



THE CHRONICLE

JANUARY 2026

EXALTED RULER MESSAGE



To My Fellow Members of Deland Lodge 1463

Happy New Year to all my fellow Elks. I hope the New Year brings you health, happiness and success.

A couple of quick mentions for December. The Christmas Parade was a success, and the Deland Elks came out of the gates with a Grinch Theme and all new lights and video screens added to this year's float. Quite the high-tech look and everyone loved it. Thanks to Bob Sari, Donna Nott and Jay Palmeri for all the hard work organizing. Thank you to Jay for being the Grinch and Lisa for being Cindy Lou.

A special thank you to all that helped and participated with their decorated golf carts and walkers that gave out candy. On December 13th we held the Deland Elks Hoop Shoot at the Deland YMCA. We had several participants this year and we have advanced 4 children to move on to the District Hoop Shoot in January. We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with the District Hoop Shoot event on January 10th at Deland Middle School. Please reach out to me if you would like to help. A special thank you to Lisa and Scott for chairing the Local Hoop Shoot and all the work that went into visiting all the schools to get participation. I would also like to thank all the members that showed up to help that day. Finally, I would like to thank Minday Nadeau for chairing the fantastic New Year's Eve Around the World Party. Thank you to all members who donated their dishes to accent each country. What a great time we all had.

In November and December, the Deland Elks were able to present several donations to great organizations including \$4500 to Love Like Lindsey and \$6000 to People Loving People. Both organizations do great work helping to better our communities through providing resources that help to rebuild individuals and families. The Deland Elks was also able to present \$4000 worth of shoes, socks, clothing and undergarments to our 2 adopted Elementary Schools that have many needs for less fortunate students. Finally, I would like to recognize the hard work of the crew that tirelessly donates their time to serve lunch at the First Step Shelter every month. Caroline Fannin who chairs the event, Shiela and Jeff Parsons, Gary and Sandy Hand, Vanessa Dahl, Anne Lewis, Lisa Browning,

Samantha Fannin, Terry Applegate, Emily Drumb, our own ECDVP Dean Yeager and so many others that have given back to the Shelter. The Deland Elks continue to focus on helping our community one day at a time.

The Lodge looked festive and beautiful for Christmas and New Years. Thank you to the Decorating Committee Gina Klimas and her team for always making the Lodge look amazing for every event. Thank you to Keith Klimas for installing all our new accent lighting both in the Lodge in the Social Quarters and on the exterior of the Lodge. These lights will illuminate the color of the event or the holiday at hand and gives the Lodge a great look.

January at the Lodge has so many exciting events and happenings. January 8th Meet and Greet our new Candidates for Membership. On January 10th we will have our District Hoop Shoot at Deland Middle School. On January 15th we will have initiation for our new members (subject to change). On January 17th we will have our annual Stan and Chris Mitchell Soup Night including live music with Davey Leatherwood. January 23rd Karaoke with Craig and on January 31st the Deland Elks 1st Annual Chili Cook Off and so much more.

I would like to take a moment to talk about the Elks National Foundation (ENF). I am sure by now you have seen our ENF Sustaining donor board in the Lodge. ENF is a huge part how we as an Elks Lodge can provide support to the community such as Love Like Lindsey Love, Elementary Schools, House of Hope etc. ENF provide Lodges Grant Money so that we can help those in need in the community. These Grants are all possible because of donors to ENF. Please take a second to see if you would like to be a part of the Deland ENF Sustaining Donor Team. You can donate as little as \$5 a month. The donation is taken directly out of your checking monthly. Please reach out to Frank Scalia or me if you have any questions about ENF or if you would like to sign up.

Members, we have launched an additional way we can communicate with Members. We began to use a new bulk texter that will provide lodge happenings, special events or urgent communication to our member base by text. This form of communication will be optional as you will receive a welcome text that will give the member the option to opt out of you do not wish to continue to receive communication in the future. If you have recently changed your cell phone number or if you are not sure we have the most up to date information, please do not hesitate to email Alicia at Elksclub1@gmail.com with any updates you would like to provide. We will always continue to look at ways we can better keep members informed about all the great happenings here at your Elks Lodge. (Just a quick update. Loyal Knight Keith Klimas has worked diligently to work out the kinks in this system and we believe this has been fixed. If you are still not receiving information text messages from the Lodge, please text Keith your Name and desired phone number at 407-312-2266 to ensure we get your correct number added to the list.)

