



# The ELKS Call



Vol. 36, No. 8

Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648

December, 2018



Dear Fellow Members,

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas. As Christmas approaches it presents a great time to be an Elk. The Christmas Season gives us a chance to use our mission and purpose to do what Christmas is all about. It is a time to rejoice and celebrate, to be Charitable, to have Justice, to believe in God, and to have Fidelity. It is a time to promote the happiness of us, to be proud that we have the freedom to celebrate, to enjoy fellowship with each other, to perpetuate ourselves as a fraternal organization. All the while celebrating the main reason we have these liberties....think about it!!!!

One of the most enjoyable events we have each year is our Children's Christmas Party. This year the Alabama Elks Association will not be making its annual grant (\$2500-\$2700) that we use to help fund the cost of the gifts we provide. We have found another grant to help but it looks like we will be a little short of the funds we need. We have had one member step up with a substantial donation. I am asking each of you to please contribute and attend. If it is only \$5.00 it will help. To donate, please see Di Wilson, April or me. You can also put your contribution in an envelope and leave behind the bar. We will be glad to provide you with a receipt, so you can deduct from your taxes.

Please be watching for emails concerning the "Open House" we will be having in February. This going to be a big event and will take a lot of volunteers to be successful. Organizational meetings will be starting this month and we need you to attend. Your local lodge will be well represented in the community between now and Christmas. Julie Brakefield has again chaired our float committee and they have built a beautiful float. This year's theme is "Elks Work Shop". Michael has put a team together and we have purchased and decorated a tree in the "Tinsel Trail" at Big Spring Park. The trail is open daily until midnight. The trees will be lit at dusk.

November 30th marks the fiscal year-end with the City of Huntsville. It will also be Braxton Butler's end of being our Bingo Chairman. I would like to personally thank him for working with me in my 3 years as your ER. Braxton has spent close to 5 years in this position and the last 12 months have not been easy. With his help and guidance, we have changed the operation up and hopefully going forward it will not take near the people or man hours to make sure we are successful. Again, if you see Braxton, join me in thanking him for his dedication and hard work. At this time, we do not have a current Bingo Chairperson. If you are interested, please let me know.

Finally, please pay attention to this month's calendar. There is a lot going on. We will be having our Annual Memorial, our Annual Children's Christmas Party, Employee Party and our Annual Family and Dirty Santa Christmas Dinner. We will also be holding the "Elk Turkey of the Year" contest at the Family Christmas Dinner. So, if you think you cook a good turkey please enter. Signup sheets to bring a dish are behind the bar. In closing please remember this is the season to be thankful for the "ONE" and "Those" that have sacrificed their lives so that we may enjoy ours and live for eternity. We should all be thankful and strive to be the best we can be.

Fraternally,  
ER Buzzy Byrom



## House Committee

Bills and taxes against the club are paid and current. Inventory of kitchen completed on schedule. Served 14 Tut Fann vets on November 1, they will be here again Dec. 6th. Breakfast served 63, next breakfast is Dec. 1st. Repairs were made to the bar floor drain, sink in Lodge side ladies room, replaced the spray head in the kitchen dish washing pit. HC donated door prizes that were given away at Iron Bowl. Wheelbarrow drawing will be during Employees Christmas party Dec. 17th. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. NO bar bingo and the kitchen will be closed for employee party. **Club will close at 8 pm on Christmas Eve, no bar bingo, kitchen closed. CLUB will be CLOSED Christmas Day.** New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, club open regular hours, no bar bingo and kitchen closed. The House Committee thanks those members who help with club operations. Please submit in writing or come to HC meeting 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month with suggestions to better our club. Your House Committee: Chairman Pat Edwards, David Burkett, Billy Carlton, Jason Johnson, Billy Herndon, Cathy Kulas

**HOUSE RULES HIGHLIGHTS:** Club Operations; (B) Food Service – (2) No one is allowed access to kitchen area or the area behind the bar unless they are an employee, officer, House Committee member or a member of the Lodge whose duties require them to have access.



### SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those that are less fortunate than we and those that have illness or other health problems during this holiday season. Continue to remember Darwin Baker, Ed Aagesen, Jeannie Richmond, Ernie Rhodes, George "Bear" Ellzey, Wayne Tucker, Allen Cathy, and Connie Rogers and recovering from surgery, Jan Abbott, Bill Abbott, Brenda Morris.

