

The Staghorn

Rotonda Elks Lodge #2710 A Fraternal Organization

Volume 39 Issue 12

ELKS CARE - ELKS SHARE

December 2025





Jean Humphreys, ER

December Staghorn

I would like to wish all of our members and guests a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year! It's been a great year for the Lodge and we have a lot of great plans for the future! However, we need help in achieving these goals! The first event that is coming up is the Rod Stewart Tribute Show on December 20th. All proceeds will go toward the Tiki Bar outside. The tickets are on sale now with assigned seating at the bar or in the office from 9am-1pm. Credit or Debit cards are accepted.

On Sunday, December 7th we will hold a Memorial Service for all deceased members who have passed during this year at 1pm. It's a very moving ceremony put on by the officers dressed in whites to honor those who will come no more. Afterwards stay for Broasted Chicken and to remember Pearl Harbor Day.

You may have noticed that the Budwiser sign above the bar is working again, thanks to our members Mike and Barbie Mente.

Mike saw it wasn't working and said "I can fix that" and he did! He paid for all the parts too. Now that is a good Elk! We have a lot of good Elks in this Lodge who work behind the scenes; they make the wheels turn, just like the light on the sign. Without our volunteers we would not be able to open every day and serve our customers. Thank You!

Exalted Ruler's Eggnog Party is on December 24th at 4pm. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. Thank you in advance.

New Year's Eve tickets are out with assigned seating. Pick the table you want before it's gone! All the details are on the flyers posted.

As you know the Elks give out many scholarships to the students. One is the Legacy Scholarship for Elk members and their children and grandchildren. One of our members - Don Worthington's grandson - received a \$5000 scholarship. Go on Elks.org or flaelks.org and look at what you can get with just a little information about the student. There's lots of money out there just waiting for students to apply.

As always, hope to see you around the Lodge! Jean Humphreys, Exalted Ruler

Lodge Secretary: 941-662-7117 E-mail: rotonda2710@gmail.com Website: www.rotondaelks.org
Bar Phone Number 941-662-9914

ELK OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler, Jean Humphreys PER 941-697-3376

Leading Knight, Eddie Tanquay 941-255-5521

Loyal Knight, Kim Hamlin 512-865-0558

Lecturing Knight, Steve Pawlak 716-338-2286

Secretary, Sherry Toth 219-309-1424

Treasurer, Greg Smyth

941-661-8400 **Tiler, Gary Alesio**

441-769-7945 **Esquire, Deb Hargrove PDDGER**

941-380-2962 Inner Guard, Dean Ruger 517-260-2145

Chaplain, Bob Humphreys

941-697-3376

TRUSTEES

1 Year, Dennis Durant PER

302-421-4678

2 Year, Jeff Smith

810-853-8901

3 Year, Virginia Perry

941-460-8825

4 Year. Ed Toth PER

219-921-6269

5 Year. Tom McCombs

941-408-3351

ELKETTE PRESIDENT

Susan Rupprecht

941-662-0986

Bar Manager, Matt Knapp

309-303-6571

Kitchen, Patrick Vollmer

941-525-0684

Staghorn Editor, Deb O'Shea

dibbis56@gmail.com

Web Site Manager, Deb O'Shea

dibbis56@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS- STATUTORY COMMITTEES

Americanism Coordinator - Bob Humphreys, PER

Community Activities - Sherry Toth

Drug Awareness - Ginny Perry

Elks Training - ER and PER's

Elks National Foundation - Ed Toth PER

Government Relations - Jean Humphreys PER

Harry-Anna Trust Fund - Ed Toth PER

Hoop Shoot Coordinator - Steve Pawlak

National Foundation Scholarship Certification - Jeff Smith

Orientation - Eddie Tanguay, PER

Publicity - Gerry Chesney

Soccer Shoot - Steve Pawlak

Sports Committee - Stave Pawlak

Veterans Service - Lee Hale

Youth Activities - Sherry Toth

Queen of Hearts & 50/50 - Dean Ruger, Deb & Tim Lacze

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Accident Prevention Program/Safety Officer - Robert Smith, PER

