



Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks  
 Vero Beach, Florida Lodge # 1774  
 1350 26th Street  
 Vero Beach, FL 32960  
 (772) 562-8450  
 www.veroelks.com



**Toys for Tots  
 Dinner Dance was held  
 November 20th**  
**Donations accepted  
 through December 4th**

**Vero Beach Elks Lodge #1774** **www.veroelks.com**

December 2015

Volume 21 Issue 10

# ELK'S TALE

**LODGE OFFICERS**

Exalted Ruler ..... Donna J. Knerr  
 Esteemed Leading Knight ..... Craig Waskow, PER  
 Esteemed Loyal Knight ..... Fred Knerr  
 Esteemed Lecturing Knight ..... Jay Rinchak  
 Esquire ..... Joe Palowich  
 Chaplain ..... Jane Forbes  
 Inner Guard ..... George R. Abell  
 Tiler ..... Steve Ogonoski  
 Secretary ..... Flo Synenko  
 Treasurer ..... TBD

**TRUSTEES**

5 Year Trustee ..... Les Owen, PDDGER  
 4 Year Trustee ..... Jim Wilson  
 3 Year Trustee ..... Dennis J. Ryan, PER  
 2 Year Trustee ..... Phil Hanley  
 1 Year Trustee ..... Al Klager  
 Presiding Justice ... Louis B. "Buck" Vocelle, Esq.  
 Lodge Advisor ..... Les Owen, PDDGER  
 Parliamentarian ... Tony Wells, PER

**PER ASSOCIATION**

President ..... June Maher, PER

## A Message from the Exalted Ruler

by Donna Knerr, Exalted Ruler

It's hard to believe, but the Christmas holidays are here. By the time this message comes out, Thanksgiving will be over and the hustle and bustle of Christmas will begin in earnest.

There are many activities that will be taking place at the lodge and if you have any time to spare, please contact Les Owen or any one of our officers or committee chairs. It's going to be a very busy and fun time and any help will be appreciated by all.

There are over thirty members waiting to be initiated so we are really growing.

This brings me to another subject. I just got off the phone with the fire chief. He wants to see a signed contract and a start date when construction will begin. We have promissory notes behind the bar. Please consider taking one and helping out. The interest is higher then you will get from a bank. Of course, donations are always welcome regardless of how small. There will be a fundraiser in January.

This is your lodge. We come to you for assistance to keep it in operation. We do not have a choice on these sprinklers. This

money is going into a separate account strictly for this purpose. The roof has been repaired and no longer leaking.

Now to a happier subject. If you have been to the lodge, you have seen all the toys and food donated by our members. Great job.

A special thanks to Flo and Bill for their Veterans Day Celebration. Everyone loved their certificates and the food was great.

New Years Eve we are planning a great party and celebration. Get your reservations in before they sell out.

Have a great Christmas Holiday and enjoy yourselves with friends and family. Take advantage of all the lodge has to offer. Above all, be patient with others during this busy time. Our volunteers are doing the best they can for your enjoyment.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.



Elk's Tale Editor: Cynthia Noonan  
 Web Site Administrator: Jim Rannazzisi

www.veroelks.com  
 www.facebook.com/VeroBeachElks

## Ongoing Activities



Meetings  
1st & 3rd Tues • 7:30 PM

---

Initiation  
1st Tues. • 7:30 PM



**Banquet Rentals**  
for your next party or  
special occasion!  
Contact Jon Putzke at  
(772) 559-0556.



**Pizzeria Wednesday  
STILL ON HOLD**  
Chef Pete is recovering from a  
medical condition. So pizzeria  
night is still on hold, but will  
return soon.

# The Secretary's Corner

Hi everyone! I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome back our part time residents! I look forward to seeing you again. We have a few Legal Notices you might be interested in. You can find them in this issue.

Our Veterans Day affair on November 11th was a great success. The Presentation of the Colors by the Vietnam Veterans and the Marine Corp Color Guards was very impressive. We served dinner to approximately 280 people, of which 170 were Veterans. A presentation of Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to member veterans as well as any veterans we became aware of in attendance. We danced the night away with music by Johnny Nick, who donated his talent in honor of all Veterans. I hope you didn't miss our member quartet, Joe Bruzzi, Oscar Erice, Jack Houlihan and Bill Synenko. They accompanied Johnny Nick to the song Good Night Saigon. It was very touching. You can view pictures at <https://elks1774.shutterstock.com>.

