



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

July 2015

Volume 4



From the Exalted Ruler

July is the month to celebrate our independence. Our founding fathers wrote *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"*. Very strong words and still relevant today. The Revolutionary War of 1775 was the start of our brave men and women fighting for our freedom from tyranny and oppression. This Fourth of July and all month, let us as Elks, remember those who fought that we may be free.

In June the district was visited by Carl Ledig, our new State President. The weekend was filled with fun and laughter with time spent with the other lodge members from our district. The hospitality room, and food being shared at the Bradenton, Sarasota South, and Manasota lodges was fantastic. Carl Ledig's motto for this year is to *"Be the Change"*. In our lodge room there is a picture that Carl signed hanging there to remind us on what we need to do as a lodge and as an Elk this year.

With that in mind, in our April bulletin I said this was going to be an exciting year of changes and renewals. I am happy to announce that some of these changes are happening. Our lounge has already received a much needed face life when Craig Conklin painted it a few months ago. The back apartment has been rented out bringing in more income.

We are now going forward with making minor changes that are needed in the lodge. Along with the work, the building will have a new roof soon. We are in negotiations with Grand Lodge to take out a loan to get the financing required. Once we have received their approval work will begin.

Our kitchen and back room have been rented out to Laura Rojas. Laura comes highly recommended and just this month has become a member in our lodge. You will start seeing her flyers for the "North River Event Hall" around the lodge and around the neighborhood. She has already begun to rent out the back room and started making plans on how she wants the kitchen run and planning menus. We will continue to have karaoke and fish fries as we have always done, but Laura will be adding her own touch to the menus. She officially starts on August 2nd and already has Sunday Brunch planned starting August 9th from 8:00 to 2:00. Mark your calendars for that now so you can come and not only have a great meal but welcome her to our family.

My Elk for this month is someone that has been one of our unsung heroes for a long time. In the past year, and more, he has devoted a lot of his time in our lodge helping where ever it is needed. He is one of the staples that helps keep the lodge together, you have seen him behind the bar, running karaoke, selling 50/50 and raffle tickets, attending events both at the lodge and representing our lodge at district events. It is my honor to thank Lenny Pruss, PER for all he does.

This month I will be attending the Grand Lodge convention in Indiana. I will share with you all of the exciting news that I receive there in the August bulletin.



Until then I hope you stay cool, and have fun. Smile often and laugh a lot. It's good for you and very contagious.

Fraternally,
Rose Wujcik, ER
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



Can you believe we are already entering the heat of the summer? This is the time of year we are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful fireworks. Working with membership I am looking forward to fireworks also. We still have 97 members that have not paid their dues.

You know I would like to take each and every one of you back to when you were asked to become an Elk. Why did you join? It was because you had a generous and giving heart and you wanted to share it with other people that also had generous and giving hearts.

Your generous hearts are giving right now to help the needy children with school supplies and I thank each and every one of you personally. We still need donations for all of our charities, please don't stop. We have not reached our goal yet. By paying your dues your generosity helps our veterans. It helps to get the little necessities that they need. Just think if they hadn't given for us where would we be.

Your dues supports our Children's Therapy Services help children that would otherwise be left on the wayside because they have no insurance. You dues continues to spread sending children to camp when their families cannot afford to. These are just a few charities that your dues helps to support.

Elkdom is about giving hearts. Generous hearts are also forgiving hearts. If the reason you have not been back to our lodge is because of hurt feelings, or a misunderstanding. Let the generous heart that you had the day you took your oath to become an Elk soften and come back. We miss you! We want you! We need you! We love you!

Fraternally Yours,
Judy Vergason, Lodge Secretary
722-1329 javjav42@yahoo.com

State President's Message

Be The Change



The Grand Lodge Convention is almost upon us. The convention will have many interesting and informative meetings and reports, as well as the election, demonstration and installation of a new Grand Exalted Ruler, Mr. Ron Hicks, to be followed by his Monday reception. There will also be statute amendments to vote on by the Grand Lodge members. The Convention will offer a lot of entertainment and hospitality and perhaps the opportunity to learn a little bit more about the Elks organization, and what Elks are all about. I am sure we will have a once in a lifetime experience that will long be remembered and talked about. I hope to see many of our Florida Elks there.

On the Florida state front Dolly and I have just finished our first and second district visits. The first was to the South District hosted by DVP Denny Tarbell and Sherill Bothen of the Florida Keys Lodge in Tavernier. They were great hosts and made us feel right at home. The first visit is always a little challenging for a new state president, just because it is his first. What a great district, wonderful volunteers, excellent hospitality, social

hour and dinner. Our visit to the Marathon Lodge Friday night was excellent. Marathon is a thriving lodge. Saturday's tour of the Theater of the Sea was a wonderful experience. If you have a chance, I highly recommend it. That evening we went to the Florida Keys Lodge for a social gathering and a banquet. The banquet was excellent as was the camaraderie with all present. Marathon Lodge had Robert Newman's musical entertainment; Florida Keys Lodge had Tim Dressing's musical entertainment. Both entertainers were professional and had many Elks up and dancing the night away. Great visit!

