



Benevolent and Protective Order of ELKS

In Memoriam for Past State President Dave Vergason



4611 4th Avenue E. • P.O. Box 272 • Palmetto, FL 34220-0272 • PH. (941) 722-6937 • Fax (941) 722-6246

April 2015

Volume 1



Shooting for our Goals
To Protect the Future



From the Exalted Ruler

It's hard to believe that it is April already and the start of a new year for the Elks, and time for new officers. As in the past, there is a fantastic group in place that will work well together and with all of you to make this Elk year 2015 – 2016 the best it can be.

Our Leading Knight is Craig Conklin, PER already well known in the lodge for his work in the kitchen, hall rentals, and all around volunteer whenever needed. Bonnie Pruss is your Loyal Knight this year, after working this past year with Lenny, she brings a lot of good experience and knowledge with her. Cici Perkins, is the Lecturing Knight and is a new to the officer line up. She became a member three years ago and has been seen in the lodge at various times helping out. Cici has some good ideas on what we can do to bring the lodge forward.

Lenny Pruss, PER will move to the 5th year Trustee, joining Chet Syjud, PER as the 4th year Trustee, Steve Baker as the 3rd year Trustee, Len Meade, PER as the 2nd year Trustee, and Wes Townsend, PER as the 1st year trustee.

Other officers include: Judy Vergason continuing as the Secretary, Mike Wujcik will be our new Treasure this year, Anna Syjud will stay on as Tiler, Carol Smilowski will stay as the Inner Guard, Dorathay Meade will continue on as Chaplin, Dave Radliff continues on as the lodge Organist. Welcome Linda Conklin as the new Esquire. Linda became a member this past February. She has worked side by side with Craig for many years now and you have seen her working at Monday night karaoke .

Then there is me, Rose Wujcik as your new Exalted Ruler. Some of you may already know me from being around the lodge. Those of you who don't, here is a brief history of my Elkdom. I have been a member of the lodge now for 5 years. I have served as your Inner Guard, Loyal Knight and Leading Knight. You may also remember me as the Chairman of the P.E.T.S when it was first introduced to the lodge. I have also been your bulletin editor for the last four years.

As your new ER my goal is to make this a year of renewal. We are known at other lodges as a friendly place to visit where they always feel welcomed. We need to renew that spirit in our lodge and keep it going. We need to renew our work with our community, our work with the children and with the veterans that have given us so much. We need to renew our participation in the lodge, volunteering, participations in events, just coming to the lodge to visit with friends and meet new ones. Our lodge needs each and every one of us to continue and grow.

This year is going to be an exciting year for all of us. You may have heard that we were selling the building and closing the lodge. I'm here to assure you that we are not closing Palmetto #2449. We are alive and well and will be keeping the lodge building. If you have any ideas on how we can do this, or, what you can do to help, let me know. If you have ideas for events that you would like to have at the lodge, we are open for suggestions, if you have any ideas for what we can do for fun, let me know. If you have any questions on what is going on at the lodge, or ideas on what needs to be changed, let me know. I am here to help you get the lodge back on track. You all know in the past few years we have suffered some financial problems with our old equipment breaking down and needing to be replaced. Hopefully the majority of these issues have been resolved. All of us are needed to rebuild and renew, Palmetto Elks #2449.

If you want to help out or know what is going on, come to a meeting on Tuesday night. Business meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7:30, Board of Directors is on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30. All of our meetings are open to members. This is the best place to find out first hand what's happening and what you can do to help.

This month I would like to recognize Jim and Arla Decker as my Elks of the Month. Jim and Arla are always there when we need them, helping in any way they can. They walk in the door with smiles on their faces greeting everyone along the way. Their enthusiasm is contagious and it is always a joy to see them. Thank You, Jim and Arla for all you do. You are what Elkdom is all about.



