

LAKEWOOD RANCHER

Lodge Officers 2021-2022

Exalted Ruler	Jerry Ditty, PER
Leading Knight	Kathy Hogue
Loyal Knight	Frank Iannello
Lecturing Knight	Tom Sweeney
Secretary	Brett Davis PDDGER
Treasurer	Gloria Wilkinson
5 yr Trustee	Darrin Simone Sr. PER
4 yr Trustee	Randy Volkart, PER
3 yr Trustee	Leon Duis
2 yr Trustee	John Piper PER
1 yr Trustee	Open
Esquire	Frank Malatesta PSP
Chaplain	Joanne DiCarlo
Inner Guard	Tonya Ditty, PER
Tiler	Ron Lee
Lodge Advisor	Brett Davis, PDDGER

PER Association

President	Randy Volkart
Vice President	Darrin Someone, SR
Secretary	Don LaFrance

Lakewood Ranch Sarasota
Lodge 2855 BPOE

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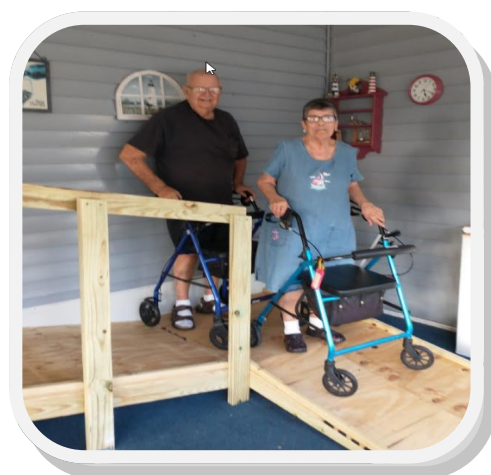
We're on the Web!
Lwrelks.org

Helping Others During This Pandemic

In many ways, the Corona Virus Pandemic has demonstrated the extent to which we rely on others. One of the many suggested ways to help is to check on our neighbors (especially the elderly) to see if they're doing okay and if there is anything we can do to help them.

One good example of "helping" occurred recently when Rick Thorson became aware of a problem that members of our Lodge, Jerry and Barbara Blackwell, were having. Because they both require the use of "walkers" they found it almost impossible to gain access or egress from their home.

When the Southwest District PDDGER Association was informed of this, they voted to provide the funds to have a ramp installed at their Harbor Circle



home in Ellenton. The construction of the ramp was done by "Spike" Jones of Sarasota South Lodge.

This was a great cooperative venture demonstrating how Lodges can work together to fill an import need



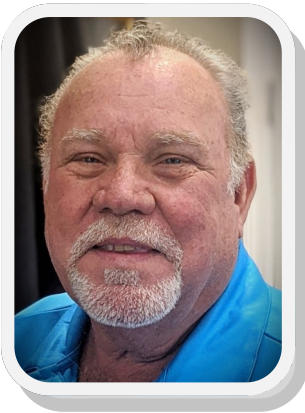
Did Your Horse Win?

The PER Association is pleased to report that the recent *Day at The Races* event held last month was able to raise almost \$4,000 for the Lodge.

This was all due to our generous donors who paid for the CD and most of the printing, and also your generosity in the \$1,000 raffle..

Special thanks go to one of our raffle winners who donated their winnings back to the Lodge.

If we can achieve these results during this pandemic, imagine how much we could raise next year if we are back to normal.



Message from Exalted Ruler Jerry Ditty

While we try to get back to normal operations, we continue to employ all necessary safety measures to keep our Members safe.

March was a busy month for the Lodge and its officers. Brett, Darin, Tonya and I attended the officer training program in Orlando. Here at the Lodge we performed a very moving memorial ceremony for Gary Pope..

My thanks go out to the volunteers who helped and demonstrated how we can do

many wonderful things for our members.

Our installation of officers for our 2021-2022 Lodge year took place on the 27th with a fine meal prepared by Chef Richard.

Richard is working on menus that he will feature in April.

He will be offering hot dogs, and burgers during our Car Show and

Vendor Fair on the 10th, and a fabulous Italian meal on the 17th when we have our fundraiser for Harry Anna.

On the 24th, our Lodge will be hosting the District Deputy Clinic.