Our second district visit was to the *Mighty* Southwest District hosted by DVP Ken and Di Davis of the Manasota Lodge. Upon arriving on Friday afternoon we were welcomed by members and escorted into a hotel hospitality room where many more members were present and enjoying the afternoon. Friday night we went to the Bradenton Lodge for a social hour and dinner. Lodge members were present for dinner and the Friday night entertainment. Following dinner we returned to the hotel for more socializing. Saturday we toured the Ringling Circus Museum and the Ca'd'Zan (the house of John). What a great experience and reminder of earlier times for someone raised on going to the circus with his parents. It was very memorable.

Saturday evening we were at the Manasota Lodge for socializing and a banquet. There I had the opportunity to be interviewed by ABC 7 TV regarding Elkdom. The interview was shown during their 11 PM news hour. Thank you Patrick Gallagher for setting it up. You can see the video at <http://www.mysuncoast.com/videos?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=11596749#.VYG0F^SKb64.email>, fast forward about one-third of the way in.

Following dinner we did the Tribute to the 11 O'clock Toast before returning to our hotel.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who prepared for and worked during our visits and made us feel at home.

Dolly and I are looking forward to attending the Grand Lodge Convention and then getting back into our district visitations. Our third visit is to the Southeast District - the Jupiter Lodge on July 24 and 25, followed by the South Southeast District - the Boca Raton Lodge on July 31 and August 1. See you down the road and I hope you will BE THE CHANGE this year.

Fraternally,

Carl Ledig

State President
Florida State Elks Association

2015—2016 Officers



Leading Knight
Craig Conklin, PER

447-1836

craig@craigconklin.com



Loyal Knight
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Organist
Dave Radliff

813-641-2064



1st Year Trustee
Wes Townsend, PER

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wtownsend6@tampabay.rr.com

2015—2016 Committee Chairs

Accident Prevention	Steve	Baker	962-6859
Americanism	Dorathey	Meade	807-6177
Auditing Accounting	Frank	Campbell	729-0580
Bulletin	Rose	Wujcik	962-5475
Community Activities	Carol	Smilowski	729-6474
Drug Awareness	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Elks Nat'l Foundation	Chet	Syjud, PER	248-231-8674
Government Relations	Judy	Vergason	722-1329
Harry Anna Trust	CiCi	Perkins	448-4199
Hoop Shoot	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Investigation	Bonnie	Pruss	721-4699
Indoctrination	Len	Pruss, PER	721-4699
Kitchen Management	Sandy	Mooney, PER	447-9424

Bar Management	Craig	Conklin, PER	447-1836
Lapsation	Dorathey	Meade	807-6177
Lodge Activities	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Activities	Rose	Wujcik	962-5475
Lodge Advisor	Patrick	Gallagher PDD	704-5382
Honorary Lodge Advisor	Hugh	Igo PDD	723-0193
Mediator	Frank	Coseglia, PER	531-3911
Membership	Judy	Vergason	722-1329
Memorial Sunday	Mike	Wujcik	962-3682
Nat'l Veterans	Chet	Syjud, PER	248-231-8674
PER Association	Craig	Conklin, PER	447-1836
Presiding Justice	John	Redding	813-258-4401
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