Auditing & Accounting: Cathy Martin

By-Laws Update - Dennis Durant

Children's Therapy Services - Jean Humphreys, PER

Elkettes Ways and Means Chair - Nancy Craig

Entertainment - Erin Cleveland

Flag Day Coordinator - Brad Fitzgerald & ER, & PER's

House Committee - Deb Hargrove PDDGER, Penny Bigger,

Gerry Chesney, Don Giardini, Brad Fitzgerald,

Sue Rupprecht, Bob Humphreys PER

Investigation - Bob & Jean Humphreys, PER's

Landscape Coordinator - Dennis Durant PER

Mediator - Bob Humphreys, PER

Membership - Sherry Toth

Memorial Day Coordinator - PERs

Presiding Justice - Dennis Durant PER

Relief Chair Officers + Secretary + Treasurer Visiting Committee - Chair Officers, Secretary, Treasurer,

Volunteer Coordinator - Tom & Kathy McCombs

Youth Camp - Sherry Toth

Special Events & Party Coordinating $\,$ - Gerry Chesney &

Jason Vollmer

PAST EXALTED RULERS

Ray LeGoy + 1986-88

Nicholas Andres PDDGER + 1988-89

Ralph Benedict + 1989-90

Ed Colvett 1990-91

Cliff Douglas + 1991-92

Bud Prentiss + 1992-93

Bill Bingley + 1993-94

Donald Wheating 1994-95

Fred Lawton + 1995-96

Robert A. Smith 1996-98

Wm. Art Rickard 1998-99

Carolyn Lawton + 1999-00

George Roach + 2000-01

William Pallman + 2001-02

Parker Summerlin 2002-03

Ronald R. Bupp, PDDGER + 2003-04

Carolyn Lawton + 2004-05

Ray Eifert + 2005-06

Larry Thomson + 2006-07

Michael LaBar + 2007-08

Larry Thomson + 2009-10

Cathy Bedwell 2010-11

Tom Johnson 2011-12

Pat Johnson 2012-13, 2013-2014

Bob Humphreys 2014-15

Wayne Legris 2015-16

Bob Humphreys 2016-17

Al Williquette 2017-18

Phil Sommers 2018-19

Jean Humphreys 2019-20, 2021-22

Roger Redman 2020-21

Ed Toth 2022-23, 2023-24

Deb Hargrove PDDGER 2024-25



PERS BY MEMBER AFFILIATION

Joel Townsend + 1953-54

Norman Craig + 1967-74

Mike Gifford + 1974-75

R Carl Snyder + 1969-70, 1979-80

Wm O Lunvall 1969-70

Paul White 1977-1978

Tony Ponn 1979-80

Michaelino Amico 1980-81

Gordon Araujo 1983-84

Edward Holmes 1984-85

Richard Linn 1986-87, 1990-91

John Fletcher 1987-88

Jack Garrabrant 1981-82, 1991-92

Wm S Cronin 1991-92

Dennis Durrant 1992-93

Michaelino Amico 1981-82, 1992-93

James F Hargove, Sr. + 1992-93

Phil Sommers 1991-92 1993-94

Richard W Holmes 1993-94

Michael Holowiak 1995-96

Joseph Calafiore 1995-96

Richard McDonald 1996-98

Donald Warling 1996-99

Roger Hazen 1998-99

Ron Wittenberg 1989-90, 1999-00

Eddie Tanguay 2000-01

James McNally 2001-02

Carl Gerace PSP 2003-04

Thomas Geis 2006-07

Mark C Stevens 2006-07

Deb Hargrove PDDGER 2007-08

Donald Gordon + 2009-10

Ceasar Monzon 2009

Bonnie Mackenzie 2010-2011, 2015

Michael D Tirpak 2012-13

Tiffany Gerace 2015-16, 2016-17

Arthur Thomas 2015-16

Sheila R Tirpak 2016-17

Michaelino Amico PDDGER

Caesar Monzon

George Strutt PDDGER

+ Deceased

Please support our Lodge by placing your Ad in our monthly Staghorn.

