

## WEST CITRUS STORY

WEST CITRUS ELKS LODGE 2693 CHARTERED APRIL 20, 1985 7890 W. GROVER CLEVELAND BOULEVARD HOMOSASSA, FL 34446



#### **JANUARY 2023**

Volume 38 Issue 1

## MESSAGE FROM EXALTED RULER DOUG NORMAN



Happy New Year West Citrus Elks,

With 2022 in the rear-view mirror, let's look forward to 2023 and help it be the best yet! Many things happened throughout the past year; some very good, some not so much. But we have managed to continue to move the lodge forward thanks to the hard work

of the house committee, board of directors, and mostly our amazing volunteers.

Speaking of volunteers, our Elks of the month for January are Ron and Vivian Rothe. You can see either or both helping in the kitchen, at the hostess stand, serving meals, or installing the beautiful Christmas tree light display beside our front entrance. Thanks to Ron and Vivian, as well as all the amazing volunteers that keep us going.

We will have upcoming events to watch for and participate in. I hope to see you in the lodge for events, dinner, or just a beverage at the bar.

See you soon,

Doug Norman, ER West Citrus Elks Lodge #2693

#### MESSAGE FROM LODGE SECRETARY KAREN FISH



Please notify the office of any address, email, or phone changes.

Office: (352) 628-1221. Lounge: (352) 503-2010

Email: welksclub@tampabay.rr.com
Website: www.westcitruselks.org

Office Open 9am ~ 3pm Monday ~ Wednesday ~ Friday

#### LODGE OFFICE AND LOUNGE HOURS

Sunday ~ Lounge and Lodge office closed

Monday ~ Lounge/Lodge closed; Lodge Office Open 9am – 3pm

Tuesday  $\sim$  Lounge opened 1pm -8 pm (Lodge office closed)

Wednesday  $\sim$  Lounge opened 3pm - 7pm; Lodge Office Open 9am - 3pm

Thursday  $\sim$  Lounge opened 1pm - 7 pm (Lodge office closed)

Friday ~ Lounge opened 3pm – 7pm; Lodge Office Open 9am – 3pm

Saturday ~ 12pm – 5pm Sunday ~ Lounge/Bar

#### PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP

#### **Proposed**

Shawn McDonald Robert Simmons Robert Wagner James Weber Joseph McEvoy John W. Hart

#### Proposed by

Luke Todd
Luke Todd
Bonnie Gonzales
Irv Hendren
Ronald Rothe
Edward Blommel





On any given Tuesday you will find Ron and Vivian helping to set up for karaoke, or maybe either or both are helping in the kitchen for an event, or Vivian is hostess during our regular café service. Viv and Ron are a great couple and are always ready to volunteer. They installed the beautiful Christmas tree light display beside our front entrance. Thanks to Ron and Vivian, for all you do to make Elkdom a success.

#### LINE DANCING LESSONS ON WEDNESDAYS



Come and join in on the fun of learning or practicing your line dancing with Kathy Reynolds every Wednesday from 2 pm to 3 pm. The cost is \$5 per class. These ladies do a great job teaching you all the line dancing moves to get you ready for the next lodge event. For more information call Kathy Reyn-

olds at (352) 637-1233. See you there!

#### LODGE OF SORROW

#### IN MEMORY OF OUR ABSENT MEMBER

#### TAMMY CAMPBELL

"The faults of our members we write upon the sand, their virtues on the tablets of love and memory"

#### BINGO EVERY THURSDAY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Bingo is played every Thursdays at 6 pm SHARP. The cafe is open for bingo guests to order food from 4 pm—6 pm. Members may purchase an alcoholic beverage in the lounge, however you can not bring alcoholic beverages in the bingo hall.

We are looking for volunteers to help out. We need callers, verifiers and help at the bingo table. You can call Sue Wood (703) 906-8863 or Donna Hayes (407) 782-8577, if you are interested in helping out.

#### **LODGE MONTHLY MEETINGS**

01/04—House Committee Meeting at 10 am

01/09—Lodge Membership Meeting at 7 pm

01/09—Veterans Committee Meeting at 10:30 am

01/18—Veterans Sewing Group at 10:30 am

01/16—LOE Board meeting at 10:30 am

#### NEW MEMBER INITIATED IN DECEMBER



On December 5th the West Citrus Lodge of Elks initiated eight new members into the order. These new members are excited to join with us in our charitable endeavors. Pictured left to right is Mike Hall, Bill Menz, Martin Faulmino, Gary Hines, Kevin Stewart, Hope Guerra, Elizabeth Shannon, and Mary Friedrich. Be sure to welcome our new members when you see them at the lodge and the community.