Members, come down to PER Wednesdays. Each Wednesday the PER's will be serving up a home cooked meal with each PER taking turns serving their favorite dish. Games, pull tabs, and PER Baseball are just some of the fun events that the PER's have planned for each Wednesday Evening. Come down and have a great meal, take advantage of all the Lodge has to offer on PER Wednesdays. Come down and enjoy the evening.

The New Year brings us a chance to revisit our Elk principles, Charity, Justice Brotherly Love and Fidelity. Things that make us who we are as a fraternal organization and individual members of society. It may have been a while since we have taken our obligation but none the less, we as members of the BPOE are held to a standard to follow the obligation whether in or outside of the Lodge. On January 8th we will be hosting a Meet and Greet for all new candidates that wish to become an ELK. On January 15th we will be having initiation for the new members. I encourage members to come support the new candidates and listen again to the obligation as these new candidates begin their journey into Elkdom.

In closing I am thankful to be a Deland Elk. Our focus together as a Lodge will still be to help the community in every way we can, including assisting our veterans and children. I want to encourage each of you to find something at the Lodge that inspires you, moves you or sparks your interest. Please don't hesitate to raise your hand, we have so much to do. There is something for everyone.

Please refer to the Weekly Blast, the Lodge Calendar, and our website at www.delandelks.com for more info on the happens at the lodge.

Fraternally Yours,
Glen Fannin
Exalted Ruler Deland Lodge 1463



DELAND ELKS LODGE #1463 OFFICERS 2025-2026



EXALTER RULER
GLEN FANNIN, PER



LEADING KNIGHT
BOB SARI, PER



LOYAL KNIGHT
KEITH KLIMAS



LECTURING KNIGHT
SCOTT BROWNING



SECRETARY
ALICIA VANOPDORP



TREASURER
BARBARA THOMPSON



TILER
SAM KIRKLAND



ESQUIRE
MIKE NADEAU



CHAPLIN
ANITA NIXON



INNER GUARD
JENNIFER HOPSON



ORGANIST
FRANK SCALIA



LODGE ADVISOR
MARK THOMPSON, PDDGER



1 YEAR TRUSTEE
BILL GRUMHAUS



2 YEAR TRUSTEE
DAVE McCRANIE, PER



3 YEAR TRUSTEE
DEAN YEAGER, PER



4 YEAR TRUSTEE
SCOTT SANDERSFIELD, PER



5 YEAR TRUSTEE
OPEN



Lodge No. 1463

Florida Elks,

We hope the Holiday Season is treating you well. The February Quarterly Meeting of the Florida State Elks Association at the Florida Elks Youth Camp is approaching quickly. The dates of the meetings are February 5-7, 2026.

This year, we are asking EVERYONE attending to REGISTER online—whether you are staying at the camp or not. We want to collect data on who's attending and where you're staying so that we can work with local hotels to accommodate more Elks to these meetings. Also, it helps the camp tremendously to have an idea of how much food they'll need to prepare.

Welcoming our National President/Grand Exalted Ruler – Bryan Klatt & Susan

During the Major Projects Committee meeting on Saturday, we will have the special pleasure of having Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt address the assembly. If you've never heard GER Klatt speak before, I highly recommend that you come up for Saturday morning's session. Between the reports of our Major Projects and GER Klatt, I guarantee you will leave fired up and proud to be a Florida Elk.

Great Event for Ladies – Friday February 6, 2026

A ladies meet & greet event with the First Lady Susan Klatt will be held on Friday starting at 11:00 a.m. in the Smith Conference Center. There will be Mimosas, Champagne, & Bloody Mary's, followed by lunch including wine & dessert. **Tickets are \$35** and may be purchased from the menu bar on the left of this page.

Directions to the Florida Elks Youth Camp

The camp address is 24175 SE Highway 450, Umatilla, FL 32784. Most GPS map programs will recognize this address.

