

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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BRENHAM, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 56



ANTLER RATTLES



November 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:

Nov 7	NO COOK
Nov 14	Board of Directors
Nov 21	Sweetheart
Nov 28	NO COOK

EXALTED RULER MESSAGE

Howdy my fellow Elks! Wow it has been a busy month. First I'd like to thank everyone who came out to support the 4th annual Randy Jacob rib shootout. Congratulations to Clayton Wallace and his team who were the winners. Then we had our annual gun raffle along with Stag Night and Ladies Shrimp. They were all successful events and I thank you all for selling tickets for them all. I would like to thank all my officers and house committee members for there very hard work with all the events. It's a lot of hard work that goes into putting them together and without them it wouldn't be possible.

On the 24-26 we had Fall Conference which was informal with lots of information. We need to spend money for special needs within our community. So if you know of a family that need help with wheel chairs or wheelchair ramp, hearing aids, speech therapy, any of these needs or others please reach out and let me know so we can help. If we don't spend this money we will lose it and this money comes from the sweetheart money that is raised.

Well with that, I leave you to your adventures and hope that you all have a blessed day. Don't forget to come out and support your Friday night cooks and our Sweetheart with Queen of Hearts. Hope to see you down at the lodge soon.

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	Lonnie Tegeler
Public Relations	Alyson Hancock
Government Relations	Amy Williams
State Major Project	Clayton Wallace
Scholarship	Amy Williams
By-Laws Coordinator	Kenneth Beach
Grants	Beverly Vesper

P.E.R. REPORT

—LONNIE TEGELER

The Past Exalted Rulers (PERs) met on October 14, 2025 with the following Past Exalted Rulers present: Lonnie Tegeler, Joanne Hollingsworth-Jacob, Lila Steele, Tammy Gehovak, Clayton Wallace, Brett Coghlan, Klay Beech and Calvin Landry.

The meeting was called to order by the President Lonnie Tegeler and after the opening prayer and pledge of allegiance the minutes of the September meeting were read by Secretary Joanne Hollingsworth-Jacob, and approved by the members, as was the financial report.

Old business items included an update on electrical repairs of the storage room, status of the newly purchased salad bar and the recent blood drive which was successfully organized by PER Brett Coghlan.

New business items included planning for the October 31 Friday night cook by the PERs & Sweetheart Committee. In addition to the large rib eye steaks, it was agreed that pork steaks with vegetable side dishes will also be served.

The next PER Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 11, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.

Lonnie Tegeler

President, Brenham #979 Past Exalted Rulers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT —CHRIS HELTON

The Board met on Wednesday October 15th, 2025. Discussions talked about at the meeting was on quotes being finalized and reported at our next meeting so we can turn in to Grand Lodge. No other voting came about in new business so only motion was the last motion made and passed to adjourned.

Our next board meeting will be held on November 19th, 2025 at 6:30p.m. at the Elk lodge meeting room.



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.*

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

The Veterans Committee is gearing up for the holiday season! We’re planning a special project to bring some cheer to local veterans this year. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

If you’d like to help out or share ideas, please reach out to JD Willms at (979) 203-6959 or any member of the Veterans Committee. Everyone’s welcome to be part of this effort to make the holidays a little brighter for our veterans!

Fraternally,

JD Willms

Veterans Committee Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

—LILA STEELE

Fall is here and the weather is getting better for sure. All of our events in October were a success. Thank to everyone that helped or donated to these events.

The house committee would like to wish everyone a HAPPY AND SAFE THANKSGIVING. The lodge will be open that day with some good fixings.

Sweetheart, Tammy G, is cooking those great burgers every Monday during football season.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 18 @ 6:30. *See you all there!*

Any Questions - feel free to call me 979-421-0008.
Until next month - Remember to Be Kind!

SECRETARY REPORT

—TAMMY HELTON

Happy Fall All!! What beautiful weather we are having.

September was a busy month but was such a learning experience. I experienced my first Elks Audit as Lodge Secretary. Thanks to all of the Elks Auditors for all the knowledge and answering all of my questions. A very special "Thanks" to Melissa Glenewinkel and Rory Taylor.

MEMEBERSHIP UPDATE:

We have 1 New Applicant this month.