#### WEST CITRUS ELKS #2693 BIRTHDAY COUPON

Sign and bring this coupon to the Lodge to receive a free drink in your birthday month.

. .

Member name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday:\_\_\_\_\_

Happy Birthday to all with a birthday this month. Celebrate at the Lodge with a complimentary house brand mixed drink, wine, or domestic beer of your choice. **Members only. One coupon per member** 

#### VETERANS COMMITTEE NEWS



On Tuesday, December 20th, Orlan Hayes, finance chairperson of the West Citrus Elks Veterans Committee, presented a check for \$500 to the Citrus County Veterans Coalition. In picture (attached) left to right is Richard Floyd (Coalition Executive Officer), Orlan Hayes (Elk's Veteran Committee Finance), Bob Vendlie (Coalition Treasurer), Brenda Wingate (Coalition Store Manager)

The Citrus County Veterans Coalition food pantry provides food for veterans and their families. The food pantry is open from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and the first and third Thursdays (excluding holidays). The pantry is located at 1081 North Paul St. in Inverness. The pantry offers a variety of dry, canned, and frozen for veterans in need. For food assistance, call 352-400-8952 or ask a volunteer during food pantry hours.

According to the coalition officers, the demand has increased for their services and support. They are seeing an increase of widows of veterans asking for assistance for basic food items.

The Citrus County Veterans Coalition has an immediate need for a replacement in ground commercial water pump and well. The cost for the replacement is estimated at \$13,000.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WITH OUR LOCAL VETERANS

The veterans at Crystal River Rehab had a great time at their recent Christmas party sponsored by the West Citrus Veterans Committee. They even had a visit from Santa. I would like to thank the 4 elves who helped me entertain these precious men and woman who served our country, Ellen Giraulo, Eline Floch (wife of Santa Mike Floch), Linda Dunn and Monta Burnett. Thank you ladies for making this such a great event for the veterans.



#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF LADIES OF THE ELKS LINDA ZAKSZESKI



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Here it is 2023, here we come Jetsons!!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and pray the New Year finds us all healthy and ready to begin a fresh start in the new year.

The Memorial Service, while sparsely attended was lovely.

The gifts for the families/children at Homosassa Elementary School were delivered and gratefully accepted by the Guidance Counselor - thank you all for your generous donations. Our Fashion Show is January 28th - we expect it to be a sellout and a fun time with wonderful fashions and tables decorated by our Ladies so if you haven't purchased your ticket(s) yet, please call Edie Thompson 352-503-7474 and "Let Your Day Sparkle."

Our annual Flea Market is February 25th (8-2:30) but prior to that will be our Members Tea on February 4th at 1 pm. This is always great fun and camaraderie AND yummy food and lovely tea so I hope you can attend.

Flea Market Shed will be open for collections January 7 from 9-12 noon.

Remember our meetings continue to be held in the Lounge at 10:30 AM.

Best Always, Linda

#### L.O.E. JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/02 01/05 01/05 01/08	Carol Hayes Charlotte Folley Joan Haffenden Sue Kuntz	cfhayes0102@gmail.com cfolley@yahoo.com chujoan587@gmail.com 1010 Bella Vista Blvd. Apt 126 St Augustine, FL 32804
01/16 01/17 01/21 01/22	Sharon Seely Elizabeth Winner Donna Hayes Nance Gillett	rserely37@gmail.com 31 Hollyhock Ct., Homosassa FL 34446 mollie1099@gmail.com powerduo.carole@gmail.com



#### LADIES OF THE ELKS UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

**07**—Flea Market shed open from 9 am— 12 noon

**16**—LOE Board meeting at 10:30 am

**23**—LOE Membership Meeting 10:30 am

28—LOE Annual Fashion Show



#### L.O.E. ANGEL TREE FOR HOMOSASSA ELE-MENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN



On December 14th, Linda Zakszeski, President of LOE and Donna Hayes, chairperson of the LOE Angel Tree project, delivered Christmas presents to Deb Harmon, guidance director at Homosassa Elementary. Each year the LOE receives names of children from Homosassa Elementary who are in need of a little Christmas cheer. The LOE did not disappoint again this year with their generous donations. The LOE would like to thank the West Citrus Lodge for their contribution and to everyone who contributed to this worthy project.

# ACTION AT THE LODGE UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND HAPPENINGS

#### **EUCHRE ON THURSDAYS AT THE LODGE**



Did you know that there is a great group of folks that play Euchre at the lodge every Thursday at 1:30? Well they do! If you enjoy playing Euchre and want to meet other members, this is a perfect place to start. You don't need a partner or group to play, you just need to show up. For more information, contact Dan

or Louise Lopp at (352) 628-7095.

