope Emblem #241 News

Happy New Year Emblem Fam!

Dates to remember for January are:

7th Spaghetti Dinner at 6pm
7th Meeting 7pm
17-18th Alabama State Association Meeting - Perdido
23rd Pork Chop Night at 6:30pm

Due to the cost of supplies meals are increasing from \$15 to \$17 and a double pork chop plate will be \$22.00. We appreciate all of our customers - Thank you for a great year!

If your dues card is not at 2025-2026 you are in danger of being dropped as of March 31st.

In Emblem love,

Gail Walley
Financial Secretary

Grand Exalted Ruler Membership Award Standings

Elks Membership Awards are earned for sponsoring any combination of New or Reinstated Members Initiated into our great order between **July 3, 2025 ~ June 12, 2026**

Here are the current Member Standings for the Grand Exalted Ruler PIN Award:



- ◇ **Award achieved:** Prissy Leavins, Donald White, Gordon Bell, Catherine Collier @ **3** new members ea.
- ◇ **1 more to go:** Dawn Egan, Jennifer Phipps, Justin Crabtree, Carolyn Bowen, Piper Uhlig, Chris Moore, Fran Moore, Brooks Wise @ **2** new members ea.
- ◇ **2 more to go:** William Beck, Sarge Sansone, Jim Trainer, Bonnie Corner, Betsy Key, John Hamrick, Dan Sullivan, Les Lagerstrom, Robert Glasscock, Jennifer Striano, John Clarkson, Michael Patrick, Chris Carrier, Gale Brogden, Brian Roach, Jim Tucker, Beverly Bradley, Linda Lemmon, Robert Wiederhold & Walter Zaykowski @ **1** new member ea.

Here are the current Member Standings for the Grand Exalted Ruler WRIST WATCH Award:

- ◇ **5 more to go:** Amber Carrier and Gretchen Morrow @ **6** new members ea.
- ◇ **7 more to go:** Prissy Leavins and Donald White @ **4** new members ea.



Elks Memorial Service

On Sunday, December 7th, we gathered as one in sacred unity, joining Lodges across the nation in a tradition both solemn and deeply meaningful. Together, we honored the cherished Members who have gone before us, embarking on their eternal journey.

On this day, we paused to reflect on a truth that binds us: an Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken. Though our hearts feel the weight of loss, we take comfort in the enduring legacies of those who graced our lives with their kindness, strength, and unwavering fellowship.



Alabama Mid Year State Convention

Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, Alabama
 Thursday January 15, 2026 through Saturday, January 17, 2026

The online link for Hotel reservations is <https://www.perdidobeachresort.com> while the direct number to call for reservations is 1-800-634-8001. If you have any problems making your reservations, please call Gwen Parker at 256-347-1545 as she has direct contact with our sales manager at Perdido. Our Booking id# is 20183, the minimum rate of \$109 has sold out, pricing is now at \$165 per night.

The online link for Registration is alabamaelks.regfox.com/alabama-elks-mid-winter-convention

This year is a **LUAU** theme! Don't forget to wear your favorite Luau outfit, bring your leis, and maybe even some extras to share. The theme will be carried throughout the weekend, from the hospitality room to the luncheon.



Convention Agenda

Thursday, January 15th

4:00pm – 6:00pm Registration

Friday, January 16th

9:00am – 5:00pm Registration
 2:00pm –4:00pm..... Roundtables Meeting in Trust Meeting Rm
 4:00pm Alabama Elks Trust board Meeting
 6:00pm Hospitality Rooms Opened
 7:00pm – 11:00pm Karaoke/Lip Sync Battle, Theme: “Be the Difference”
 11:00pm Eleven o’clock toast

Saturday, January 17th

8:00am Late Registration
 8:30am Alabama Elks Association Business Session
 12:00 Noon Luncheon Banquet w/Guest Speaker: Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Kylatt
**Coat and tie for male State Officers, business attire for female State Officers. Request sport coats for male non-officers (ties optional), business casual for female non-officers.*
 6:00pm Opening of Hospitality Room
 7:00pm – 11:00pm Band and Dance, Theme: “Elks by the Shore”
 11:00 Eleven O’clock Toast