DUES PAYMENTS:

I'm so impressed with how many have paid their dues for 2025-2026. If you know a member that hasn't, please reach out to them and help our membership committee. Special "Thanks" to Bev Vesper. There are 2 ways to pay dues: you can physically come into the lodge and pay via, CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD. Also by mailing check or cash to Brenham #979 Lodge at PO Box 177, Brenham TX 77833.

IMPORTANT:

If you have a change of information, please either email elks979@yahoo.com or text me at 979-421-0605, so we can get your information updated. I thank each and everyone of you for your support and continued help during my journey.

Tammy Helton

Elks Lodge #979 Secretary

SWEETHEART REPORT

—TAMMY GEHOVAK

■ Greetings, Elks Family!

As we step into the season of giving thanks, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you who continue to support our Sweetheart program. Whether it's through volunteering, cooking, donating, or simply showing up — every little bit helps us raise funds for our special needs children and Elk charities. Together, we make a difference!

■ Sweetheart Monday Night Burgers

Our Sweetheart Monday Night Burger Nights continue to be a great success! Thank you to everyone who comes out each week to enjoy a delicious burger and take part in the 50/50 card raffle. Your support keeps the Sweetheart Program growing strong, and every burger sold helps raise money for our special needs children. Dine in or carry out — and don't forget, the raffle winner takes home half the pot!

■ Sweetheart Committee Cooking – November 21

You've asked for it, and we're bringing it back — Chicken Fried Steak Night! Join us Friday, November 21, as the Sweetheart Committee takes over the kitchen to serve up a lodge favorite: crispy chicken fried steak with all the fixings! Come hungry and enjoy a great meal while supporting our Sweetheart Program. Every plate sold helps us continue making a difference for our special needs children.

■ Ladies' Shrimp Night – A Wonderful Night of Fundraising!

Our Ladies' Shrimp Night was a wonderful evening of fundraising and fellowship! The shrimp, gumbo, and salads were delicious, and the raffle baskets and 50/50 drawing made for a night full of excitement and generosity. Thanks to everyone who cooked, donated, and attended — your support helped make the night truly special, with all proceeds going to help our special needs children through the Sweetheart Program.

■ Sweetheart Fundraising Update

What an incredible few months it has been! Between burger nights, raffles, and now a hugely successful Shrimp Night, the Sweetheart Committee continues to shine. Thanks to your generosity, we're on track to meet — or even surpass — our fundraising goal this year. Every dollar helps a child experience joy at the Texas Elks Children's Camp, and that's something we can all be proud of.

■ A Note from Your Sweetheart

This time of year always reminds me why I love being part of this Elk family. The laughter, the teamwork, the spirit of giving — it's everything the holidays are about. Thank you all for your continued love and support. Let's finish this year strong and keep spreading Elksdom's kindness wherever we go.

With love and gratitude,

■ Tammy Gehovak
Lodge Sweetheart
In Honor of Carolyn Campbell

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND EXALTED RULER

Bryan R. Klatt—Grand Exalted Ruler

Newsletter not available on Elks.org as of 10/29/2025.

CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE, and FIDELITY

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	28 Pool Closed for Cleaning	29	30	31 PER & Sweetheart Cooks	1
2	3 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	4 House Committee Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. Pool Closed for Cleaning	5	6	7 NO Friday Night Cook	8
9	10 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	11 PER Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. Pool Closed for Cleaning	12 Lodge Meeting 7 p.m.	13	14 Steak Night Board of Directors Cooks	15
16	17 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	18 House Meeting 6:30 p.m. Pool Closed for Cleaning	19 Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 p.m.	20 Reports/Articles Dates & Photos DUE for Nov. newsletter	21 Steak Night Sweetheart Cooks	22
23	24 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	25 Pool Closed for Cleaning	26	27 Antler Room Open Potluck 	28 NO Friday Night Cook	29
30	Dec 1 Sweetheart Burger Night 6:30 p.m.	Dec 2 Pool Closed for Cleaning	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5 NO Friday Night Cook	Dec 6

Reports, articles, photos, and dates for next month’s newsletter
ARE DUE no later than October 23rd.
Please email or text them to Alyson Hancock.