Thank you Len Pruss for the fantastic job you did. Last year was a tough one to go through. Some very hard decisions had to be made and I don't envy you for having to be the one to bring these issues forward. You, with Bonnie at your side, have left me some very big shoes to fill. I can only pray that I do as good a job as you.



I look forward to seeing all of you at the lodge. I am not always good at remembering names, so if I forget yours just remind me.

Fraternally,
Rose Wujcik, ER
941-962-5475
rmwujcik@gmail.com

*If you see a new member or someone you don't know, say hi.
Give them a smile they just might need one!*



From the desk of the Secretary

Happy New Year!
Yes we are beginning a new Elk Year.



Thank you to those that call to let the office know of changes of address, phone numbers and deceased members. This was very helpful in updating our records. I received fourteen undeliverable letters this year. If you are reading this and you do not have a yellow 2015-2016 card you are considered delinquent. Please send your dues in so your card can be sent to you immediately. If you do not have a current card you are unable to take part in the lodge's activities or buy any beverages.

This time of year there are so many things to think of and this matter may have slipped your mind. Last year we were able to get our delinquent list down to zero. I am hoping for the same this year. With everyone working together we can make it work. A reminder for widows card the request must be made in writing and an Elk in good standing must sign off on it.

Associate members if you would like a new associate card I must have a copy of your 2014-2015 card and \$10.00.

If a member losses his card or if a duplicate card has to be made there will be a charge of \$5.00. If your card has been partially destroyed the remainder of the card is to be returned to the office.

Looking forward to serving you another year.

Fraternally Yours,
Judy Vergason, Lodge Secretary

State President Luncheon



2015—2016 Officers

	Leading Knight Craig Conklin 477-1836 craig@craigconklin.com		Loyal Knight Bonnie Pruss 721-4699 bonniep645@gmail.com		5th Year Trustee Len Pruss 721-4699 thado17@live.com
	Lecturing Knight Cici Perkins 448-4199		Tiler Anna Syjud 721-4284 asyjud@tampabay.rr.com		4th Year Trustee Chet Syjud 248-231-8674 csyjud@tampabay.rr.com
	Secretary Judy Vergason 722-1329 javjav42@yahoo.com		Chaplain Dorathey Meade 807-6177 dora.meade@hotmail.com		3rd Year Trustee Steve Baker 962-6859 sabaker970@gmail.com
	Treasure Mike Wujcik 962-3682 cwo4wujcik@gmail.com		Inner Guard Carol Smilowski 729-6474 carol329@earthlink.net		2nd Year Trustee Len Meade 807-0179 lenmeade@hotmail.com
	Esquire Linda Conklin 545-3599 lindaconklin@gmail.com		Organist Dave Radliff 813-641-2064		1st Year Trustee Wes Townsend 722-2551 wtownsend6@tampabay.rr.com

2015—2016 Committee Chairs

Accident Prevention	Steve	Baker	962-6859	Bar Management	Craig	Conklin	
Americanism	Dorathey	Meade	807-6177	Lapsation	Dorathey	Meade	807-6177
Auditing Accounting	Frank	Campbell	729-0580	Lodge Activities	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Bulletin	Rose	Wujcik	962-5475	Activities	open		
Community Activities	Carol	Smilowski	729-6474	Lodge Advisor	Patrick	Gallagher PDDGER	704-5382
Drug Awareness	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682	Honorary Lodge Advisor	Hugh	Igo PDDGER	723-0193
Elks Nat'l Foundation	Chet	Syjud, PER	248-231-8674	Mediator	Frank	Coseglia	531-3911
Government Relations	Chet	Syjud, PER	248-231-8674	Membership	Judy	Vergason	722-1329
Harry Anna Trust	CiCi	Perkins	448-4199	Memorial Sunday	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Hoop Shoot	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682	Nat'l Veterans	Chet	Syjud, PER	248-231-8674
Investigation	Bonnie	Pruss	721-4699	PER Association	Craig	Conklin, PER	447-1836
Indoctrination	Len	Pruss	721-4699	Presiding Justice	John	Redding	813-258-4401
Kitchen Management	Sandy	Mooney	447-9424	Property Maintenance	Jim	Gard, PER	729-0971
					Jim	Allard	729-4566
				Public Relations	Rose	Wujcik	962-5475
				Volunteers	Dorathey	Meade	807-6177
				Web Master	Rose	Wujcik	962-5475
				Youth Activities	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682