I feel compelled to thank all the volunteers for their various contributions to this affair. Elsa Erice for the beautiful flyers and the

Event Program; Bill Synenko for distributing the flyers throughout Vero Beach and helping with decorating; Cooks: Rose Tufano, Ray Foley, Cliff and Fran Palmer;



Servers: Jane Forbes, Les Owen, Jack Houlihan (also a decorator) and Susan Eisenberg. Thank you to our Speakers: Jack Houlihan, Charles Wilson, Exalted Ruler Donna Knerr, Veterans Chair, Jane Burton, and Korean Veteran Jack Hurd. Thank you to Angie Moyer for "handling" the door. A special thanks to my husband, Bill for his support, help and unrelenting dedication to Veterans. I hope I didn't forget anyone, but

if I forgot you please forgive me.

One more important thing: This is an excerpt from an E-mail letter received from Grand Lodge Grant Coordinator: "Once again, congratulations to Vero Beach Lodge No. 1774! As a 2016 Impact Grant recipient, you are one of 63 elite Lodges to receive the grant this year — the most ever." The Impact Grant amount is \$10,000. This is the second year we will receive this honor. Elks Love Kids of Character is one of the best programs in Vero Beach and we have to thank our own Michele Klager for putting together and carrying out a wonderful project.

Christmas can be a time of healing and renewed strength and a season of great joy. Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts. It's also a great time to forgive. As Elks, we may want to exercise "Brotherly Love" in this great and beautiful season.

That's all for now. If you need me, I can be reached at (772) 569-1774 or [Elkssecretary1774@gmail.com](mailto:Elkssecretary1774@gmail.com).

Bill and I wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!!

Flo Synenko



## We still need your help!

We are getting closer to our goal for the fire sprinkler system we are required to install by the Spring of 2016. But, we aren't there yet! As of this publishing, we have collected almost \$20,000, only a third of the \$60,000 we need.

You can contribute anytime by clicking on the links below or visiting our Fundraising Page at: <http://veroelks.com/fundraisers/> or stop by the lodge and hand it to one of our officers or bartenders.



## Ongoing Activities



### Karaoke

Every Monday &  
Wednesday • 7-10 PM



### Bingo

Every Thursdays • 7 PM  
Progressive Jackpot  
Contact: Leah Facto



### Monday Night Games

Bridge, Poker, Pool  
& Shuffle Board  
Jack Houlihan • (917) 501-4591  
Guy & Ang Bacci • (772) 567-5524

## Committee Chair Up Close

With November being the start of the busy season, it was difficult to get any of our hard-working committee chairs to take the time to provide information on themselves or their committee.

So this month, we will just use this space to make a plea to our members to step up and participate in one of our many committees. This is your lodge and it will not be successful without the active involvement of our members.

BTW - We are in need of a Communications Committee Chair following the recent resignation of Jim Rannazzisi. He has agreed to stay on taking care of the website and managing the newly developed Lodge Lowdown. But, the Chair position will need to be filled.

If you have general writing skills and are familiar with digital communications, such as MailChimp and Facebook, please let Donna Knerr, ER, know of your interest in this position.

We all count being kept in the know of what's going on at the lodge now and in the future. It is the Communications Committee that makes that happen.

Please raise your hand!

## Committees & Chairpersons

Accident Prevention .....	Fred Knerr	Flag Day .....	Craig Waskow, PER
Americanism .....	Craig Waskow, PER	Government Relations.....	Jack Hurd
Army of Hope ....	Jack Houlihan, PDDGER	Harry-Anna	
Auditing & Accounting .....	Keith Hartley	Trust Fund .....	Bob Carroll, PDDGER
Bingo .....	Leah Facto	Hoop Shoot .....	Christina Ferrari
Communications.....	TBD	House .....	Les Owen, PDDGER
Community Affairs.....	Carol Palowich	Inter-Lodge	
Credentials .....	Bob Carroll, PDDGER	Visitation.....	Jack Houlihan, PDDGER
Drug Awareness		Membership.....	Flo Synenko
Education .....	Jane Burton	Orientation.....	Bob Carroll, PDDGER
Elks Memorial Day ..	Les Owen, PDDGER	PER Scholarship .....	June Maher, PER
Elks National		Publicity .....	Carol & Joe Palowich
Foundation.....	Bob Carroll, PDDGER	Ritual .....	Les Owen, PDDGER
Elks Natl.		State Major Projects ...	Donna J. Knerr, ER
Foundation Scholarships....	Brenda Carroll	Veterans Services .....	Jane Burton
Elks Training .....	Les Owen, PDDGER	Youth Activities .....	Dan Danaher

## Tis the season

We need your help during this busy time of year.

