

Brenham Elks Lodge No. 979
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
A Fraternal Organization
PO Box 177 BRENHAM, TX 77833-0177
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ORGANIZATION
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BRENHAM, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 56



ANTLER RATTLES

August 2025



Brenham Lodge No. 979 400 East Germania . Brenham, Tx 77833 (979) 836-2261

Follow us on Facebook @



Elks Lodge Brenham

Check out our website
www.elks979.com and our
Facebook page for calendar
updates, tickets for upcoming
events, and other information.

The Lodge is Open

Monday thru Friday

5:30 pm - 9 pm

Saturday and Sunday

Noon - 9 pm

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT Dinner @ the Lodge

6:30 — 8 p.m.

Invite Your Family and Friends!

Cooks for the month are:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Aug 1 | NO COOK |
| Aug 8 | Board of Directors |
| Aug 15 | Sweetheart |
| Aug 22 | House Committee |
| Aug 29 | Past Exalted Rulers |

EXALTED RULER MESSAGE

Howdy all! This month was a great experience getting to attend Nationals in Kansas City. Abby and I really enjoyed our trip to nationals, and we had a wonderful time, and we made some great memories including meeting many new Elks. I want to thank everyone that donated socks and books for the ENF 20 years chip celebration, which our lodge won an extra \$2000 grant! Way to go everybody!

On Saturday, July 19th our lodge celebrated its 120th anniversary and we had a membership pin ceremony. Thank you all that showed up and congratulations on receiving your pins! We also had special 120th anniversary pins made for lodge and they are for sale for \$10 each.

In the next few weeks and months we will have some great activities planned. Starting with our first skeet shoot on August 30th. This is a 5 person team and costs \$500 per team. Signup sheet forms are at the lodge if anyone is interested.

We will have a blood drive at the lodge on Saturday, September 13th from 10-2:30. If you're interested in donating blood come on down that day.

As many of you know we have had truly devastating flooding in the hill country. Our lodge collected donations and took them all to the Kerrville Elks Lodge. Thank you all for who donated as it was very much needed for the victims affected, and first responders and volunteers who are providing them help. Please keep them all in your prayers!

East district interlodge will be at the Navasota lodge on Saturday, August 2nd, and I encourage you all to show up and see what's happening and see if you can help.

As always, I hope to see you all down at the lodge! Come enjoy the pool and support our Friday night cooks along with our sweetheart. The queen of heart pot is getting bigger which helps the sweetheart raise more money for the kids. Until next month may you all have a blessed and safe time!

Matt Gore
979-451-0644

Elks Care — Elks Share

2025-2026 Board of Directors	
Joanne Hollingsworth-Jacob	1-Year Trustee
Robert Weiss	2-Year Trustee
Tammy Gehovak	3-Year Trustee
Lila Steele	4-Year Trustee
Clayton Wallace	5-Year Trustee
Matt Gore	Exalted Ruler
Chris Helton	Est. Leading Knight
Lydia Engelke	Est. Loyal Knight
Darin Teetes	Est. Lecturing Knight
Secretary	Tammy Helton
Treasurer	Rory Taylor
2025-2026 Lodge Officers	
Exalted Ruler	Matt Gore
Est. Leading Knight	Chris Helton
Est. Loyal Knight	Lydia Engelke
Est. Lecturing Knight	Darin Teetes
Esquire	JD Willms
Chaplain	Abby Gore
Inner Guard	Matt Brinkman
Tiler	Gloria Hanath

2025-2026 Committee Chairmen	
Auditing & Accounting	Brett Coghlan
Activities	Chris Helton
Community Projects and Activities	Chris Helton
Youth Activities	Amy Williams
Hoop Shoot®	Lila Steele
Drug Awareness	Rory Archibald
Fraternal	Joanne Hollingsworth-Jacob
Elks National Foundation	Joanne Hollingsworth-Jacob
Flag Day	Lila Steele
Elks Memorial Day	Tammy Gehovak
Membership	Beverly Vesper
Veterans Services	JD Willms
Accident Prevention	Scott Sonnenburg
PER Association	Lila Steele
Public Relations	Alyson Hancock
Government Relations	Amy Williams
State Major Project	Clayton Wallace
Scholarship	Amy Williams
By-Laws Coordinator	Kenneth Beach
Grants	Beverly Vesper



**Cornhole Tournament is
August 17th
all ages welcome!
Kitchen will be open!**

**Join us for our Friday Night Cook
“Steak Night” the 2nd, 3rd, 4th,
& 5th Friday Nights!**



Get ANTLER RATTLES via email!

If you would like to get our monthly newsletter, ANTLER RATTLES, emailed to you each month, please send an email to elks979@yahoo.com to make that request.



VETERANS COMMITTEE REPORT

—JD WILLMS

Report Not Submitted

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Blood Drive: September 13th 10 AM - 2:30 PM

Help save a life!