Friday Night Dinner & Entertainment at the February Quarterly

On Friday night from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. a “donations accepted” dinner will be held in the FEYC Dining Hall/Pavilion. The dinner will be followed at 7:00 p.m. with special entertainment by the Chuckle Hut. Attendees should bring their own refreshments.

Summary

All in all, we are planning another great event. Please attend and bring with you a fellow Elk or two, perhaps someone that has never been to our camp or a new member. Plan to participate in the various meetings of the Boards and Committees, for it is in these meetings that the work of the Florida State Elks Association takes place. It is also in these meetings that you will gather more detail regarding the operations of our Association and our affiliated companies—much more than you would hear in the highlight reports at the Major Projects Meeting. All meetings will be held in the Grafton Center and are open to all Elks unless otherwise noted.

**17th Annual State BBQ Contest at Eustis Lodge – Saturday of February Quarterly
Featuring a BBQ Pork Ribs Cook-off, a Beef Brisket Cook-off, and a Chili cook-off. For more information contact Ron Locke with the Eustis Elks Lodge at bowtie038@aol.com.**

We look forward to seeing you at the February meetings.



Nick Miller, State Secretary

Birthday Celebration

Doug	Wedekind	02		Mark	Burger	17
Barbara	Meistrell	03		Wendy	Gregory	17
Dennis	Breiner	06		John	Mott	18
Theodore	Seaman, Sr.	07		Benjamin	Dahl	19
Zachariah	Shearer	08		Jay	Jones	20
Albert	Garcia	09		Samara	McLoughlin	20
David	Jensen	09		Zeke	Walker	20
Warren	Kerswill	09		Dave	Brannon	21
Kenneth	Conroy	10		Melvin	Rollins	21
Howard	Williams	10		Edmond	Senez	21
Anthony	Candalino	11		Bert	McCall	22
Mark	Lacey	12		Michael	Swanto	22
Jorge	Arenas	13		Harold	Webb	22
N Van	Johnson	13		Ricky	Coleman	23
Kitty	Long	13		David	Davis	24
Michael	Matzinger	13		Leslie	Everhart	24
Frank	Rossetti, Jr.	13		Linda	Witt	24
Michael	Wingo	13		Joseph	Larsen	25
James	Pekala	14		Joseph	Uccello	26
Kenneth	Wiese	14		Mary	McClure	28
Dan	Fulling	15		John	McLoughlin	28
Brandon	Jones	16		Lisa	Monti	28
Michael	Mines	16		Tony	Stilling	30

DELAND ELKS LODGE
1463

LOUNGE 386-738-1463
SECRETARY 386-734-0292

614 S. ALABAMA AVE.
DELAND, FL 32724

January 2026

DeLand Elks #1463



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 	2 6P-8P: KEITH'S SMASH BURGERS 8P: QUEEN OF HEARTS	3 LODGE CLOSED
4 12:00P: ECD PER MEETING	5 6:30P: HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7P: SCOUTS	6 LODGE CLOSED	7 6P-8P: DAVE'S BURGERS 8P: PER BASEBALL 6:30P: PER MEETING 6:30P: CUB SCOUTS	8 6P-8P: BAR MENU 6:30P: MEET AND GREET & ORIENTATION	9 6P-8P: BAR MENU 3P-10P: LODGE RENTAL 8P: QUEEN OF HEARTS	10 LODGE CLOSED DISTRICT HOOP SHOOT
11	12 6P: TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30 P: LODGE MEETING 7P: SCOUTS	13 LODGE CLOSED	14 6P-8P: PER NIGHT 7 PM: BUNCO 8P: PER BASEBALL	15 6P-8P: BAR MENU 6:30P: INITIATION	16 6P-8P: BAR MENU 8P: QUEEN OF HEARTS	17 6P: STAN & CHRIS MITCHELL SOUP NIGHT 7P: MUSIC BY DAVEY LEATHERWOOD
18	19 LODGE CLOSED 7P: SCOUTS	20 LODGE CLOSED 7P-VETERAN BINGO AT EMORY BENNETT NURSING HOME	21 6P-8P: PER NIGHT 5P-7:30P: LODGE RENTAL REPUBLICAN CLUB 8P: PER BASEBALL 6:30P: CUB SCOUTS	22 6P-8P: BAR MENU	23 6P-8P: BAR MENU 7P: KARAOKE 8P: QUEEN OF HEARTS	24 LODGE CLOSED REGIONAL HOOP SHOOT AT YOUTH CAMP
25	26 LODGE CLOSED 7P: SCOUTS	27 LODGE CLOSED	28 6P-8P: PER NIGHT 8P: PER BASEBALL	29 6P-8P: BAR MENU	30 6P-8P: BAR MENU 8P: QUEEN OF HEARTS	31 4P: CHILI COOK OFF
DELAND ELKS LODGE 1463 LOUNGE 386-738-1463		614 S. ALABAMA AVE. DELAND, FL 32721		LODGE OPENS AT 5 PM WEDNESDAY THRU FRIDAY		