Palmetto Pride



Sun: Closed
Wed: Open Bar Poker
Sat: Closed

Weekly Lounge Activities
Mon: Open menu / Karaoke
Thu: Open

Tue: Meetings
Fri: Fish Fry

Bar to close at the discretion of the bartender

Office hours

Lodge Secretary—Treasurer Hours
Monday 8:00 to 12:00
Also available by appointment
Call 941-722-6937



April 2015

To Reserve Meals for Friday
Call the Lodge on Thursday after 3:00
or Friday Before 4:00
941-722-6937

**ALL MEAL ORDERS TO BE PLACED
15 MINUTES BEFORE THE KITCHEN CLOSSES**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Support our Charities Elks Care - Elks Share</p>			<p>1 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Bar Poker Open Mic Fun at Work Day</p>	<p>2 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Games 6:00 to 8:00 Peanut Butter & Jelly Day</p>	<p>3 Open 3:00 Dinner 4:30—6:45 Music 6:00 to 9:00 Dee Find a Rainbow Day</p>	<p>4 Closed Private Party 4:00 to 11:00 Walk Around Things Day</p>
<p>5 Closed </p>	<p>6 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Philly Cheese Karaoke 6:00 to 9:00 Lorraine Caramel Popcorn Day</p>	<p>7 Open 3:00 No Housework day</p>	<p>8 Open 3:00 Spaghetti 5:00—6:45 Bobby Remp 6:00—9:00 Last Spaghetti Dinner of the Season</p>	<p>9 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Games 6:00 to 8:00 Name Yourself Day</p>	<p>10 Open 3:00 Dinner 4:30—6:45 Music 6:00 to 9:00 Shifts End National Siblings Day</p>	<p>11 Closed Private Party 4:00 to 11:00 Barbershop Quartet Day</p>
<p>12 Closed Look Up at the Sky Day</p>	<p>13 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Karaoke 6:00 to 9:00 Anna Scrabble Day</p>	<p>14 Open 3:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 Moment of Laughter Day</p>	<p>15 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Bar Poker Open Mic Rubber Eraser Day</p>	<p>16 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Games 6:00 to 8:00 Day of the Mushroom</p>	<p>17 Open 3:00 Dinner 4:30-6:45 Music 6:00 to 9:00 Lynn's Spins High Five Day</p>	<p>18 Closed Private Party 4:00 to 11:00 Animal Cracker Day</p>
<p>19 Closed Humorous Day</p>	<p>20 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Philly Cheese Karaoke 6:00 to 9:00 Pete Look Alike Day</p>	<p>21 Open 3:00 PER Meeting 6:00 BOG/BOD Meeting 6:30 Chocolate Covered Cashew Truffle Day</p>	<p>22 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Bar Poker Open Mic Jelly Bean Day</p>	<p>23 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Games 6:00 to 8:00 Take a Chance Day</p>	<p>24 Open 3:00 Dinner 4:30-6:45 Games 6:00 to 9:00 Al D Gator</p>	<p>25 Closed Private Party 4:00 to 11:00 World Penguin Day</p>
<p>26 Closed Hug a Friend Day</p>	<p>27 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Karaoke 6:00 to 9:00 Lenny Prime Rib Day</p>	<p>28 Open 3:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 Poetry Reading Day</p>	<p>29 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Bar Poker Open Mic Shrimp Scampi Day</p>	<p>30 Open 3:00 to 8:00 Games 6:00 to 8:00 Oatmeal Cookie Day</p>	<p>Volunteers Are Needed For Private Parties Contact Craig Conklin 447-1836</p>	