Thank you to all the elks and their families and friends who donated supplies for the victims of the flood in the Kerrville Area. These were delivered to the Kerrville Elks Lodge on Sunday July 13, 2025..They were very appreciative of them. For now we are not in need of any further supplies. If the need arises for more we will notify you. THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR HELP.

BEV VESPER - TEXAS ELKS STATE DISASTER RELIEF CHAIR

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

—LILA STEELE

Hope everyone had a great 4th of July! We had several party events this past month that went perfect - Thanks House committee and other volunteers that helped.

We had our 120th year anniversary celebration of Brenham # 979 on July 19th. Along with that we had a pin ceremony for all our members for years of service as well as officers, new members and lifetime. members. A Good time was had with some good food!

There a lot of events coming up in the next few months, so please check calendar for them. If anyone would like help with any of them, please contact me or Matt. August 30th is our first skeet shoot in Lyons, TX.

Please Remember our Bartenders who work hard for you every time you come to lodge. Treat them with Respect Please

Queen of Hearts is going strong on our Friday steak nights. Come on down enjoy some fabulous food and drink.

Matt Gore 979-451-0644 Lila Steele 979-421-0008

Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 6 @ 6:30. See you all there!

Until next month - Remember to Be Kind!

SECRETARY REPORT

—TAMMY HELTON

Where has 3 months already went. I am so proud of all who have already paid there membership dues. This year is starting off Amazing! Has been such a wonderful learning experience and I have really enjoyed meeting everyone!

Membership Update:

In June, we initiated and welcomed 9 new members. We have 7 being proposed for new membership and plan on 4-7 at the next initiation next week.

Dues Update:

We have already received quite a few membership dues. I thank each and everyone of you that has already done that. Wes still have 73 delinquent members.

There are 2 ways to pay your dues...you can physically come by the lodge and pay via cash, credit, or check...or you can mail your payment to PO Box 177 Brenham, TX 77834.

I am really enjoying my role as Elks #979 Secretary. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns and/or questions.

Respectfully, Tammy Helton

SWEETHEART REPORT

—TAMMY GEHOVAK

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'm happy to report that the Sweetheart Program fundraising is going strong — and it's all thanks to you! Whether you're volunteering your time or supporting us by purchasing meals, your dedication is deeply appreciated.



Sweetheart Burger Nights will be held on Monday, August 11 and Monday, August 25 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Come by for a delicious meal, dine in or take out, and support a great cause benefiting special needs children.



The Queen of Hearts is still growing! Come out to our Friday Night Cooks for your chance to flip the Queen and take home half the pot!



Red Pig Turn-In is set for Monday, August 11 — don't forget to bring yours in! Prizes will be awarded on Sweethearts Friday night cook on August 15.



The Sweetheart Committee is still in need of liquor donations for a special fundraising event at Homecoming. Any size or type is welcome. Don't have time to shop? We're happy to accept monetary donations and do the shopping for you! Please see me or any member of the Sweetheart Committee.



Hope to see you at the lodge! Your presence and participation truly make a difference.

On a personal note...

I would like to extend my deepest thanks to each and every one of you who has stepped up to help since having a stroke. The support — both emotionally and financially — has meant the world to me. I truly can't express how much it has helped or how much love I feel for all of you.