Call Sherry Blackwell-Toth at 219-309-1424 and see your Ad beginning next month in the Staghorn.







New Members of Our Lodge



From left to right Front Row: Sandra Cariddi, Heidi Koenig, Lynn Beltkowski, Debbie Leist, Melissa Simpson

Back Row: Roger Soilson, Irvin G. Williams III, Matthew Jacobs, Donald Bell, ScottPerkins, Paul Laviolette, Lucas Simpson

(Please excuse us if we spell your name incorrectly. Sometimes it is so hard to read the alphabet letters that are printed by hand.)



Support our Lodge by Advertising here in our monthly Staghorn and on our website.

Call Sherry Blackwell-Toth at 219-309-1424.

Indoor Bar Hours

Monday & Friday 11am to 10pm

Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and

Saturday 11am-7pm

BAR PHONE NUMBER: 941-662-9914

Kitchen Hours

Monday Thru Friday

Lunch 12pm-2:30pm

Dinner 4:45pm-7pm

No dinner on Tuesdays

Kitchen is now closed on Saturdays

Broasted Chicken Sunday Dinner 1-4pm

Can't get to the Elks on Sunday for Broasted Chicken before 4pm?



Call 941-662-9914 and place your order before 3:50pm and dine in or take out before 5pm.

Monthly Lodge Meetings

BOD meeting 6:00pm and Lodge Meeting 7:00pm
-- 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, except July,
August and December are only the 1st Tuesday.

New member Orientation: 2nd Tuesday of each month

House Committee - TBD



From The Lodge Secretary's Desk



Sherry Blackwell Toth

Members All:

Merry Christmas. The Lodge is almost ready for Christmas. If anyone has a tall pencil tree to donate, I would like to add it to our new addition, a 6'5" Santa. I had wonderful volunteers this year, thanks to Susan Schwaukert, Ed Toth, Larry Verdi, Ricky and Janice Perlak, Ginny Perry and Denise McConville. If I have forgotten anyone please forgive the oversight. All efforts are greatly appreciated. There is no small deed.

The Angel Tree has 40 children to support. Angel shopping is at Bealls in Englewood at 9:00 a.m. Monday, December 1. The wrapping party for the clothing bought at Bealls is December 4, 10:30. Please bring your scissors, tape, boxes and extra paper.

The cards for children's wish lists are on the bulletin board.

Please have wrapped gifts back to the Lodge by

December 12.

Our annual Memorial Service is Sunday, December 7th please come and honor our passed Elks.

Voting for Life Members will be December 2 at the Members Meeting.

Enjoy your Holidays and I will see you around the Lodge.

Merry Christmas,

Sherry

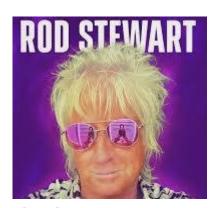




New Santa



New Friday Aerobics Strength Class by Penny at 9:30am \$7.00 per class



ROD STEWART TRIBUTE BY TOMMY EDWARDS DECEMBER 20, 2025 DINNER 5-6:45PM

Choice of items from the menu
Performance 7-9:30pm
\$35 per person
Tickets on sale at the bar!
Tickets can also be purchased at the secretary's office M-F, 9am-12pm.
Call Sherry at 941-662-7117
Assigned seating.

Open to the Public under Special Alcohol Permit. Invite your friends and neighbors for an incredible time. This Fundraiser will enable us to enhance and improve our outdoor patio space and build a Tiki hut to serve as a hub for great activities and tropical libations!

