



THE CHRONICLE

FEBRUARY 2026

EXALTED RULER MESSAGE

To My Fellow Members of Deland Lodge 1463



Welcome to February and just like that January 2026 is in the books.

A couple of quick mentions for January. The New Year's Eve Party was awesome as usual thanks to Minday Nadeau and Team for putting the event together. The District Hoop Shoot was held at the Deland Middle School on January 10th. Deland 1463 had several kids go to represent and all did a great job. Thank you to all the volunteers that came out from our Lodge. The Regional Hoop Shoot was on January 24 at the Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla. Deland 1463 sent participants from the 12-13 Division for girls and boys. They competed very hard and did an amazing job. Our annual Stan and Chris Mitchell Soup Night was fantastic. Several members showed up with their favorite soup to spend time with fellow Elks in remembrance of Stan and Chris. Thank you to Davey Leatherwood for the amazing live music that night. The Deland Elks first annual Chili Cook Off was a great success with members showing up in force to put their chili recipe to the test and take home the prize. Thank you to Scott and Lisa for putting this together. It was a great time. Initiation was on Monday night January 26th We welcomed 6 new members. They are Maxwell Kemmer, Jarred Hewson, Collin Nadeau, Deborah Pirotto, Meredith Lundquist, Troy Huggins and Richard Small. When you see them around the Lodge, please say hi and welcome them. 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.

February holds so many events and happenings for us at the Deland Elks. February 5th-7th is our State Quarterly Meetings at the Youth Camp. February 5th is Meet and Greet at the Lodge at 6:30pm. Let's not forget about the big Super Bowl Party/Potluck at the Loge on February 8th. Lodge opens at 5pm. February 9th is PER Night at the Lodge Meeting and Nominations will be taken that night for the 2026-2027 officers. February 14th is the State Hoop Shoot at the Youth Camp. February 19th is Initiation for all candidates in waiting. February 23rd is Officer Elections which will be held at the Lodge Meeting.

March 6th and March 7th is the Florida State President Visit. The State President Michael Chandler and First Lady Caroline will visit the Sanford Lodge on Friday Night for Dinner. Saturday they will have breakfast at Ormond Beach Lodge and then go to the Stetson Mansion for a tour at midday. Saturday evening at the Deland Lodge the State President and First Lady will visit for a wonderful family style BBQ Dinner with a country and western theme. The dinner will include pulled pork, smoked chicken, BBQ beans and coleslaw. The welcome reception begins at 5pm with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails in the Social Quarters. Karaoke Craig will be there that evening for everyone to sing their favorite songs. Please see the bartender to prepay for your dinner that evening.

DELAND ELKS, please show up in force to show the State President that Deland Lodge 1463 is the best darn Lodge in the District.

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 on 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 February 5th we will be hosting a Meet and Greet for all new candidates that wish to become an ELK. On February 19th 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. As my 2-year term as the Exalted Ruler for our Lodge comes to an end on March 31st, our focus together 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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On January 26, we proudly initiated seven new members! Please join us in welcoming Maxwell Kemmer, Jarred Hewson, Collin Nadeau, Deborah Pirollo, Meredith Lundquist, Troy Huggins, and Richard Small.

Welcome to the Elks!



Birthday Celebration

Sharon	Varnadore	01		Brenda	Knight	14
Alicia	VanOpdorp	03		Lucy	Hill	17
Jenny	Palmer	04		Charles	Moore	18
Jarred	Hewson	05		James	Brannock	20
Micheal	Nadeau	05		Ray	Pennebaker	20
Robert	Robinson	05		Gary	Wagner	22
James	Walen	05		Mitchell	Fannin	24
Gery	Walker	05		Antonio	Camacho	25
Gary	Breckenridge	06		Steven	Morefield	25
George	Phillips	07		Bernie	Korwes, PER	27
Laurel	Beaver	08		Rebecca	MacGregor	27
Stephanie	McGhee	08		Mark	Thompson, PDDGER	27
Emma	VanOpdorp	08		Tristan	Hillman	28
Joshua	Cockayne	11		Jennifer	Hopson	28
Amber	Alford	13		Alixandria	Miller	28
Shane	Snyder	13		Billie-Jo	Green	29