*Prayer can move mountains, so pray without ceasing,  
be kind and love one another.*

Chaplain Robert Richmond

## ELKS PATRIOTISM (KOREA/VIETNAM)

Submitted by Tom Hartley

The patriotism of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was once again exhibited during the armed conflicts in Korea and Vietnam. When a shooting war broke out in Korea in 1950, the Elks responded by sending gift packs to our military personnel fighting there as they had in World War II. The same was done for our military personnel in Vietnam after hostilities commenced there. In 1951, the Secretary of Defense appealed to the Elks for help in procuring blood for our wounded in Korea. Within a few months, the Elks Lodges obtained over a half million pints. During the Vietnam War, the Defense Department was concerned with the morale of our 400,000 troops fighting communist aggression because of the anti-American sentiments being reported on the home front. After much discussion, it was decided that a "Letters from Home" campaign would help counteract the negative acts emanating from this country. The Elks again answered the call and flooded these fine young defenders of freedom with letters expressing Elks gratitude for the sacrifices they were making for our country. When the Elks learned that wounded veterans were sweltering in Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii that lacked air conditioning, they provided 24 air conditioning units so that these military personnel could recover in relative comfort. As you have seen here, the Elks again brought patriotism to the forefront of their beliefs as stated in its mission: "to quicken the spirit of American patriotism."



## SECRETARY NEWS

**MEMBERSHIP:** We have 3 new reinstatements and 10 that were initiated on Tuesday, November 27th. We have another 3 that are being investigated for membership in January and one awaiting initiation. Thanks for the great job you all are doing to bring in new members. I especially would like to thank our Membership Committee, Pat Lamon and Kathy Young for the great job they are doing. We are still behind in bringing our delinquent membership back. A list of their names is posted in the foyer, please look at this list and if you see or know any of them, please ask them to pay their dues and come enjoy all the fun activities we will be having at the Club and Lodge. Remember, if you are delinquent in your dues, you may not enter the Club for any event.

**GRANTS: PROMISE GRANT** – Cathy Kulas and Jan Abbott have been working with this grant. Jan has been taking them nourishing dinners, dessert, drinks, and breakfast bars, the past few weeks, prepared by one of our members, Tatiana Kontoulakos, owner of the Royal Rose. We have depleted our money allocated to the food side of the grant, but have purchased 10, 10 inch, Kindle tablets, and 50, \$10 gift cards to be donated for Christmas, also Cathy Kulas and Pam Holden have been packing backpacks to be donated to them as well. **GRATITUDE GRANT** – as our ER said, we are using this grant for our Children's Christmas party, any help or donations will most certainly be appreciated. Our Elves, Mary Cannon and Nicole Anderson, will be shopping for gifts for all these children. For our Elk members, sign up sheets are in the entry way (left side), so please let us know you will be brining your children. We don't want any child to be without a gift.

**BEACON GRANT** - Ed Limback works diligently with our Tut Fann Veterans. They are in our Lodge the first Thursday of the month for dinner and he will be setting up a Christmas tree with the names and wishes of these veterans for our "Adopt-A-Vet" Christmas project. Please take a name, fill the wish, put the name tag on the bag and set it under the tree. These Vets love that we think about them 12 months of the year! **FREEDOM GRANT** – shopping has begun for our homeless veterans and we will be shopping for one of the soup kitchens that feeds them. If you have small to medium sized "gently used" suitcases, please donate them to us. These folks sometimes have nothing but a paper bag in which to carry their belongings. **IMPACT GRANT** – this grant is ongoing thanks to help from Cathy Kulas and Tom Rathz. This year we will also be working with Highlands Elementary as well as Farley Elementary. We need help once a month in our "reward room" store, and we need volunteers once a week (for about an hour) to listen to a child read and help with their words. Highlands has asked us for an outdoor classroom, so that they will be able to take their studies outdoors. More on that later and we will be asking for volunteers to help with this also. **We still need donations of copy paper, ink pens, #2 pencils, post-it notes, etc. for our teacher supply rooms at both schools.** Thank you for being so generous. Those that can't do physically, do in other ways!!

REMEMBER to donate to our Elks National Foundation (ENF), this is where we obtain our grant monies! See Tom Hartley to donate and check out the table he has set up on the hallway next to the family room.

**RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT -  
MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT  
TO ALL OF US!!!**

## 5 Ways to Keep You Informed . . .

Email, Online Newsletter, Social Media,  
Lodge Meetings, Wall Calendar (Outside Managers' Office)

If you are not receiving the weekly Elk emails  
please send your name and current email address to  
**samjt3@yahoo.com** - we'll add you to the list.