**WON'T YOU PLEASE VOLUNTEER?**

Contact  
House Committee  
Chair, Les Owen,  
at the Lodge



Our advertisers  
help make this  
newsletter possible.

**They  
support us...**

**Please  
remember  
to support  
them!**

# Elk of the Month



*Elk of the Month for December is Rose Tufano.*

She contributes her time even when she is very busy handling health problems in her household. She spends numerous hours with Ray Foley and her crew preparing Lasagna for a huge crowd. She contacted and arranged the band for the last event and works tirelessly with her "Cookies for Soldiers" project.

All this is done to help our lodge and the lodge Jimmy loves. Thank you Rose!

## PER Association

The PER's thank all the members and guests that attended the 6th Annual Lobster Fest.

Our Meeting will be held on December 2nd at 4:30PM.

We have been asked to present our

Lodge's Memorial Service on December 13, 2015 at 4PM. Watch your email for more information.

*Thank you for your continued support!*

## Are You Game Enough?

**Every Monday Night!**

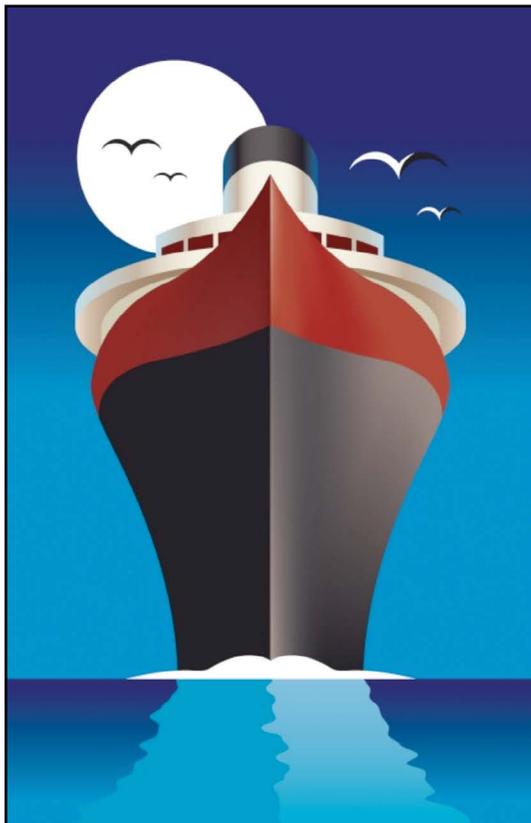
**Shuffle Board** - We've had a fun season with good teams. We need more players.

Interested in a **Pool League**? Fun for Beginners or Sharks.

Come join the "Back Room" crowd for a friendly game of **Texas Hold 'Em Poker!**

Want more information about our **Bridge Game?**

Contact Guy & Ang Bacci at 772-567-5524 or email [guyandang@bellsouth.net](mailto:guyandang@bellsouth.net).



## Why Overpay For Your Cruise Fare?

Book with

***Group Cruises Unlimited***

**Mention *The Elk's Tale* and get Special Lodge member discounts and amenities**

**Jim Rannazzisi**

**Master Cruise Counselor**

**[JimRazz@GroupCruisesUnlimited.com](mailto:JimRazz@GroupCruisesUnlimited.com)**

**888-838-3253**

# December Birthdays

Date	Member Name	Date	Member Name	Date	Member Name
01	Crowley, David D Meade, James Provencher, Thomas	09	Pfoutz, Dean Seeley, Deborah Z Waples, Mike	22	Burns, Barbara Kindel, Joyce E Raposa, Arthur J Riotto, Charles
02	Caiazza, Palmiro Cipolla, Joel W Miller, Ernie Wright, Alice	10	Healy, Edwin Moynihan, Christopher Murphy, Donald R	23	DeCore, Roberta Gilbert, Edward Tomberg, Lori
03	Bruns, Charles Guidry, Karen Parent, Paul	11	Coveny, Patrick McCord, Donna	24	Brooks, Ronald Hottum, George W
04	Bottomley, Mary Lou Heegan, Rose Marie Keeler, James M Schauer, Anthony	12	Kretsch, James Stottlemire, James C	25	Valle, Andrew Zorc, Timothy J
05	Bender, Dorothy Peerless, James	13	DeLisle, Gail Henningsen, Gary A Richardson, Alan S Satuloff, Barth	26	Williams, Marie
06	Cassina, Thomas McEnerney, Patrick	16	Abbate, Rocco Small, Williamh	27	Crawford, Joseph P Harris, Gayle M Sherman, Liz Smith, Jackie
07	Calland, Max E Lemm, Gerald A Netupski, Bob Stradley, Scott Vigliano, Shirley	17	Lienemann, Curt	28	Carroll, Robert F Malone, Allen
08	Girard, Charles L Kennedy, Kitty Petty, Vern Scott, Thomas	18	Bacci II, Guy J Waples, Marion	31	Bauer, Robert Carrier, Warren E Daly, Robert H Henry, James X Middleton, Timothy
		20	Ball, Shelby Denedios, Lucy		
		21	Dean, Floyd		