Veterans News

On Veterans Day a special ceremony was held at the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda. I was presented with a "Quilt of Valor". This handmade quilt was crafted by the ladies of the Peace River Quilting Guild. The quilts are presented to Veterans who are recognized for their outstanding service, sacrifice and valor in serving our Nation and Community. I was humbled and very proud to be a recipient.



The following day, November 12th, I entertained 10 Jacobson's Home Veterans at the Mission Bar B Que in Port Charlotte for lunch. My guest speaker was Lt. Alex Davenport of the Punta Gorda Fire Dept. He spoke of his service in the Army Special Forces and as a member of the Army Infantry Honor Guard at the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" inWashington DC. (Note: This the most elite and prestigious tour of duty!) The veterans enjoyed the fellowship, great food, desert and the presentation from Alex. It warms my heart and makes me proud that as an Elk, I get to recognize Veterans in our Community and thank them for service to our country.



Respectfully Lee Hale Veteran Chair State Elk Veteran Deputy

Elkette's Corner



Staghorn December 2025

The Elkette's welcomed and installed four new members on November 20, 2025.



From left to right: Lynette Runyan-Baker, Beth Greenig, Christine Prybylowski, and Pamela Waldsmith

For anyone interested in joining our auxiliary, applications can be found at the bar (UNDER THE BELL) and in the lady's room. New memberships are always encouraged and welcomed. Please also be advised that any applicant waiting to be installed should attend our next General Meetings scheduled for January 22, 2026 at 4:00PM.

Also, at our November 20th General Meeting we welcomed our guest speaker, Amy Webb, the Assistant Principal of Curriculum at Lemon Bay High School, who spoke on several topics to include:

 Student Summer Engagement which engages students in summer learning activities to boost reading and math proficiency;

- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support or PBIS which recognizes students for their positive work and incentivizes their positive choices;
- A Supplementary Math Program allows teachers to move to a specific FL standard that students are struggling with and create reviews for homework, classwork and test prep to best benefit the students in question; and
- Drama ESE a supplemental program for science, English, vocabulary, that helps students to better navigate a relevant work environment. For example, their internal Wandering Mantas Coffee Service. Thank you, Amy.

The Holiday Bazaar was held on November 1, 2025. A big thanks goes out to Nancy Craig for organizing, facilitating and executing the event. However, we can't forget the Elkette's and some of our Elks who also volunteered to help get vendors to their tables, assisted in getting items from and to their car at the beginning and end of the show, some got food for vendors and offered assistance as needed, some helped with the raffle and the collection of vendor donations, etc. Thanks to all of you: Barbara Kelley, Marcia Budday, Gus Karellas, Brad Fitzgerald, Jeanne Karellas, Jean Humphreys, Shelly Grant, Jim Grant, Pam Lugar, and Deb Hargrove (If I have forgotten anyone I apologize, but your help was greatly appreciated). All of you made this event a huge success. We also want to give a shout out to Matt Knapp and Buddy Cheney who prepared food for our hungry members, vendors, and guests.



Elkette's page 2



A Casino Trip to Immokalee happened on November 16, 2025; the trip was a sell out and great fun. Thanks to the Elkette's for keeping the availability of tickets highlighted, and our appreciation to Nancy Craig, Husband, Kenny, and Jeanne Karellas for their efforts expediting the trip from start to finish; arranging for the bus, selecting the games, providing great snacks and good libation, you guys are great, everyone loves this event.

The Music Bingo Event happened on November 22, 2025. It was well received with 115 guests and always a crowd pleaser. As the chairperson for this event, I cannot thank my trusted sidekicks; Jeanne Karellas, Pam Rimkunas. Barbara Kelley, Jean Russell, Jackie Ruiz, Cindy Bennett, Chris Horn, Genny Perry, Jean Humphreys, Cindy Hood, Jane Tumanic, for volunteering their time to help organize, execute, and make this event a huge success. The door prizes donated by Jeanne Karellas and Chris Horn were nothing short of amazing, and the baskets and gifts donated for the raffle; Cindy Bennett, Sue Fitzgerald, Janice Perlak, Nancy Craig, Susan Rupprecht, and Norma Verant were so appreciated and helped to raise funds that will be going to local organization that help our community in so many ways. I also want to thank all the Elkette's who jumped in and provided a helping hand where needed and the Elkette members and husbands who helped setup and cleanup before and after the event. Great Job Elkette's.