Dean Yeager
East Central District Vice President
68 Statler Avenue • DeBary, FL 32713-2032
(386)235-2635 (c) • deanyeager@bellsouth.net

January 1, 2026

To:

Officers of the Florida State Elks Association
Past State Presidents
State Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Regional Chairs
District Deputies & District Vice Presidents
Exalted Rulers, Officers, & Members

RE: State President's Homecoming Visit to the East Central District.

Dear Esteemed Members,

You are cordially invited to join the East Central District and host Lodge, DeLand #1463, as we welcome **State President Mike Chandler and his wife Caroline during their Homecoming visit** on Friday, March 6, 2026, and Saturday, March 7, 2026. Accompanying them will be Vice President at Large Jeff Muehlfeld and his lady Francisca Pouza, along with Endorsed Vice President at Large Lenny DiLorenzo & his wife Lauren Dowd-Shedlock. I hope to see as many members as possible at the scheduled events throughout the weekend to show your support for our State President & Florida Elks.

On Friday, March 6th, the State President will be arriving at 4:30pm at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott, located at 201 N. Towne Road, Sanford, FL 32771. A block of rooms has been reserved at a group rate of \$149 per night + \$21 in taxes & fees.

If you would like to participate in the welcoming party, please arrive at the hotel by 4pm. Please wear Red in support of our veterans and active-duty military members.

A hospitality suite will be open at 4:00pm until departing at 5:45pm for a welcome reception & dinner at Sanford Lodge #1241, located at 1006 E. 2nd Street, Sanford, FL 32771. Dinner will consist of: Ribeye or Filet with baked potato, fresh vegetable, house salad, & dessert. Dinner cost is \$28. Dress for Friday evening is casual. Remember red Friday. Following dinner, we will return to the hotel, at the State President's discretion. The hospitality suite will be open.

On Saturday morning, March 7th, the President's party will depart at 8:30am for Ormond Beach Lodge #2193, the home Lodge of the State President, located at 285 Wilmette Avenue, Ormond Beach, FL 32174. A Buffet breakfast will be served at 9:15am. The cost is \$10. We will depart Ormond Beach at 10:00am for a tour of the Stetson Mansion, located at 1031 Camphor Lane, DeLand, FL 32720. Lunch will be provided following the tour. The cost of the tour and lunch is \$15. We will depart for the hotel at 2:00pm where the hospitality suite will be open for the afternoon.



"Helping Hands"

"Changing Lives"



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

Dean Yeager
East Central District Vice President

68 Statler Avenue • DeBary, FL 32713-2032
(386)235-2635 (c) • deanyeager@bellsouth.net

On Saturday evening, March 7th, a cash bar & social hour will begin at 5:30pm, hosted by DeLand Lodge #1463, located at 614 S. Alabama Avenue, DeLand, FL 32720.

The State President's party will depart the hotel at 5:30pm for the 6:00pm State President's Welcome Reception. At 7:00pm, a dinner consisting of: Pulled Pork & Chicken, mac & cheese, baked beans, & coleslaw will be served. The cost is \$20 and the dress for Saturday evening is business casual. The State President's formal address will follow dinner.

Following the program, we will return to the hotel, at the State President's discretion, where the hospitality suite will be open to all guests.

It is strongly encouraged that your reservation is made in advance by purchasing your desired tickets and booking your hotel through our website at ecdelks.square.site/fsea or by clicking the link or image below.