# Around the Lodge

by Donna Knerr, ER

The Christmas Holidays are here and it will be a busy time at the lodge. Hopefully, it will be an enjoyable and peaceful time for everyone.

We had a wonderful Veterans Day Celebration chaired by Flo and Bill and their committee. Johnny Nicks donated his music and everyone enjoyed themselves.

We are having dance music at the lodge on a regular basis on the weekend nights when there are no dinners.

There is a Members Christmas Party and, of course, a Gala New Years Eve Party you don't want to miss. Reserve early. Dueling Pianos is coming up too.

November featured meals by Vic and Al Klager and everyone enjoyed them. Toys for Tots Dances were held and everyone was very generous.

Please remember to take pictures of our events so Cynthia can publish them and Jim can put them on ShutterFly.

The PER Lobsterfest was a huge success and the food was wonderful.

Enjoy the Holidays and be patient with each other PLEASE. It's Christmas and be nice to one another.



## Have furniture you don't use?

*Our veteran families need them!*

Our Veterans are always in need of any furniture that you may no longer want. We can put it to good use as we continue to create housing for veterans in need.

## Your donation will always be welcome.

Contact Vic Diaz or Craig Waskow.



### Check us out on Facebook!

Keep up to date with all Lodge events & news  
@ [facebook.com/VeroBeachElks](https://www.facebook.com/VeroBeachElks)

# Purpose of the Elks

Reproduced from Elks USA website

It is beneficial to periodically remind ourselves why our organization was formed and what our true purpose is. This information can be found published at <http://www.elks.org/who/information.cfm>. Please take a moment and reflect on why you became a member.

This Fraternal Order was founded "To promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of **Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity**; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship."



## RETIREMENT REDEFINED

**Bring this ad in for a free chef-prepared meal for two and tour of our community!**

Learn about our all-inclusive lifestyle including golfing privileges, an indoor salt water pool, wellness and fitness programs and more!  
Call Chip at 772-299-7900 to learn more.



THE BRENNITY  
- AT VERO BEACH -

(772) 299-7900

7955 16th Manor, Vero Beach 32966

HOMES • INDEPENDENT LIVING  
ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE

[BrennityVeroBeach.com](http://BrennityVeroBeach.com)

Assisted Living Facility License # AL10830

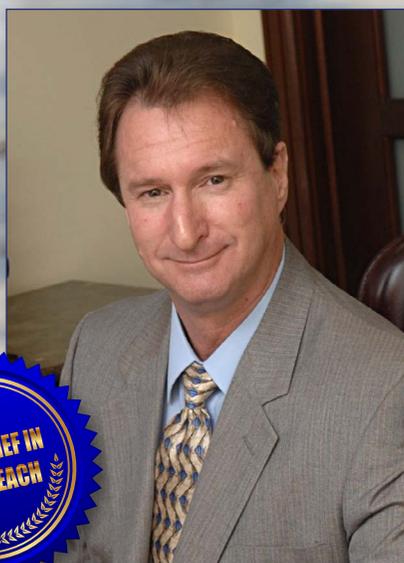


# ATLANTIC FINANCIAL SERVICES

*Specializing in Wealth Preservation*

- Protecting Your Portfolio Even If The Market Crashes
- IRA/401k Distribution Planning
- Guaranteed Retirement Income
- Retirement Tax Strategies
- 1 Year Short Term Investment Earning 5%
- No Fees – No Kidding

*“Helping Retirees for Over 17 Years”*



Al Klager, President  
Vero Beach Elks Lodge Member & Trustee



1515 Indian River Blvd., Suite A245  
Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 778-5544 • [www.askatlantic.com](http://www.askatlantic.com)

# Dinner Dance Featured Toys for Tots and 2016 Impact Grant

Our Friday night Dinner Dance held on November 20th included many more generous contributions to our Toys for Tots drive and the official presentation of the check for the 2016 Impact Grant managed by our very own Michele Klager.