With heartfelt gratitude,

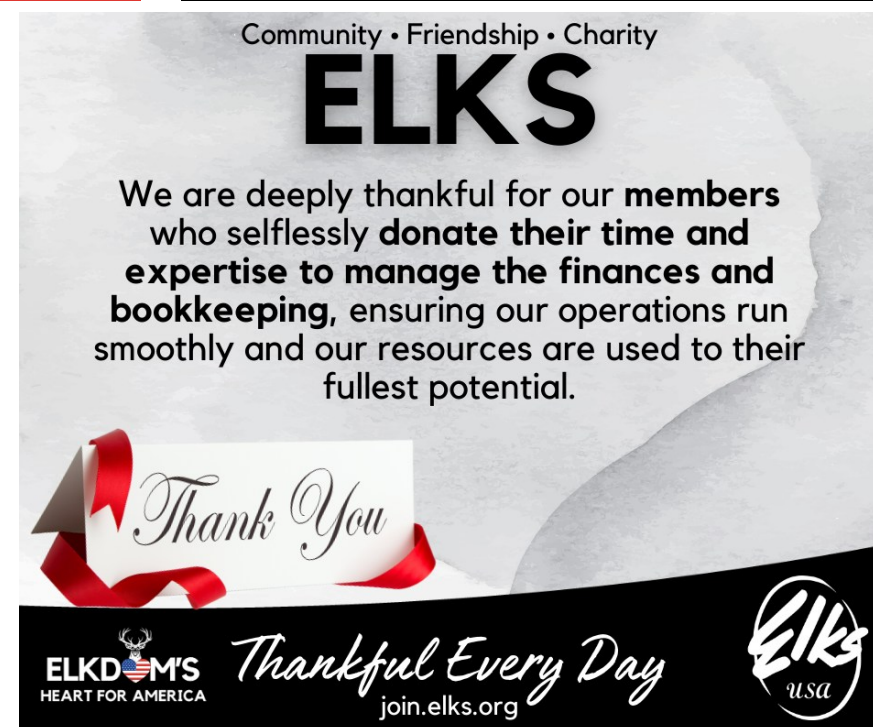
Tammy Gehovak

Sweetheart 2025

In honor of Carolyn Campbell



Want to make
a difference
in our lodge?
Join a
committee
today!



120th Lodge Anniversary & Pin Ceremony

July 19, 2025



120th
Anniversary
Lodge Pins are
available for \$10
each in the
Antler Room





Sweetheart is in need of alcohol for Ottine

Can be any type of alcohol.
Small bottles or big.



For a fundraiser event at homecoming. Drop off at the Lodge to Tammy Gehovak or Tammy Helton

Or we can take monetary donations and purchase for a good cause

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

—CHRIS HELTON

The Board met Wednesday July 16th, 2025. First motion made and passed was to bring to the lodge meeting floor to pay for the quick book gold subscription to handle all finance. Second motion made and passed was to replace the freezer in the little bar not to exceed \$200 dollars if so, we will bring to floor for a vote. Prior to next meeting at 6:00 on August 20 th we will do inventory on the lodge. Last motion was made and passed was to ad-journed.

Our next board meeting will be held on August 20th, 2025 at 6:30p.m. at the Elk lodge meeting room.



ELKS

To Our Absent Members

May they never be forgotten.

Community • Friendship • Charity

elks.org



**We shall never forget.
The chimes will ring at
11 o'clock!**

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed!


P.E.R. REPORT

—LILA STEELE

We hope everyone had a great time celebrating the 4th of July

We will have a meeting on Tuesday, August 12th @ 6:30. Hope to see you there! We will be electing our new president for this year!

Until next month - Be Kind!



Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks of the U.S.A.
A Fraternal Organization

Mission Statement

To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that *Elks Care and Elks Share.*

**A GREAT WAY TO
SHOW SUPPORT:
WEAR RED ON FRIDAYS!**

Elks Never Forget



We wear red on Fridays until they all come home.

Community • Friendship • Charity

join.elks.org



MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND EXALTED RULER

Douglas A. Schiefer

Happy Independence Day, the Fourth of July. We live in the greatest country on the face of the earth. We, as proud Elks, want to uphold the virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity in order to honor our great nation. This is the perfect time for me to reflect on this amazing year of travel to meet all of you. We could never in our wildest dreams have thought that we would have this great honor. We want to thank each and every one of you for your love, hospitality, and support in fulfilling our year as Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady. It was easy to stay enthused by visiting each unique state convention. But there truly was a common bond in all of our visits: Heart. Everyone has to serve others to show what the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are truly about. You are the reason we are 800,000 Members strong. You are the reason that we have more than 1,800 successful Lodges. You are the reason that we are the greatest charitable organization in the United States of America. We are strong, mighty, and blessed to be citizens in our great country, and I want to express my gratitude for your service to others. We would like to thank our family. We truly missed them during our travels, but they were always gracious and encouraging when we missed special events. We are so thankful for having such a loving family. God bless our family, the Elks, and God bless the United States of America. I believe that my motto, “Elkdom’s Heart for America” will live on for many years to come. Remember we are 157 years young!

CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE, and FIDELITY

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	29 Pool Closed for Cleaning	30	31	1 NO Friday Night Cook	2 Interlodge @ Navasota Lodge Private Rental
3	4	5 Pool Closed for Cleaning	6 House Committee Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.	7	8 Steak Night Board of Directors Cook	9
10	11 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m. RED PIG TURN-IN	12 PER Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. Pool Closed for Cleaning	13	14	15 Steak Night Sweetheart Cooks	16
17 Cornhole Tournament Noon KITCHEN OPEN @ 1 p.m.	18	19 Pool Closed for Cleaning	20 Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 p.m. <i>Reports & Articles DUE for Sept. newsletter</i>	21	22 Steak Night House Committee Cooks	23
24	25 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	26 Pool Closed for Cleaning	27 Lodge Meeting 7 p.m.	28	29 Steak Night Past Exalted Rulers Cook	30 First Annual BPOE #979 Skeet Shoot in Lyons, TX
31	Sept 1	Sept 2 Pool Closed for Cleaning	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 5 NO Friday Night Cook	Sept 6



Articles for next month’s newsletter

ARE DUE no later than August 20th!

Please email or text Alyson Hancock with Calendar Info & Reports