**The Elks Call newsletter entries  
MUST be received by 25th of the Month**

Entry address: **bpoe1648@gmail.com** or  
**diwilson1648@gmail.com**

Like us on Facebook -

**Elks Lodge 1648 Huntsville, AL**

**Interested in booking an event?**

Club's Email Address: **Elks1648@knology.net**

Newsletters are no longer mailed;  
a limited number will be placed at the bar.

Please reserve these copies  
for those Members not receiving email.

If you know of a **Shut-In Member**,  
*kindly take a copy of the newsletter to them...*

*If we all help out, we can save money for the Lodge  
by avoiding postage.*



### December Birthdays:

- 1 Michelle Mickle
- 2 Billa Wilde
- 3 Tommy Battle, Bill Burke, Connie Jo Clarke,  
Josephine Oswald
- 4 Jeff Reed, John Towry
- 5 Donald Morton
- 6 M.D. Smith
- 7 Charles Jones III, Bill Robinson, Rita Ruple
- 8 Nolan Bragg
- 9 Randy Cunningham
- 11 Glen Davenport, Kimberly Tippet, Carol Vernon Wright
- 12 Don Carroll, Tommy Flannagan, Bubba Parks, Tom Reed
- 14 Mike West
- 15 Joseph Kamus, Angela Parks, Nancy Towry
- 16 Drew Giddings Scott McMickin
- 17 Charlie Brown, JuLee Couch, Danny Robinson
- 18 Steve Grimes
- 19 James Bartee, Billy Bell,
- 20 Rena Anderson, Tom May, Carla Weaver
- 21 Raymond Funderburg, Cathy Kulas
- 22 Paul Buckmaster, Austin Hamilton, Charles D. Hooper,  
Steve Ohotnick, Steve Snider
- 24 Wes Browning, Wanda Sanders
- 25 Carl Reed
- 26 Tommy Dothard, Dee Covey
- 29 Brenda Buxton, Oscar Gutierrez

## 2018-2019 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler, Jerry "Buzzy" Byrom  
Esteemed Leading Knight, Jan Abbott  
Esteemed Loyal Knight, Nicole Anderson  
Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Michael Hepler  
Secretary, Dianna Wilson  
Treasurer, John Bell  
Chaplain, Bob Richmond  
Esquire, Charles Brown  
Tiler, Gary Lunsford  
Inner Guard, Randy Speegle

### TRUSTEES

1 Year, Mary Cannon	2 Year, Randy Morris
3 Year, Phillip Towry	4 Year, Mike Davis
5 Year, Louis Tumminello	

## WHEELBARROW OF GOODIES!

If you haven't done so,  
donate an item or two for the wheelbarrow.

**PURCHASE** your tickets at the bar

(1 for \$1, or 6 for \$5) and

you will have a chance to win  
the wheel barrow.

Drawing will be December 17th.

**REMEMBER** all the ticket sales go to the  
employees Christmas bonuses.

Let's all do our part to ensure they have  
a great Christmas.