The wonderful, melt-in-your-mouth pork chop dinner was prepared by Vic and entertainment provided by Tony Lawrence, who had the crowd up on their feet the entire night.

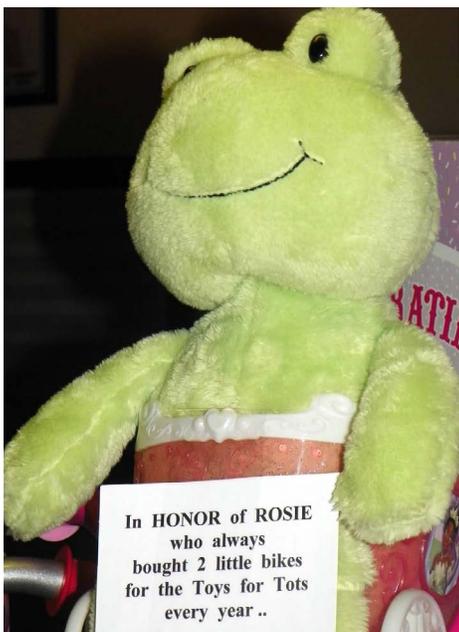
We are extremely proud of our members for donating so many

wonderful toys for the children of our community. You are truly helping to make this Christmas Holiday special for so many disadvantaged youth in our area.

Michele was joined by some of the Vero Beach Elementary School staff and family to receive the ceremonial check for \$10,000.

They had a wonderful time and expressed their thanks to all of our members for our continued support of the Elks Love Kids of Character Store. They are really looking forward to another successful year!

Once again, our members participated in impressive numbers. Thank you all for coming out and showing how much heart the Elks have. Your unwrapped new toys and canned food will continue to be accepted at the lodge through December 4th. Please do what you can and have a wonderful holiday season!





Vero Beach Elks Lodge #1774



As is traditional for our lodge,  
we are again conducting our  
annual...

# Holiday Food Drive

Please bring canned goods or other non-perishable food items to the lodge before...

**Thursday, December 17, 2015**

Food items collected will be donated to  
**the Vero Beach Homeless Center.**



Help us ensure that those in need  
have food for the holidays.

This Food Drive is being coordinated  
by our Lodge Bartenders.

"Elks Care - Elks Share"

## John Michael Matthews FINE JEWELRY



WANTED:  
A wrist for this beautiful  
diamond bracelet

645 BEACHLAND BOULEVARD VERO BEACH, FL 32963  
772.234.1512 [WWW.JOHNMATTHEWSJEWELRY.COM](http://WWW.JOHNMATTHEWSJEWELRY.COM)

## Legal Notices

### RESOLUTION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The following members have applied to the Secretary as candidates for Life Membership:

Robert A. Francisco (1971)

William C. Kukelka (1978)

They are qualified per Grand Lodge Statute 12.260 and Article III, Section 2 of the Vero Beach By-Laws. They have been read to the membership at our meeting on November 17th, 2015, and will be voted as Life Members at the second meeting in January, 2016.

### BYLAW CHANGE: Article IV: Meetings - Section 1.

Reads: The regular meetings of the Lodge shall be held on the first and third Tuesday evenings in each month throughout the year, except in the months of July, August and December, in which the Lodge shall meet on the first Tuesday.

On the recommendation of Grand Lodge:

Changed to: The regular Lodge meetings of this Lodge shall be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month throughout the year except in the month of July, in which the Lodge shall meet on the third Tuesday. Further, there will be one meeting in August and December on the first Tuesday of that month.

This change of By-Law was suggested by Grand Lodge in an effort to alleviate a problem in July of interference with the 4th of July and the Convention held every year in July.

## Elks Creed

Believe in the goodness of thyself  
as well as in others.

Protect childhood with tenderness,  
old age with respect.

Cherish with reverence the memory  
of those who have passed.

Observe faithfully the golden rule.

Enjoy the good things of earth;  
keep within thee the glorious sunshine.



# A "SPOOKTAKULAR" EVENING AT THE ELKS "HAUNTED LODGE"

Submitted by Elsa Erice

Pocahontas, Johnny Carson, priests, nuns, witches, flappers, gangsters, Arabs, cowboys and even a walking Christmas gift...



all these and many others were represented at the "Halloween Party" held at the Vero Beach Elks Lodge on October 31st.

A total of 122 members and guests, some recognizable and others not, celebrated the tradi-



tional "All Hallows Eve" with delicious lasagna (an Elks favorite) and cream puff dessert prepared by our own Rose Tufano and her crew, dancing to the music of "The Dynamics" (another Elks



favorite), enjoying tasty libations, and sharing some good fun!