4611 4th Ave East
Palmetto, FL 34220



Sun: Closed
Wed: Closed
Sat: Closed

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

Tue: Meetings
Fri: Dinner



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

July 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
	Membership Matters!		1 Closed Tell a Joke Day	2 Closed I Forgot Day	3 Open 3:00 Fish Fry Hot Dogs/Hamburgers 4:30 to 6:45 Music 6:00 to 8:00 Teri Duncan-Lyons Eat Beans Day	4 Closed Happy 4th of July
5 Closed Apple Turnover Day	6 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Karaoke 6:00 to 8:00 Anna National Kissing Day	7 Open 3:00 Strawberry Sundae Day	8 Closed Chocolate with Almonds Day	9 Closed Rock N Roll Day	10 Open 3:00 Fish Fry Salsbury Steak 4:30 to 6:45 Music 6:00 to 8:00 Holly Rae Teddy Picnic Day	11 Closed Cheer up The Lonely Day
12 Closed Simplicity Day	13 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Philly Cheese Karaoke 6:00 to 8:00 Pete Barbershop Music Day	14 Open 3:00 Pandemonium Day	15 Closed Cow Appreciation Day	16 Closed Corn Fritter Day	17 Open 3:00 Fish Fry Chicken Pharm 4:30 to 6:45 Music 6:00 to 8:00 Lorraine Peach Ice Cream Day	18 Closed Toss away the Could Haves & Should Haves Day
19 Closed National Daiquiri Day	20 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Karaoke 6:00 to 8:00 Lenny Lollipop Day	21 Open 3:00 Junk Food Day	22 Closed Hammock Day	23 Closed Gorgeous Grandma Day	24 Open 3:00 Fish Fry Meatloaf 4:30-6:45 Music 6:00 to 8:00 On A Whim Tell an Old Joke Day	25 Closed Private Party 4:00 to 11:00 Merry-Go-Round Day
26 Closed 2:00 to 4:00 All or Nothing Day	27 Open 3:00 Food 5:00-6:45 Full Menu Philly Cheese Karaoke 6:00 to 8:00 Pete Take Your Pants For a Walk Day	28 Open 3:00 BOD Meeting 6:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 Milk Chocolate Day	29 Closed Harry Anna Fund Raiser Christmas in July Sarasota South 5:00 to 6:00 Lasagna Day	30 Closed Cheese Cake Day	31 Open 3:00 Fish Fry Shepard's Pie 4:30-6:45 Music 6:00 to 8:00 Shine On Dance Day	

July Birthdays

04	Richard	Moody
05	Richard	Filler
05	Gary	Mink
06	Richard	Justice
06	Doris	Long
06	Steven	Olson
09	Douglas	Roper
11	James	Carpenter
12	Robert	Burnside
13	James	Frank
14	James	Bretherick
14	Anthony	Horman
14	Russell	Ingraham
14	Louise	Keney
14	James	Lietz
14	Frank	Martinelli
16	Clarence	Krebs
16	Delores	Rudolph
17	Nelson	Smith
18	Lois	Chaney
20	James	Sholtis
20	Clifford	VanDervort
20	Robert	Waters
21	David	Enos
22	Carl	Deruiter
23	Edwin	Benedict
23	John	Holmes
23	Gordon	Raymond
25	Charlie	Larsen
26	Jerome	Zaccone
27	Darby	Lauber
27	Sandra	Wiersma
28	John	Brennan
28	William	Columbia
28	William	Goebel
28	Robert	Groom
28	Dannie	Whiteman
30	Robert	Andrews
30	John	Hemstreet
30	Terry	Muxlow
30	Gerard	Szczygiel
31	Charles	Booth
31	Bonnie	Jannette
31	Mike	Trollo



Be the Change

Carl Ledig 2015—2016
Featuring “The Incredible Mr. Bob”
World Class Entertainer

ACT I: OLD CIRCUS
ACT II: NEW CIRCUS
ACT III: CHANGE THE WORLD

IF I could reach the stars
Pull one down for you,
Shine it on my heart
So you could see the truth:

That this love inside
Is everything it seems.
But for now I find
It's only dreams.

And I can change the world,
I will be the sunlight in your universe.
You would think my love was really something good,
Baby if I could change the world.

If I could be king,
Even for a day,
I'd take you as my queen;
I'd have it no other way.

And our love would rule
This kingdom we had made.
'til then I'd be a fool,
Wishing for the day...

That I can change the world,
I would be the sunlight in your universe.
You would think my love was really something good,
Baby if I could change the world.
Baby if I could change the world.

I could change the world,
I would be the sunlight in your universe.
You would think my love was really something good,
Baby if I could change the world
Baby if I could change the world.

History of Independence Day



Various known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

What does Independence Day mean to you? How can you promote patriotism in the neighborhood where you live? Thank you to all military who help keep our country free!

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



Each Year every lodge has a goal to reach for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund. Our lodge has been tasked with each member giving \$15.01 per member that's \$6,259.17 from our lodge.

Those of you who don't know, or have forgotten what Harry Anna is all about; the funds collected go toward the Florida Elk Charities.

These charities include the Elks Children Therapy Service. This allows in home visits from physical therapist and occupational therapy to Florida children in need of such service.

Also include is the Florida Elks Youth Camp. The camp is available year round for young people to come and enjoy nature and experience rural Florida. The youth camp has Olympic size swimming pools, archery, rope courses, tennis courts and so much more. This give children the opportunity to participate in events that they would not have an opportunity to enjoy otherwise.

Please contribute and help us reach this goal so that we can help the children who need it the most. You can donate money or participate in the lodge Harry-Anna Fund, fundraisers. Every little bit helps.