Be sure to read the article on page 3 of this issue for information on our Lodge Scholarship Program

Florida State Elks Convention Reservations Close Soon

If you are planning to attend the 115th Annual Convention of the Florida State Elks Association, be aware that the cur-off date for reservations is 5:00 pm April 26, 2021 or when sold out. And please do not wait as they WILL sell out before April 26, 2021.

The convention is being held at the **Rosen Centre**, 9840 International Drive, Orlando Florida, 32819 on May 27-30, 2021.

A one-night deposit or credit card guarantee will be required for each room you are reserving. Rooms sleep a maximum of four people and the standard room rate for a **double or single** is



\$129.00 plus 13.63% tax, or \$146.58 per night.

Reservations may be made through the Rosen Centre reservation link on the flelps.org website at www.floridaelks.org

Lakewood Ranch Sarasota Elks Lodge

*Youth
Scholarship
Programs*



Program open to high school seniors, from a public, private or home school Class of 2021 who is the child, grandchild, niece or nephew of a member in our Lodge. The Elk Member must be a member in good standing. The student does not have to reside in Florida but must be a U.S. Citizen.

Applications may be obtained from Lodge Scholarship Chairper-

son, PER Tonya Ditty. Completed applications must be post-marked no later than April 24, 2021 and sent to Lakewood Ranch Sarasota Lodge Att: Tonya Ditty Scholarship Committee 4602 Lena Rd Bradenton, FL 34211. Make sure you write "PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL" on the front of the envelope. Winners will be notified by email

Treasurer Report

February 25, 2021 to March 11, 2021

Income

Opening Balance From Feb 25, 2021		\$125,714.88
Received from the Secretary	\$28,764.56	
Charity Funds Received	\$ 2,997.00	
Interest on Reserve Account	\$ 1.56	
Sub Total		\$ 31,763.12

Less Expenses

Lodge Bills Paid	\$22,329.58	
Charity Funds Paid	\$ 500.00	
Sub Total		- \$ 22,829.58

*** Cash Balance March 11, 2021** **\$134,648.42**

* Cash Balance includes \$30,886.25 pre-paid dues

Charity Fund Balance \$11,654.36

Reserve Fund Balance \$40,524.17

COMMUNITY CORNER



helpful information
about good causes

Editor note:

This is a new column that we will feature from time to time with information that we think will be of interest and value to all Elk members. Let us know what you think.

This month's article is submitted by Sarah Davis.

As you know, there are many monthly, weekly, and daily "observances these days! Some are fun such as April is Grilled Cheese Sandwich month and fresh Florida Tomato Month, do not forget about April 1st for April Fools Day! Some observances can be serious and fun at the same time.

Wednesday, April 7th is National Alcohol Screening Day, it could be a busy day at the Lodge if we make it into a sample screening, but seriously, April is also Alcohol Screening Month! Most importantly, there are a lot of observances for health matters to remind us to be aware, get tested and take better care of ourselves. Just to name a few for April: IBS Awareness, National Autism Awareness, Parkinson's Awareness, Bowel Cancer Awareness, Stress Awareness and the list goes on and on! However, there is one in particular that stood out to me and this is a great time to share and remind everyone of its importance. April is **MOVE MORE MONTH!** Due to COVID, a lot of us are not moving around like we used to. Move More Month is sponsored by the American Heart Association and their website is amazing for all kinds of great information. Move More Month is exactly what is says...Move More! Not just in April but all year round. Check out their website and go to <https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/fitness-basics/move-more-together> and find out more information, including free exercise videos and free heart healthy recipes. Moving your body daily is very important to keep your heart healthy, muscles strong and blood flowing! Go for a walk - you've been doing it for most of your life and it's one of the healthiest things you can do. The American Heart Association suggests 10,000 steps a day! Dancing counts as exercise!! Get rid of your lawn guy and mow the yard yourself. This counts as moving! Anything that will make your heart rate increase and is aerobic for at least 20 to 30 minutes per day will make you feel so much better in the long run!

Did you know that the economic costs (both direct and indirect) of cardiovascular and heart disease are projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2035 unless we take the time to move more and get more exercise. About sixty-nine percent of US adults are obese and that statistic will only rise unless we do our part to create healthy habits and exercise more. Eighty percent of cardiovascular disease in the US is considered preventable, especially by getting out and moving more. The more you do something the more of a habit it becomes, and getting in some exercise is one of the best habits you can have. So why are you sitting there...get up and move, be a healthy Elk.



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