**Join in the fun:**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS FUNDRAISER**

**Every Friday Night**

**Karaoke -**

**Thursday**

**December 6**

**6:00 - 10:00 p.m.**





# DECEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Check out our <b>TREE</b> on the <b>TINSEL TRAIL</b> Big Spring Park	<b>EVERYONE is INVITED</b> to the <b>Employee Christmas Party</b> on the 17th	<b>EVERYONE is INVITED</b> to the <b>Dirty Santa Party</b> , bring a dish and <b>\$20-25 gift</b>				<b>1</b> BREAKFAST 9:00-10:30  <b>SEC PLAYOFF ALABAMA VS. GEORGIA</b> 3:00
<b>2</b> <b>ELKS MEMORIAL and Lunch</b> 1:00 p.m.  <b>BINGO 4:30</b> Team: Brown	<b>3</b> Open 3:00  <b>BAR BINGO 6:00</b>	<b>4</b> Open 3:00  <b>House Committee 5:30</b>  <b>CHRISTMAS PARADE 6:00</b>	<b>5</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Pork Chop Sandwich or Elk Burger</i> Texas Holdem 6:30	<b>6</b> Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken Fried Steak</i>  Tut Fan Vets here  KARAOKE 6:00-10:00	<b>7</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00  <b>Queens 8:00</b>  <b>Pearl Harbor Day</b>	<b>8</b> Open 3:00  <i>Come bring your friends and play a game of pool.</i>
<b>9</b> Open 2:00  <b>BINGO 4:30</b> Team: Abbott Caller: R. Anderson	<b>10</b> Open 3:00  <b>BAR BINGO 6:00</b>	<b>11</b> Open 3:00  <b>LODGE MEETING 7:00</b>	<b>12</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00  <b>Children's Christmas Party 6:00</b>	<b>13</b> Open 3:00  <i>Chicken Buffet 5:00-9:00</i>  Civil War Roundtable 6:30	<b>14</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00  <b>Queens 8:00</b>	<b>15</b> Open 3:00  <i>Come try out our Shuffleboard.</i>
<b>16</b> Open 2:00  <b>BINGO 4:30</b> Team: Hepler Caller: Floeser	<b>17</b> Open 3:00  <b>EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS PARTY 5:00</b> Everyone Invited	<b>18</b> Open 3:00  <b>House Committee 5:30</b>  <b>Family and Dirty Santa Party Eat 6:00</b>	<b>19</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken or Steak Wraps</i> Texas Holdem 6:30	<b>20</b> Open 3:00  <i>Beef Tips and Noodles 5:00-9:00</i>	<b>21</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00  <b>Queens 8:00</b>	<b>22</b> Open 3:00  <i>Why not get up a Dart Game with friends?</i>
<b>23</b> Open 2:00  <b>NO BINGO</b>	<b>24</b> Open 3:00 Close 8:00 <b>Kitchen Closed NO BAR BINGO</b>	<b>25</b> <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!! CLUB CLOSED</b>	<b>26</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken or Steak Quesadillas</i> Texas Holdem 6:30	<b>27</b> Open 3:00  <i>Shrimp Special 5:00-9:00</i>  Little Civil War Roundtable 6:30	<b>28</b> Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00  <b>Queens 8:00</b>	<b>29</b> Open 3:00  <i>Come play our Golf Game.</i>
<b>30</b> Open 2:00 <b>BINGO 4:30</b> Team: Byrom	<b>31</b> Open 3:00 <b>New Year's Eve Kitchen Closed NO BAR BINGO</b>	<b>January 1</b> <b>Happy New Year Bowl Games on our TV's</b>				



As we go about our daily lives,  
please remember  
those that are less fortunate than we.  
Also, remember our soldiers who are away  
from their families this Christmas so that  
we might be free to celebrate the  
birth of our Saviour!

## UPCOMING EVENTS, MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

**TINSEL TRAIL**, Big Spring Park, now open. It is a live display of decorated Christmas trees. We have a tree on the trail. Look for our Elk antlers, googly eyes and our 150th Anniversary decorations. Thanks to Michael Hepler, Bruce Ricker and all the others that took time to decorate our tree.

1st December, Saturday, **BREAKFAST** 9:00 – 10:30, \$8 PER PERSON

2ND December, Sunday, **ELKS MEMORIAL** and lunch 1:00 pm. A memorial to our departed members. Everyone invited and encouraged to attend. Lunch \$9 per person.

4th December, Tuesday 6:00 pm, **Huntsville Christmas Parade**, our Lodge has a float in the parade again this year, "Elks Workshop". Thanks to Julie Brakefield for taking on this project and thank you to all those that donated their time and talent to making it a success.

11th December, Tuesday, **only one Lodge meeting this month**, 7:00 pm

12th December, Wednesday, 6:00 pm, **Children's Christmas Party with Santa**. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the foyer (complete and give to bartender).

17th December, Monday, **Employee Christmas Party**, 5 PM. EVERYONE welcome to participate in this fun event. Wheel barrow drawing that evening!

18th December, Tuesday, **Family Christmas Dinner and Dirty Santa Party**. Sign up at the bar to bring a dish to share, we eat at 6:00 pm. Each person that wishes to play Dirty Santa, bring a gift valued at \$20 - \$25. If you would like to enter the "Turkey of the Year" contest, see April or Pat.

23rd DECEMBER, **NO SUNDAY NIGHT BINGO**



### WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

FR: B.J. Clark, Patricia Peterson, Paula Yates, Jenny Askins  
BR: Dusty Graham, Connie Clarke, Mary Jane Anderson, Susan Coulter, Martin Cousins  
Not pictured: Heidrun Admire



Thanks to all those who worked on our parade float this year – can't wait to see it lighted and ready to go. Thanks Julie Brakefield for chairing this adventure.

### OUR LITTLE LIBRARY

Take some, bring some for others to enjoy. Nothing like a good book by the fireside during this cold weather.

### LOST & FOUND



LOST AND FOUND: **PLEASE** check the foyer and if you have belonging there, take them home. Let's keep our entry way and foyer uncluttered and looking nice.



### BINGO TIME CHANGE –

**NO BINGO ON DECEMBER 23rd**

*Remember, our bingo money is used for our youth scholarships!*

*Please sign up to help us at least once a quarter,*

*if enough people would help, no one would be overworked!*