Towards the end of the evening, costumed attendees paraded in a circle around the dance floor for all to see and to be judged for costume originality. Three winners were selected:



Third Place: A well-disguised Seattle Seahawks Football Fan with blue hair and paint and a "lighted" hat. He was so well-costumed that we do not know his identity. Since we would like to recognize his creativity, we request that he identify himself if he wants to do so. He received a voucher for two Friday night dinners at the lodge.



Second Place: Tom Noteman & Josie Bat, as an elegant Halloween couple including some

artistic and creative make-up. They received two tickets to the coming Toys for Tots Dinner Dance on November 20.



And the indisputable First Place winners:

Harley Van Ginhoven and Cynthia Noonan, as riders on a Carnival Roller Coaster, including the Roller Coaster Car!

This was definitely and decidedly the most unusual, imaginative, creative and original costume at the party and likely at many other parties if not all! They received two tickets to the lodge's New Year's Eve Gala.

This was another well-attended, fun-loaded Elks Lodge event! Don't miss the next one!



# Presidential Memorial Certificate

## Was your departed loved one a Veteran?

Vero Beach Lodge #1774 wants you to know that, if your loved one served in the US Military, you can order an engraved paper Presidential Memorial Certificate in his/her honor. It is FREE and we provide you the information needed to request these certificates.

Please contact Flo Synenko, our Lodge Secretary, at (772) 569-1774 for more information. You can also obtain additional information under "Our Military & Veterans" at the Florida State Elks Association (FSEA) website: <http://www.felks.org>.

## Recognizes Devotion and Duty to Our Nation

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy, and is administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. You may apply in person at any VA regional office or by toll free fax or U. S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email.

- You will need:
- A copy of the veteran's Honorable Discharge
  - A copy of the veteran's death certificate
  - Completely filled out PMC application [pdf]



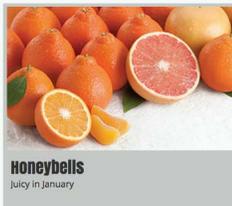
Certificates will take approximately 8-10 weeks to arrive.

**JUST IN TIME FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!**  
**NEW LODGE FUNDRAISER**



**It's FREE and we do all the work!**

### Featured Florida Gifts



**Visit VeroElks.com for more information!**



**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!!!**  
 3929 Us Hwy 1, Vero Beach, FL  
 Kitchen Gadgets for the Home Chef  
**772-569-5097**  
[www.completerestaurant.com](http://www.completerestaurant.com)

## Florida Elks Online Encyclopedia

### HAVE YOU HEARD?

The Florida Elks Online Encyclopedia now has Google-like search capability!

Type a word or topic in the search box and all entries that refer to it will be pulled up for you to read. This is useful for anyone wanting to know more about an Elk topic and is especially helpful to bulletin editors, officers, District Vice Presidents, and District Deputies.

Find it at: <http://floridaelks.org/encyclopedia-of-elkdom>

### WANTED! Encyclopedia Updates!

If you see an entry that could use some updating and you have the correct information, please send it to:

State Historian Truman Bass at [tabass1@comcast.net](mailto:tabass1@comcast.net)



Vero Beach Elks Lodge #1774



Says...

# Aloha!

... and invites you to a Tropical Paradise

# LUAAU!

Saturday, January 16, 2016

3 - 7 PM

\$15/Person

**APPETIZERS  
LUAAU MENU  
DESSERT**

**WEAR YOUR BEST  
HAWAIIAN OUTFIT!**

**LEIS  
50/50  
PHOTO OPS**

**FUN!**

Music by the  
**"Greg and Brian Duo"**  
Playing 3:30-6:30 PM



**PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS FIRE SPRINKLERS & ROOF REPLACEMENT**

If you would like to volunteer, please contact:

Shane & Brenda Barrett at [bbarrett1774@yahoo.com](mailto:bbarrett1774@yahoo.com)

# VERO BEACH ELKS LODGE THANKS VETERANS

Submitted by Elsa Erice

Vero Beach Elks Lodge #1774 came out in mass to say "Thank You" to our heroes for serving our country and protecting OUR freedom! While we as Elks recognize, honor, and thank ALL our veterans, this year's program focused on a special thanks to the veterans of the Korean (1950-1953) and Vietnam (1964-1975) wars.