Lip Sync Battle Performance Guidelines

1. Participants must be registered guests at the convention.
2. Participants must register in advance and submit songs by January 5th.
3. Individuals or Groups are welcome.
4. \$25.00 per performance.
5. Each group needs a designated contact person with whom all communication will take place.
6. Performances are limited to 3-5 minutes.
7. All songs and performances must be in good taste. Please no excessive vulgar language or inappropriate exposure.
8. Participants are encouraged to use props and costumes.
9. Participants are to provide their own props and costumes.
10. All props must be managed properly and removed right after performance.
11. Rehearsals (run through) will be at 5:30.
12. Performances start at 7:00
13. Make performances crowd appealing with creativity.
14. Judged by audience \$1.00 per vote.
15. The performance with most money is the winner.
16. Awards: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive a medals
17. All proceeds go to Camp ASCCA jingle jump

Convention T-Shirts

All proceeds go to Camp ASCCA Jingle Jump

- T-Shirts are red • short or long sleeves
- If pre order you will have your Lodge's name on the front of shirt
- With the GER theme “Be the Difference”
- Short sleeve \$20.00 size over 2XL is \$22.00
- Long sleeve \$22.00, size over 2XL is \$24.00
- Deadline for pre-order is January 7 th .
- Place order to: sheliachildress@outlook.com; 256-565-5390
- Pay Shelia Childress or pay at bar in care of Shelia Childress

Order Form

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Lodge _____ Long Sleeve ___ Short Sleeve _____

XSM ___ SM ___ MED ___ LARGE ___ XL ___ 2XL ___ 3XL ___ 4XL ___

Please direct questions to
 Shelia Childress
 256-565-5390
sheliachildress@outlook.com

Fishing w/the Vets

The take a “Veteran Fishing” event at Oak Hollow Farms held on December 9th, the Vets were unable to fish due to weather, but all had a wonderful time and were treated to a delicious lunch.
Thank you Leeland, Rebecca, Dawn, Donnie and Les!



Dirty Santa Holiday Party



Elks Care... Elks Share...

TOYS FOR TOTS HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

For 12+ years now, our Lodge along with our AMAZING members followed through with the tradition, quite a few of our special member elves spent time filling around 80 boxes with food for families in need throughout the Baldwin county area. This was a cooperative venture with the US Marines Toys for Tots which delivered toys to the Lodge for distribution. Many of our Elks members purchased food items which were also placed in boxes alongside bags full of toys.

Along with the food for each family, we have provided toys and gift cards for at least 140 children, ranging in age from newborn to 19 years old.