#### Karaoke Saturday



The house committee will continue to host Saturday Karaoke starting again in January. January 14th Turner Camp Dave will be the featured KJ. Karaoke begins at 5 pm. The kitchen will be open from 4 pm to 7 pm, the bar opens at 12 noon. Come and join us for a fun evening of singing.

#### SEWING FOR VETERANS



It was mentioned in the last newsletter that a new committee would be forming to benefit veterans. Sewing for Veterans will be chaired by Susan Adams. The first meeting will be on January 18th at 10:30

am. At this meeting the group will discuss projects and develop the committee.

Susan welcomes any donation of 100% cotton fabric and batting. The committee is also accepting monetary donations also to offset the cost of materials. All the labor of love put into each of these projects is free.

Anyone who prefers to sew from home are also welcomed to join.

You can contact Susan at (352)270-8745 (home) (353) 270-0099 or email at shewolf@tampabay.rr.com if you want any additional information.

#### THE PRETENDERS SHOW SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 21ST



The 7th annual Pretenders Show is almost here. Kathy Dolan and her entertainers have been working hard to deliver a great show.

Tickets for the event are on sale until January 18 and can be purchased during the evening hours from 5 pm to 7 pm at the lodge.

Cocktail hour begins at 5 pm, followed by dinner at 5:30 pm. The show begins at 7 pm.



FOR ALL PRETENDERS CAST MEMBERS HERE IS YOUR REHERSAL SCHEDULE:

01/04 AT 3 PM 01/09 AT 9 AM 01/18 AT 3 PM 01/20 AT 9 AM 01/21 SHOWTIME

#### MESSAGE FROM BRIAN ESTUS CENTRAL DISTRICT DEPUTY

We're almost thru the Lodge year. It's time to think about who will be stepping up to be an officer and who will be moving to a different role in our Lodge. Nominations and elections are only a month away.

We have many of our members who have a lot to offer and many members who can assist in the business of the Lodge. If you think you may want to take a position or know someone who does, now is the time to ask your questions. I personally decided on the night that I was initiated that I wanted to be an officer. Most members come to that decision after spending time watching how the Lodge operates. For many it's the opportunity to volunteer and make a difference in the Lodge and the community. I've done a lot of jobs in my thirty-eight years, whatever the calling dishwasher, cook, officer, House Committee to mention just a few. Now is the time to consider a new opportunity. New people mean there will be new ideas but there is always advice, if needed, from those who have held those positions. Your Lodge needs you.

Brian Estus Central District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler

#### WELCOME TO THE WEST CITRUS ELKS CAFÉ AND GRILL



#### **CAFÉ HOURS**

Sunday Closed
Monday Closed
Tuesday 4 pm to 7 pm
Wednesday 4 pm to 7 pm
Thursday 4 pm to 7 pm
Friday 4 pm to 7 pm
Saturday—café open most Saturdays) check newsletter for details

#### **EARLY BIRD SPECIALS**

(Available from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm only)

(Your order must be in no later than 5:00 pm)

(includes soup or salad, choice of potato and vegetable du jour)

CHICKEN BREAST	\$10
CHOPPED STEAK	\$10
HAM STEAK	\$10
FISH (FRIED OR BAKED)	\$10
BONELESS PORK CHOP	\$10

#### **SANDWICHES**

(sandwich only-Add fries \$2.50)

1/4 lb hamburger or Cheeseburger	<b>\$6</b>
Chicken Sandwich (Fried or Grilled)	<b>\$6</b>
Pork Chop Sandwich (fried or grilled)	<b>\$6</b>
1/4 lb All Beef Hot dog	\$4.50







#### FEATURED DINNERS FOR JANUARY

(Available from 4:00 pm—7:00 pm Tuesday—Friday) (includes soup or salad, choice of potato and vegetable du jour)

01/03	Coconut Shrimp	\$17
01/10	Pot Roast	\$14
01/17	Haddock	\$17
01/24	Meatloaf	\$14
01/31	<b>Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo</b>	\$15

#### **GARDEN SALADS**



FRIED OR GRILLED CHICKEN \$9
FRIED OR GRILLED SHRIMP \$10

### OTHER ENTREE OPTIONS

(includes soup or salad, choice of potato and vegetable du jour)

BONELESS PORK CHOP	\$12
CHOPPED STEAK	\$13
CHICKEN BREAST (FRIED OR GRILLED)	\$13
GRILLED HAM STEAK	\$13
FISH (FRIED OR BROILED)	\$14
SHRIMP (FRIED OR BROILED)	\$14