April Birthdays

03	Benito	Lopez
04	Richard	Call
04	Stephen	Collopy
05	Marilyn	Doxey
05	Ralph	Hajek-Jr
06	Lars	Bjurholm
08	Margaret	Follin
09	Chester	Grocki Jr
09	Ann	Umphress
10	Zelmon	Fuller
12	Thomas	Gafner
12	Dennis	Leber
13	James	Alphin
13	Joseph	Calore
13	David	Clarke
13	Michael	McEvoy
13	Paul	Samuels
14	Gary	Samuelson
17	Michael	Wujcik
18	Robert	Bruner
20	Paul	Fudally
20	Thomas	Wolff
21	Gerald	Ray
22	Sharon	Galuszka
23	Barbara	Inglese
23	Barry	Kastel
24	Lawrence	Gunn
25	Paul	Cutway
26	Robert	Minter
26	Anthony	Santoro
27	Sandra	Kinner
28	Oscar	Fleury
29	Steve	Heywood
30	Jason	Pruss



Have you ever wondered

Have you ever wondered
what the acronyms for the Florida State Elks Mean?

Well here are just a few to help you out.

AOH	Army of Hope
BPOE	Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks
DAP	Drug Awareness Program
DD	District Deputy
DDGER	District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler
DVP	District Vice President
ENF	Elks National Foundation
ER	Exalted Ruler
FEC	Florida Elks Charities
FECS	Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services
FEN	Florida Elks News
FEYC	Florida Elks Youth Camp
FSEA	Florida State Elks Association
GL	Grand Lodge
HATF	Harry-Anna Trust Fund
PDD	Past District Deputy
PDDGER	Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler
PDVP	Past District Vice President
PER	Past Exalted Ruler
SP	State President
SW	South West District
VP	Vice President

Elks Care - *Elks* Share

Hall Rentals



Your hall is for rent to both members and non members for weddings, anniversaries, parties, or other special events. We would be glad to host your business meetings. Please leave your name, phone number, and a brief message regarding the event, with the bartender on duty. They will call me with the information. I will call you as soon as possible as to when we can meet and discuss the rental at length.

Craig Conklin, PER 447-1836

Patriotism and Americanism go hand in hand



Ronald Reagan gave a tribute to Henry Clay, he said: "He loved his country partly because it was his own country, but mostly because it was a free country, and he burned with a zeal for its advancement, prosperity and glory, because he saw in such, the advancement, prosperity and glory, of human liberty, human right, and human nature."

John F. Kennedy said:

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country"

What are you doing for your country, and what are you doing to promote Americanism?

Suggestions: Fly a flag on the appropriate days, wear a flag pin, and attend the different

Lodge functions: Flag Day, Army of Hope, visitation to Bay Pines, and donations needed for veterans.

Dorathay Meade, Americanism Chairperson
807-6177 Dora.meade@hotmail.com



Elks Children's Therapy Program

Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services provides **physical therapy** and **occupational therapy** to Florida children who do not have easy access to these services. These in-home support services are provided without regard to the parent's ability to pay. Priority is given to children who do not have ready access to therapy as a result of financial considerations.

Therapists are employed by the Florida Elks and are licensed to practice by the state of Florida. With 23 mobile units, our therapists are treating children throughout the state covering most of its 67 counties.

The services received by patients who meet eligibility requirements are absolutely free. We do not receive financial assistance from any level of government. Instead, we receive our funding from the Harry-Anna Charitable Trust as well as our Elks lodges, various Florida Elks ladies organizations, the Elks National Foundation.

The Mighty South West Therapist Margot Baker



Most Memorable patient: Sam was a 5 year old with severe cerebral palsy. He could not walk, sit or feed himself. I worked primarily on obtaining equipment for Sam and then educated the family on the importance of allowing him to attempt feeding himself. All the Elks Lodges in the SW District contributed funds to buy a hydraulic stander for home use that helped Sam feed himself more successfully as he was now in an appropriate, upright position for safe swallowing, eye and hand use.