Southeast Central District Past Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Jack Houlihan, our very own, opened the event with interesting and colorful comments and introduced ER Donna Knerr and Veterans Committee Chair Jane Burton -- a "Roll Call" of 90 veterans, each called individually and receiving a framed certificate of thanks for his/her service to our country.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, attendees enjoyed a spaghetti dinner, prepared by dedicated lodge volunteers, which was served free to all veterans in attendance, and to non-veterans paying a nominal \$5 charge.



Lodge members Charlie Wilson and Jack Hurd touched the hearts of the crowd with a stirring narrative and poem respectively.

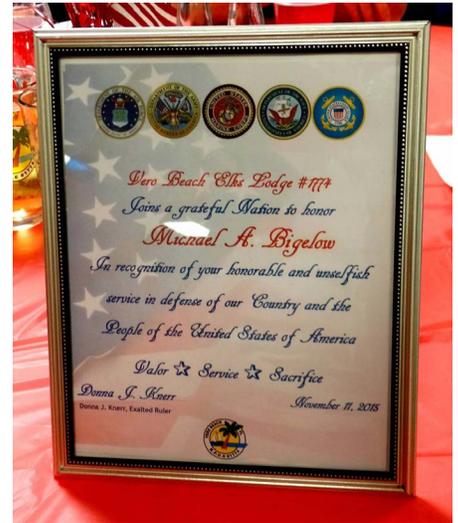


They were followed by a Special Presentation by ER Donna Knerr and Veterans Committee Chair Jane Burton -- a "Roll Call" of 90 veterans, each called individually and receiving a framed certificate of thanks for his/her service to our country.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, attendees enjoyed a spaghetti dinner, prepared by dedicated lodge volunteers, which was served free to all veterans in attendance, and to non-veterans paying a nominal \$5 charge.



"Johnny Nick," one of our lodge's favorite musicians, donated his talent in honor of our veterans, for which we give him our heartfelt thanks! Johnny played a stirring medley of patriotic songs and the crowd stood, sang, clapped, and enjoyed it. I would be willing to bet that there were



many emotional tears discreetly shed. The large group danced to Johnny's music the rest of the night and enjoyed the evening and each others' company.



This wonderful tribute to our veterans was the result of the efforts of many lodge members and their hard work is very much appreciated. However, none of it would have been possible without the efficient scheduling, coordination, and dedicated work and commitment to our veterans by Lodge Secretary Flo Synenko and her husband Bill. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



# Governor's Veteran's Service Award



On March 13, 2014 Florida's Governor Rick Scott, by Executive Order 14-88, created the "Governor's Veterans Service Award" to honor America's military veterans, including Florida's more than 1.5 million living veterans, through whose selfless service and sacrifice we enjoy freedom and liberty. The award may be presented to any legal resident of this state who either:

- A. Is serving honorably as a member of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Coast Guard, the Florida National Guard, OR the United States Reserve Forces; OR
- B. Has been honorably discharged or retired from active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Coast Guard, the Florida National Guard, the United States Reserve Forces, or Merchant Mariners with veteran status.



To apply to receive this award, you must complete an application. Proof of veteran status is required via:

- DD214
- VA ID Card
- Florida Driver's License with "V" Designation
- Veterans' Service Organization Membership Card
- Retired Veteran ID Card

**For Additional Information, Contact:**

Leonard J. Smallacombe, PDD, State Coordinator  
 FSEA "Presidential Memorial Certificate Program"  
 Email: lenbar85@aol.com  
 Phone: 772/871-2255

**To Download Application and Additional Information:**

Visit: <http://floridavets.org/gvsa/>

Note: Veterans need not have served in a combat zone to be eligible.

## Vero Beach Elks Thursday Night



**All proceeds benefit Elk's Charities.**

Contact Leah Facto for more info

## Come join us Thursday nights for bingo in the lounge!

Sales start at 6:15 and game starts at 6:45 with an early bird special.

Every member who brings a guest receives a free coverall sheet for each guest signed in.

Come join in the fun – definitely not your grandmother's bingo!



**Brothers:**  
 Glenn Strunk  
 Billy Whittaker

**Strunk**  
 FUNERAL HOMES  
 &  
 CREMATORY

916 - 17th St, Vero Beach, FL 32960  
 1623 N. Central Ave., Sebastian, FL 32958

Vero Beach 772-562-2325  
 Sebastian 772-589-1000

## Lodge Fundraiser

Vero Beach Elks Lodge has partnered with

**TOUCHED**by**FLOWERS**  <sup>SM</sup>  
 The GIFT that GIVES twice!

**50% of the Profit will Benefit our Vero Beach Elks Lodge**

(no less than 15% of the retail price)

You can order online today through our Fundraising Page at

<http://veraelks.com/fundraisers/>

or call **772-494-007**

**Make a PERFECT GIFT this holiday season!**





Vero Beach Elks Lodge # 1774

Cordially invites you to its Annual...