Note: For dining room reservations of 5 or more, call (352) 503-2010

Last seating to place an order is 7:00 pm

#### **BASKETS**





Chicken Finger Basket	\$6
Shrimp Basket	<b>\$7</b>
Fish Basket	\$8
(Baskets are served with French	Fries)

#### A LA CARTE

<b>Appetizer (ask your server for selection)</b>	\$6.50
Soup or Salad	\$3.00
Dessert	\$4.00
Ice Cream	\$3.00
French Fries or Baked Potato	\$2.50

Please be aware that our food may contain or come into contact with common allergens, such as dairy, eggs, wheat, soybeans, tree nuts, peanuts, fish, shellfish or wheat. Please let your server know if you are allergen sensitive to any of these foods.

## January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
I CLOSED Lounge, lodge office, and café	2 CLOSED Lounge, and café Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm	3 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 3pm-8pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM KARAOKE 5-8 PM KJ WALT ROGERS	4 Lodge Office Open 9am- 3pm Lounge open 3pm-7pm House committee meeting 10 am LINE DANCING 2PM CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM	5 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 1 pm-9 pm EUCHRE 1:30 PM CAFÉ OPEN FROM 4PM-7PM BINGO AT 6 PM Citrus County Car Cruisers member meeting at 7 pm	6 Lodge Office Open 9am- 3pm Lounge open 3 pm-7 pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4 PM-7 PM	7 LOE FLEA MARKET SHED OPEN 9 TO 12 Lounge opened 12 -5 pm
8 CLOSED Lounge, lodge office, and café	Q CLOSED Lounge and café Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm Veterans Committee meeting 10:30 am Lodge Meeting 7 pm	10 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 3pm-8pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM KARAOKE 5-8 PM KJ SOUTHERN BILL	11 Lodge Office Open 9am- 3pm Lounge open 3pm-7pm LINE DANCING 2PM CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM	12 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 1 pm-9 pm EUCHRE 1:30 PM CAFÉ OPEN FROM 4PM-7PM BINGO STARTS AT 6 PM	13 Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm Lounge open 3 pm-7 pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4 PM-7 PM	14 Lounge opened 12 -5 pm Café opened 4 pm- 7 pm  KARAOKE 5-9 PM KJ TURNER CAMP DAVE
15 CLOSED Lounge, lodge office, and café	16 CLOSED Lounge, and café Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm LOE Board meeting at 10:30 am	17 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 3pm-8pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM KARAOKE 5-8 PM KJ TURNER CAMP DAVE	18 Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm Lounge open 3pm-7pm Sewing for Veterans— 10:30 am LINE DANCING 2PM CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM	19 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 1 pm-9 pm EUCHRE 1:30 PM CAFÉ OPEN FROM 4PM-7PM BINGO STARTS AT 6	20 Lodge Office Open 9am- 3pm Lounge open 3 pm-7 pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4 PM-7 PM	21 Lounge opened 12 -5 pm The Pretenders Show 5 pm, din- ner at 5:30, show begins at 7pm
22 CLOSED Lounge, lodge office, and café	23 CLOSED Lounge, and café Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm LOE Membership meeting at 10:30 am	24 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 3pm-8pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM KARAOKE 5-8 PM KJ ROGER CARRIER	25 Lodge Office Open 9am- 3pm Lounge open 3pm-7pm LINE DANCING 2PM CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM	26 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 1 pm-9 pm EUCHRE 1:30 PM CAFÉ OPEN FROM 4PM-7PM BINGO AT 6 PM Citrus County Car Cruisers board meeting at 7 pm	27 Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm Lounge open 3 pm-7 pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4 PM-7 PM	28 Lounge opened 12 -5 pm  LOE Fashion Show—doors open at 10:30 am, lunch served at 12 noon.
29 CLOSED Lounge, lodge office, and café	30 CLOSED Lounge, and café Lodge Office Open 9am-3pm	31 Lodge Office closed Lounge open 3pm-8pm CAFÉ OPEN SERVING FROM 4PM-7PM KARAOKE 5-8 PM KJ TURNER CAMP DAVE				

**Board of Directors** 

Irvin Hendren Chairman **Exalted Ruler** Doug Norman Leading Knight Jim Stradling Loyal Knight Cindy Kempff Lecturing Knight Larry Brett Secretary Treasurer Karen Fish Kris Estus 5 Year Trustee Rick Jeroski 4 Year Trustee Joanne Hepner 3 Year Trustee Irv Hendren 2 Year Trustee Kent Kester 1 Year Trustee Terri Harrison