DELAND ELKS LODGE 1463

386-738-1463

614 S. ALABAMA AVE.
DELAND, FL 32724

February 2026

3	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
<p>1</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm HOUSE COMMITTEE 7pm SCOUTS 7:30pm PER MEETING 	<p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm PER STEAK NIGHT 6:30pm CUB SCOUTS 7pm BUNCO 8pm PER BASEBALL 	<p>STATE ELKS QUARTERLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm Gary Hand - Cooking 6:30pm MEET & GREET/OR 5pm LODGE OPEN-GINA 6pm Keith - Smash Burger 8pm QUEEN OF HEARTS 		<p>LODGE CLOSED</p>
<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm SUPER BOWL POTLUK 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30pm LODGE MEETING 6:30pm PER NIGHT-OFFICE 7pm SCOUTS 	<p>10</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm PER NIGHT 6:30pm CUB SCOUTS 8pm PER BASEBALL 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-ALLY 6pm Jay Fisher - Chopped 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-KAYLA 6pm DINNER 8pm QUEEN OF HEARTS 	<p>14</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am STATE HOOP SHOW 8pm LODGE CLOSED
<p>15</p> <p>DAYTONA 500</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<p>16</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm SCOUTS 	<p>17</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm VETERAN BINGO 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE RENTAL-REPL 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm PER NIGHT 6:30pm CUB SCOUTS 8pm PER BASEBALL 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm Ann Lewis Cooking - ! 6:30pm INITIATION 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-ALLY 6pm Glen - Taco Night 6:30pm KAROKE WITH CR 8pm QUEEN OF HEARTS 	<p>21</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>
<p>22</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm LODGE MEETING- 7pm SCOUTS 	<p>24</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-RENAE 6pm PER NIGHT 6:30pm CUB SCOUTS 8pm PER BASEBALL 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-GINA 6pm Lisa - Birthday Dinner 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm LODGE OPEN-GINA 6pm Keith - Fish Fry 8pm QUEEN OF HEARTS 	<p>28</p> <p>LODGE CLOSED</p>



FEBRUARY IS HARRY-ANNA MONTH

Florida Elks – Serving Florida's Kids

The Florida Elks proudly support Florida's children through the **Harry-Anna Trust Fund**, including:

- **Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services (FECTS)**
- **Florida Elks Youth Camp**

These programs provide therapy, opportunity, and life-changing experiences that help children grow, learn, and succeed.

Your planned gift can make an extraordinary difference in furthering the Florida Elks' crucial work in community service, youth programs, and veterans' services.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Helps children with special needs
- Supports critical therapy services
- Invests in Florida's future





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

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
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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





“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.

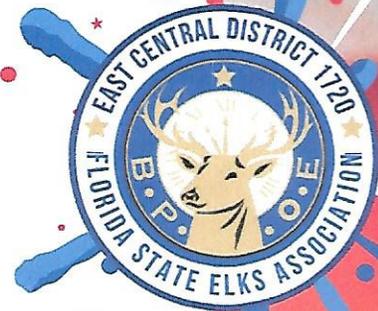
Saturday, March 7, 2026

- 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"

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT



DISTRICT WIDE FUNDRAISER

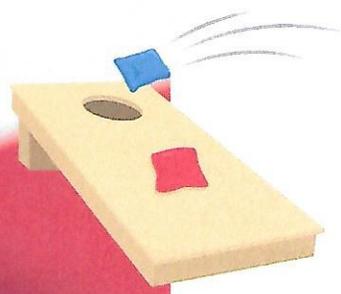
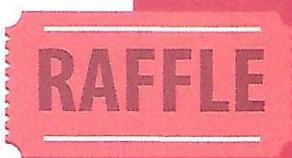
BBQ SLIDER SHOWDOWN

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
DESSERT AUCTION & RAFFLES

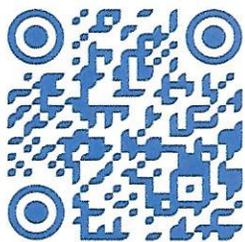
*** Vote for the Lodge with the best food ***

MARCH | 21ST | 11AM

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS!



*Fundraiser
and Army
of Hope
Info!*



- EVENT TICKETS
- CORNHOLE ENTRY
- CORNHOLE SPONSOR
- DESSERT SIGN UP

*Will You
Donate A
Dessert?*

E C D . S Q U A R E . S I T E / A O H

HOSTED AT
SANFORD LODGE #1241
1006 E. 2ND STREET - SANFORD, FL 32771
CONTACT: BO LINDSTROM 407-435-0799



Members All,

You are cordially invited to The East Central District Army of Hope fundraiser for a day of fun, fellowship and competition as we enjoy great food, have a little competition, and auction off some of the East Central District's best baked goods, all to raise money to help the families of our service members and veterans.

This year's fundraiser will be held at Sanford Lodge 1241, located at 1006 E 2nd Street, Sanford, FL 32771, on March 21st, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM.