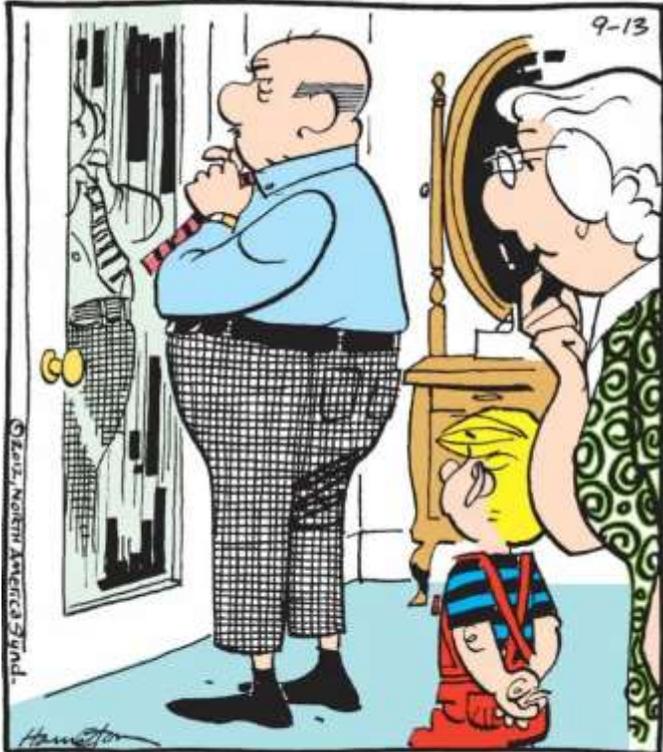
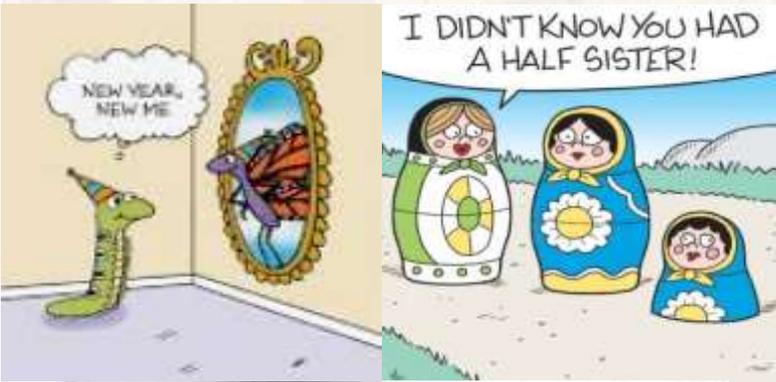
“Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.”



Comic Corner



"Bummer of a birthmark, Hal!"



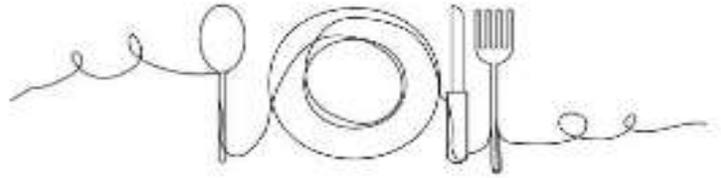
"THE HIGHER WAISTLINE DOESN'T DO YOU ANY FAVORS, BUT YOUR LEGS DEFINITELY LOOK LONGER."

BURGER NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY

Your Choice Burger | Cheese Burger \$6

Your choice Fries or Onion Rings. \$3



Wednesday Night Meals

7th - Emblem Spaghetti & Jackpot BINGO

14th - TBD Meal & Jackpot BINGO

21st - TBD Meal & Jackpot BINGO

28th - TBD Meal & Jackpot BINGO

Friday Night Meals

2nd - 1st Friday, Fried Chicken

9th - 2nd Friday, Steak Dinner

16th - 3rd Friday, Seafood Night

23rd - 4th Friday, Emblem Pork Chops

30th - 5th Friday, TBD

Cheers to new beginnings and amazing adventures in 2026! Wishing you a prosperous and joyful New Year.



Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks

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 P.O. Box 548
 Fairhope, AL 36533-0548

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January 2026

Sun 2pm—close	Mon 5pm—close	Tue Closed	Wed 5pm—close	Thu 5pm—close	Fri 4pm—close	Sat 2pm—close
				1 <i>Happy New Year 2026</i>	2 Fried Chicken Dinner Music Trivia & Karaoke	3
4	5 Burger Night	6	7 Emblem Spaghetti Jackpot BINGO	8 Lodge Meeting at 7pm	9 Steak Dinner Music Trivia & Karaoke	10
11 Initiations at 3pm <i>Potluck to Follow</i>	12 Burger Night	13	14 Meal is TBD Jackpot BINGO	15 Mid-Year AL State Elks National Convention	16 Meal is TBD Music Trivia & Karaoke Mid-Year AL State Elks National Convention	17 Mid-Year AL State Elks National Convention
18	19 Burger Night	20	21 Meal is TBD Jackpot BINGO	22 Lodge Meeting at 7pm	23 Emblem Pork Chops Music Trivia & Karaoke	24
25	26 Burger Night	27	28 Meal is TBD Jackpot BINGO	29	30 Meal is TBD Music Trivia & Karaoke	31