**House Committee** 

Donna Hayes (Chairman)
Karin Nottage
Marcia Norman
Pat Brace

Brian Estus (Bar Manager)
Debbie Lawrence
Dolores Rosales
Jill Jeroski

**PERs Other Lodges** 

Kenneth E Smith
Keith R. Bernard
Don Conway
Brian Estus
Norton R. Hustwayte
Paul (Bill) Kobel
William Dennington
Cindy Kempff
James Beckner
Allen Case
Allen Case
Jack O' Moore
Thomas O'Brien
Edwin James
James Sterin
Kathleen A. Smith

**Elected Officers** 

**Exalted Ruler** Doug Norman Leading Knight Loyal Knight Jim Stradling Cindy Kempff Lecturing Knight Larry Brett Karen Fish Secretary Treasurer Kris Estus 5 Year Trustee Rick Jeroski 4 Year Trustee Joanne Hepner 3 Year Trustee Irv Hendren 2 Year Trustee Kent Kester Terri Harrison 1 Year Trustee

**Bulletin Boosters** (Join the Boosters and help support our Lodge bulletin. for a donation of \$10. Please see the Lodge Secretary.)

November 2022

In Memory of Okey Ryan

April 2023

In Memory of George Tichy

April 2023

In Memory of Irv Lovejoy

June 2023

In Memory of Mel Lafferty

November 2023

In Memory of Mel Lafferty

December 2024

In Memory of Richard H. Lee, PER

December 2025

In Memory of Roy Hoskins

February 2026

In Memory of Milford Seely In Memory of Margrurite Seely

December 2028

In Memory of Regis D. "Skip" Steighner PER

**Appointed Officers** 

Esquire Brian Estus
Chaplain Patricia Grove
Tiler Bonnie Gonzalez
Inner Guard Mike Floch

**Appointed Non-officers** 

MediatorTBDParliamentarianEd SeitlerPresiding JusticeGlen AbbottLodge AdvisorEd Seitler

Past Exalted Rulers (this Lodge)

Richard Brown
William Dennington
Ed Seitler

Brian Estus
Paul (Bill) Kobel
Kris Estus

PDDGER's

Ed Seitler Ed James

**Ladies Of The Elks Officers** 

President Linda Zakszeski Vice President Patricia Rice Charlotte Blauvelt Treasurer Recording. Secretary Carole Moats Corresponding . Secretary Janet Porter At Large Volunteer Hours At Large Publicity Rick & Jill Jeroski Carolyn Ohlmeyer At Large Communications Donna Hayes Edna Pirmann Sentry Jeanne MacBurnie Joanne Hepner Greeter

Chaplain Joanne Hepner
Historian Laura Peterson & Deb Spence

Parliamentarian Bonnie Lee

**Committees** 

Accident Prevention and Safety

Americanism Florida Youth Camp

Auditing Bingo

Buildings and Grounds

Community Activities Drug Awareness

ENF Flag Day Grant Coordinator Harry Anna Trust Hoop Shoot House Chairperson Investigations

Lapsation Lodge Event Coordinator

Lodge Special Functions Coordinator

Lodge Historian

Membership Recruitment Memorial Service Orientation

Publicity Scholarships Cub Scouts

Sickness and Distress

Sign Newsletter Editor Training Veterans Youth Activities Irvin Hendren Trish Grove

Donna Hayes, Cheryl Brett,

Joanne Hepner Lucille Lareau Susan Wood

Ed Lutkus, Davy Jones, Jim Stradling, Brad Sass

Karin Nottage TBD Brian Estus TBD Kris Estus Kris Estus TBD Donna Hayes TBD Karen Fish

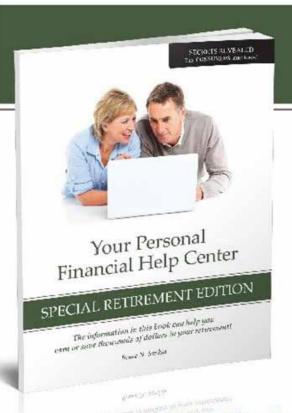
Dolores Rosales, Pat Brace

Karin Nottage
Ed Seitler
Brian Estus
TBD
Brian Estus
Brian Estus
Charles Jancura

George Craven & Peter Ward

Patricia Grove Larry Brett Donna M. Hayes Doug Norman Donna Hayes TBD





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Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America A Fraternal Organization

#### **WEST CITRUS STORY**

WEST CITRUS ELKS LODGE #2693 P.O. BOX 3719