Thank You
Rose Wujcik, ER
Public Relations Chairman
rmwujcik@gmail.com 962-5475

Elks Care - Elks Share



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	Albert	Cetrone
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
David	Wetmore	Robert	Wilcox
Fran	Wolff	Thomas	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 2449 Veterans



*"As long as there are Veteran's
The Benevolent & Protective Order
of Elks
Will never forget them"*

	First	Last	Rank	Branch	Years Served	Locations	Disability
	William	Corlew	Cpl 1st CAV	US Army	3.5 years	Korea	
	Gordon "Gordie"	Raymond	SSgt E-6	US Army National Guard	2004—2010	State Side	
	Paul	Samuels	Corporal	US Army	1953—1955	Germany, Kentucky, Indiana	
	Charles "Gil"	Shaw	Sgt Air Crew B-29 Gunner	US Army Air Force	3	WWII	
	Chet	Syjud	Spec 5	US Army Reserve	1970—1976	Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Arkansas	

	First	Last	Rank	Branch	Years Served	Locations	Disability
	James "Jim"	Decker	BM3	US Coast Guard	4	State Side	
	Thomas	Emanuello	P/O 3rd Class	US Coast Guard	1958—1963	State Side	



	First	Last	Rank	Branch	Years Served	Locations	Disability
	Elaine	Crapo	SP3/TSgt	US Army (WAC) US Air Force	3 / 5	Japan, Libya, Panama / Germany, Italy	10%
	Harold	Crapo	MSgt	US Air Force (Retired)	33	Japan, Libya, Panama / Germany, Italy	20%
	Donn	Frey	1st Lt.	US Air Force	1953—1955	ADC Selfridge AFB	
	Michael	Stewart	Major	US Air Force	20	Vietnam	30%

	First	Last	Rank	Branch	Years Served	Locations	Disability
	Charles	Booth	Sgt St Sgt	US Marine US Air Force	1949—1952 1954—1959	Korea State Side	

Palmetto Elks 2449 Veterans

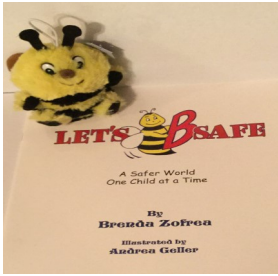


*"As long as there are Veteran's
The Benevolent & Protective Order
of Elks
Will never forget them"*

	First	Last	Rank	Branch	Years Served	Locations	Disability
	Jack	Bach	ML2	US Navy	1952—1957	Far East, Korea	
	Robert	Hintz, Sr	IC2	US Navy	4 years	European	
	Jim	Hoey	ETRC (SS)	US Navy	1967—1974	West Pacific, Vietnam, Mediterranean	
	Robert	Lanoue	3rd Class BT	US Navy	1944—1953	Pacific, State Side	Back
	Richard	Moody	GM2	US Navy	1956—1961	Caribbean	
	Gordon "Gordie"	Ray	CPO E7	US Navy	1964—1985	Vietnam	
	Clifford "Cliff"	VanDervort	FC3	US Navy	1951—1953	Korea	
	Michael "Mike"	Wujcik	CWO4	US Navy (Retired)	1967—1997	Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Antarctica, Mediterranean North/South Atlantic, Pacific, Far East, Pacific Rim, South East Asia, Indian Ocean, Red Sea	



Palmetto Elks in the News



On June 16, 2015, Palmetto Elks 2449 went to the Learning Tree Early Learning Center in Palmetto to participate in the "Bee Safe" Program. Volunteers from the lodge read the LET'S BEE SAFE book written by Brenda

Zofera, to the children at the center. The vital child safety and literacy program teaches children at risk how to recognize some of the most common lines and lures used by child sexual predators and how to react in a safe way. Students were then surprised and given their own copy of LET'S BEE SAFE book and a plush BE SAFE BEE™ as a visual reminder to help them remember the rules. The bees for this year's participation were donated by Rick & Kay Thorson, from Lakewood Ranch-Sarasota #2855. VFW Post #2488 Men's Auxiliary donated money to help with the purchase of the books.



Flag Day Ceremony



Elks Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award



The 2014—2015 Elks Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award was presented by Palmetto Elks #2449 to Barbara Nielsen, editor of the North River News for supporting the community and the Elks Lodge through published articles and photos.

Palmetto Elks at Work and Play

Elk Of The Month



Len Pruss

Elks Care - Elks Share



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North River Event Hall



Plan your event with us!

The hall is available for
Weddings

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Birthday Parties

Private Events

Business Conferences/Meetings

Contact

Laura Rojas

941-779-4493

Elks Care - Elks Share





*Happy 240th Anniversary
US Army Chaplain Corp*

Monday Nights

Lounge Opens 3:00
Food 5:00 to 6:45
Full Menu
Karaoke 6 to 9



**Friday Fish Fry
& Dinner**
4:30 - 6:45
Music
6:00 to 8:00

Jim Hoey
President
Cell: 941-323-5184



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