# New Year's Eve Gala



happy new year  
*You're invited*

Hats  
Noisemakers  
Streamers

**Thursday, December 31, 2015**

Cocktails: 6 PM - Dinner: 7:15 PM

**\$55/Person (Cash Bar)**

Midnight  
Champagne  
Toast

Music  
by  
"The Dynamics"

**CATERED BY "CULINARY CAPERS"**

*Caesar Salad, Prime Rib, Baked Potato,  
Key West Blend, Cheesecake with Raspberry Drizzle*

**Maximum 250 Tickets**

**Tickets MUST be paid in advance  
due to Caterer Guarantee.**

**Tables of 8 only**

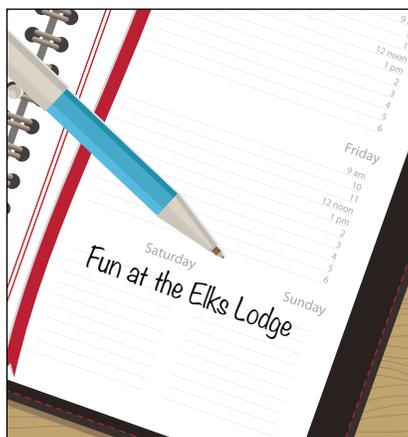
*Welcome the New Year Elegantly in Style!*

*This is an Annual Sell-Out! Reserve NOW to Ensure a Seat!*

# Calendar of Events

# December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Keep your eyes out for emails throughout the month with updated dinners and special events!</p>		<p><b>1</b> Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 pm Membership Meeting and Initiation 7:30 pm</p> 	<p><b>2</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm</p> 	<p>Wings/Fries/Burgers 5:30 pm <b>3</b> BINGO! 7 pm</p>	<p><b>4</b> Toys for Tots Steak Night Dinner Dance 6:30 pm Entertainment by Johnny Nick</p> 	<p><b>5</b> Dueling Pianos 7:00 pm</p>
<p><b>6</b> Sunday Football Bring a Dish</p> 	<p><b>7</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm Monday Night Games</p> 	<p><b>8</b> Lounge is Open</p>	<p><b>9</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm</p>	<p>Wings/Fries/Burgers 5:30 pm <b>10</b> BINGO! 7 pm</p>	<p><b>11</b> Steak or Fish Dinner Dance 6:30 pm Entertainment by Johnny Nick</p>	<p><b>12</b> Country Western Taco Night with music by Davey Cappellen</p>
<p><b>13</b> Sunday Football Bring a Dish Elks Memorial Day Service 4 pm</p>	<p><b>14</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm Monday Night Games</p>	<p><b>15</b> MEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY 5:30 pm</p> 	<p><b>16</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm</p> 	<p><b>17</b> Cookies for Soldiers 9 am <b>17</b> BINGO! 7 pm</p>	<p><b>18</b> Steak Dinner Dance 6:30 pm Entertainment by Johnny Nick Wabsso School Christmas Party 11:30 am</p>	<p><b>19</b> Music by Gregg FesSel</p> 
<p><b>20</b> Sunday Football Bring a Dish</p> 	<p><b>21</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm Monday Night Games</p> 	<p><b>22</b> Lounge is Open</p>	<p><b>23</b> Lounge is Open</p> 	<p><b>24</b> Lounge is Open</p> 	<p><b>25</b> LODGE CLOSED</p>	<p><b>26</b> Lounge is Open</p> 
<p><b>27</b> Sunday Football Bring a Dish</p>	<p><b>28</b> Karaoke 7-10 pm Monday Night Games</p>	<p><b>29</b> Lounge is Open</p> 	<p><b>30</b> Lounge is Open</p>	<p>Lodge closed until party begins <b>31</b> New Year's Eve Gala 6:00 pm</p> 	<p><b>Merry Christmas!</b></p>	



## Upcoming Events

Come out and support your lodge. Mark your calendar and don't miss out on these planned events!

Advance reservations RECOMMENDED for all dinner events. Some events have limited seating available and may require advance ticket purchases.

**Lodge Luau**  
Jan 16th

**Kick Off The Season**  
**Dinner Dance Fundraiser**  
Jan 23rd

Check [www.VeroElks.com](http://www.VeroElks.com) for more information on Upcoming Events