[CLICK OR TAP HERE TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS & PURCHASE DINNER TICKETS!](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to the East Central District!

Fraternally,
Dean Yeager, District Vice President

THE FLORIDA ELKS
EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT
IS PROUD TO WELCOME HOME
FSEA STATE PRESIDENT
MIKE CHANDLER & CAROLINE
WITH VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE
JEFF MUEHLFELD & FRANCISCA
MARCH 6-8, 2026

Fri, March 6th - SANFORD 1241 - \$28
Ribeye, or Filet with Baked Potato, Fresh Vegetable & Dessert.

Sat, March 7th - DELAND 1463 - \$20
Pulled Pork, Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, & Baked Beans.

RSVP & PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY
TAP/CLICK HERE OR VISIT
ecdelks.square.site/fsea
FOR WEEKEND AGENDA
TICKETS & RESERVATIONS


TAP
SCAN





"Helping Hands"



"Changing Lives"



THE FLORIDA ELKS EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT
IS PROUD TO WELCOME HOME
**FSEA STATE PRESIDENT
MIKE CHANDLER & CAROLINE**

WEEKEND ITINERARY - MARCH 6-8 2026



Friday, March 6, 2026

3:00 PM Hotel Check-In: SpringHill Suites by Marriott Orlando North / Sanford.
201 N. Towne Road – Sanford, FL 32771

4:00 PM Hospitality room is open to all guests.

4:30 PM **State President arrives at SpringHill Suites for welcome reception.**
*All guests welcoming the State President should arrive by 4:00PM

5:45 PM Depart for Sanford Lodge #1241
1006 E. 2nd Street – Sanford, FL 32771

6:00 PM State President's reception at Sanford Lodge #1241

7:00 PM Dinner: Ribeye or Filet with House Salad, Baked Potato & Fresh Vegetable. \$28

** At the State President's discretion, the 11 O'clock Toast will be given.
Departure for hotel will follow the toast.

** Hospitality room is open upon return to the hotel.

Saturday, March 7, 2026

8:30 AM Depart for Ormond Beach Lodge #2193 (The State President's Home Lodge)
285 Wilmette Avenue – Ormond Beach, FL 32174

9:15 AM Buffet breakfast at Ormond Beach Lodge #2193. \$10

10:00 AM Depart for Stetson Mansion.
1031 Camphor Lane – DeLand, FL 32720

11:00 AM Tour of Stetson Mansion & Lunch. \$15

2:00 PM Depart for hotel.

2:00 PM Hospitality room open.

5:30 PM Depart for DeLand Lodge #1463
614 S. Alabama Avenue – DeLand, FL 32724

6:00 PM State President's Reception at DeLand Lodge #1463

7:00 PM Dinner: Pulled Pork & Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw & Baked Beans. \$20
State President's Formal Address to follow.

** At the State President's discretion, the 11 O'clock Toast will be given.
Departure for hotel will follow the toast.

** Hospitality room is open upon return to the hotel.

WEEKEND CONTACT: East Central District Vice President, Dean Yeager 386-235-2635

"HELPING HANDS - CHANGING LIVES"



STAN AND CHRIS MITCHELL'S SOUP NIGHT

Saturday, January 17, 2026

6:00 pm Until It's All gone

All the soup you can eat for a \$10 donation
to Harry Anna or bring a soup to share.

**Warm Your Insides and Enjoy Homemade Soups
with Artisan Breads and Spreads**

Davey Leatherwood will be playing tunes
starting at 6:30 PM.

**Bring a Full Crock of Soup
For all Elks and Guests to enjoy**

Sign-up on the lodge Bulletin Board



RENT OUR SIGN – ONLY \$25 A WEEK!



**Want to celebrate a
Birthday, Anniversary,
Graduation, or Special Event ?**

Or maybe share a positive message?

👉 For just \$25 per week, you can
put your custom message on
our sign out front!



Great for:

- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Congratulations
- Special Announcements



**CONTACT US TODAY TO
RESERVE YOUR WEEK!**

Barb Thompson at delandelkstreasurer@gmail.com
or 386-956-8699