Rose Wujcik, ER
rmwujcik@gmail.com
962-5475



Lowell Tyler

Florida State Elks Association Historian Emeritus

Reference Library

HAVE YOU HEARD?!

The Florida Elks online encyclopedia now has a Google-like search capability!

Type a word or topic in the search box and all entries that refer to it will be pulled up for you to read.

This is useful for anyone wanting to know more about an Elks topic and is especially helpful to bulletin editors, officers, district vice presidents and district deputies.

Find it at: <http://floridaelks.org/encyclopedia-of-elkdom>

WANTED:

Encyclopedia updates!

If you see an entry that could use some updating and you have the correct information, please send it to State Historian Truman Bass at tabass1@comcast.net.

PALMETTO #2449 BULLETIN BOOSTERS 2015—2016

To help us in defraying the cost of our bulletin, your Lodge is asking you to become a Bulletin Booster. For a donation of \$10.00 per person, your name will be listed in every Bulletin for a period of one year. Please make your check payable to the lodge and give to the Secretary. Thank you for your support.

Joseph	Best	Frank X.	Campbell
Eddie	Carter	John	Donnelly
Robert	Ernst	Richard	Garrison
Linda	Gray	Donn G.	Higgins
John	Julian	Terrance	Kerich
Robert	Kriling Jr	Stacey	Rau
Carol	Smilowski	Tom	Smilowski
ME	Stewart	Robert	Wilcox
Thomas	Wolff	Fran	Wolff
Mike	Wujcik	Rose	Wujcik



YES, I, (we) pledge a donation of \$10 per person per year to support the publication of our bulletin. Enclosed is my (our) donation in the amount of \$ _____.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Palmetto Elks at Work and Play

Elk Of The Month



Jim & Arla Decker

Elks Care - Elks Share



**Palmetto Elks #2449
Elk's Mother's Day Tribute
May, 10, 2015**

**Followed by
Brunch**

2:00 pm

**Palmetto Elks #2449
Elk's Flag Day Ceremony**

**June 14, 2015
Hot Dogs, Chili, Baked Beans**

\$2.50

2:00 pm

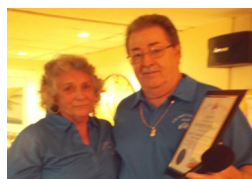
Elks Care - Elks Share



Hey you.... over there

**Have you
Volunteered
Lately**

Elks Care - Elks Share



**Officer
Of the Year
Carol Smilowski**



**Elk
Of the Year
Craig Conklin PER**



**Outstanding
Service
Commendation
Frank Campbell**



**Outstanding
Service
Commendation
Rose Wujcik**

Elks Care - Elks Share

**Heartfelt
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!**





1908 - 2015

1948 - 2015



Jim Hoey
President
Cell: 941-323-5184



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Monday Nights

Lounge Opens 3:00

Food 5:00 to 6:45

Full Menu

Karaoke 6 to 9

Come in We're
OPEN

Every Wednesday & Thursday

Wednesday

6:00 to 8:00

Open Mic

Thursday

Game Night

6:00 to 8:00



Friday Fish Fry

4:30 - 6:45

Music

6:00 to 9:00

Palmetto Elks Lodge Hall Rental

4611 4th Ave E
Palmetto, Florida, 34220
941-447-1836 www.palmettoelks.org
E-mail palmettoelks@aol.com

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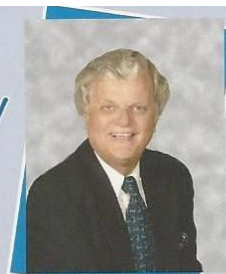
Cellular (941) 518.5045

www.MisterKenny.com

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Ken Miller

...always professional — all ways!

**Have you asked someone to join
the Elks Lately?**