I am asking all lodges to sponsor a team to prepare your lodge's signature slider for our fundraiser attendees. Whether it is mini hamburgers, buffalo chicken, or Philly cheesesteak, the possibilities are endless in this **BBQ Slider Showdown**.

Event attendees will enjoy all of the fantastic food options provided by our District Lodges and delicious sides prepared by Sanford Lodge. Tickets will be \$20 each and will include 3 votes for your absolute favorite slider, & three raffle entries.

The Winning Lodge will receive a trophy to display at your lodge and the knowledge that your team was best in the district.

In addition, for a little fun, there will be a cornhole tournament. Entry will be \$10 per team for the tournament and 50% of the tournament proceeds will go to the Army of Hope. The remaining 25% will go to the first place winner, 15% to second place, & 10% to third place. If you don't play, you can still participate! Cornhole sponsorships will also be available for \$25 to help offset the rental of the cornhole equipment. Each sponsor will receive a sign with your name and message for all to see.

To finish the day, there will be a cake / dessert auction featuring all the best desserts from our East Central District Members.

100% of all proceeds will be donated to the Army of Hope program to be divided between the 8 Lodges of the East Central District.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Visit our site at ecdelks.square.site/aoh for event tickets, cornhole entry, and dessert sign up. We need the support of all 8 Lodges and the great Members of the East Central District to make our Army of Hope fundraiser a great success.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the event. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at 407-435-0799 or lindstromjames4@gmail.com

Bo Lindstrom, PER

ECD Army of Hope Chairman



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

Rudy Masi, Sr.

Past State President, 2020-2021

7821 3rd Avenue S. • St. Petersburg, FL 33707
(727) 410-2059 (c) • mid19@aol.com

Date: January 16, 2026

Subject: FSEA Historical Commemorative Programs 2026
Parade of Heroes – Please post in Lodges and share during Lodge meetings and DD Clinics

Our FSEA partnership with Historical Programs affords us the following opportunities:

- To honor and recognize significant moments in the history of our nation, ensuring the sacrifices made to keep us free are never forgotten.
- To honor and recognize our veterans supporting our Elks Motto *“As long as there is a veteran, Elks will never forget them”!*
- Supports PGER & State Co-Sponsor Mike Smith’s mantra to be *“Loud, Proud, and Visible”* making others aware of the good works of our Order with our nation.

In addition to the annual Parade of Heroes, we’ve celebrated five successful events honoring our WWII Veterans with our FSEA partnership with Historical Programs – 70th Anniversary of D Day in Normandy, France, 70th Anniversary of the End of WWII in Washington, D.C., 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, the 78th Anniversary of D Day, and the 80th Anniversary of D Day in Normandy.

Annually, we have many years of bringing healing, recognition, and honor to veterans by participating in Parade of Heroes in Washington, DC over Veteran’s Day weekend in November. **Parade of Heroes recognizes and honors veterans who served our nation from all eras.**

We need your help as we prepare for 2026 Parade of Heroes: an event in our nation’s capital honoring veterans from WWII through the Gulf War taking place this November 9-12. FL Elk Veterans will be recognized at airports before boarding their flights to our nation’s capital. They will be honored and given medals. Elk Veterans will be marching with banners in the parade procession. Our Veterans will be the toast of the town visiting many historical sites while being honored and thanked for their service. Virginia State Elks is participating with us again this year. This year’s trip includes tours of the White House and the Pentagon.

We are **asking you to support** the **FSEA Parade of Heroes Event** with the following activities:

1. Please recruit veterans to attend this year's event. Registration is open on the FSEA Website in the Veteran's section. Several requests to attend this event have already been received. It would be wonderful to raise enough funds that we do not need to turn down any FL Elk Veteran wanting to attend this historical event.
2. Raise funds to help send our veterans and caretakers from your District and Lodge to this event. Estimated Costs are \$1,500 per individual. The donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made out to FL Elk Charities and sent to FSEA Historical Programs Committee Member Jan Gens, C/O St. Pete Lodge #1224, 2675 66th Street North St. Petersburg, FL 33710. Individual Lodge Charity Funds may be used for this purpose. **Final funds need to be paid by September 30.**

For more details go to our FSEA Historical Programs 2025 Parade of Heroes Website for enrollment and more details:

<https://www.floridaelks.org/veterans/parade-of-heroes>

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your pro-active support of the two requests in this letter!

Fraternally,

Rudy Masi, Sr.

Rudy Masi, Sr.
Historical Programs Liaison/PSP

Cc: Michael Chandler, State President
Nick Miller, State Secretary
Jeff Muehlfeld, VPAL
Lenny Dilorenzo, Endorsed VPAL
Historic Programs Team