Reflection and appreciation: As 2025 comes to a close, it seems that time has just flown by, but then I think about everything that the Auxiliary has accomplished in the last year (Monday Night Scratch-Off, the Holiday Bazaar, Mr. Game Show – Music Bingo, Casino Trips, Evenings at Visani's, Fashion Show, Kentucky Derby Day, Clam Bake, Chuckle Hut, Jimmy Mazz, etc.) allowing us to donate to many charitable causes within our community (Jacobson Veterans Home, SW Florida Honor Flight, Kids Needs, Literacy Center for Dyslexia, Englewood Helping Hands, St. David's Food Bank, St. Francis of Assisi Outreach, Military Heritage Museum, Lemon Bay Scholarships, The 2710 Elks Lodge, etc.). I find the efforts made and outcomes are just remarkable. I can't say it enough, THANK YOU members and volunteers, you are so appreciated.

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Wishing all the Elkette's and their families a wonderful Holiday Season.



Reminder of Elkette Events:

- Sip and paint now Sold Out Wednesday, December 3, 2025
- Jimmy Mazz –
 Saturday January 31,
 2026
- The Motowners Tribute band Saturday -February 21, 2026
- Chuckle Hut Saturday
 March 7, 2026
- Yard/Garage Sale –
 Saturday March 21,
 2026

Details of these events will be provided in Constant Contacts.

In closing the next meetings of the Elkette's:

- The Board of Directors Meeting December 9, 2025 at 3pm
- No General Meeting in December
- Reminder of the Elkette Holiday Lunch Social Wednesday December 17th, 12 noon-Lipinskis
- The Elkette's General Meeting, January 22, 2026 at 4pm
- The Ways & Means Committee will meet, January
 22, 2026 at 3pm

All meetings will be held at the Rotonda Elks Lodge 2710.

C. Susan Rupprecht, President







December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Queen of Hearts 50/50 Band: Viryl Revival	2 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Bango 1-3pm Elks BOD Meeting 6pm Lodge Meeting 7pm	3 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Show Me the Money 1-3pm Elkettes Sip & Paint Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Show Me the Money 6-7pm	4 Zumba Toning 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Stick Bingo 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Elk Races 5-7pm	5 Cardio Dance Fitness Class 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outdoor Bar Open 5-7 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Elkette BOD Meeting 3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Band: Panicmasters	6 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm
7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Memorial Service at 1pm Broasted Chicken 1-4pm Outside Bar Open 12-5pm	8 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Queen of Hearts 50/50 Band: Imaginistics	9 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Bango 1-3pm Elkette BOD Meeting 3pm	10 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Show Me the Money 1-3pm Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Show Me the Money 6-7pm	11 Zumba Toning 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Stick Bingo 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Elk Races 5-7pm	12 Cardio Dance Fitness Class 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outdoor Bar Open 5-7 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Elkette BOD Meeting 3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Band: Rockadials	13 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm
14 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Broasted Chicken 1-4pm Outside Bar Open 12-5pm	15 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Queen of Hearts 50/50 Band: Robert & Wolfie	16 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Veteran's Day Service Ilam Bango 1-3pm New Member Orientation 7pm	17 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Elkette Luncheon at Lipinski's at noon Show Me the Money 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Show Me the Money 67pm	18 Zumba Toning 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Stick Bingo 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Elk Races 5-7pm	19 Cardio Dance Fitness Class 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outdoor Bar Open 5-7 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Band: Music Box Duo	20 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm Rod Stewart Tribute Show Dinner at 5pm Show at 7pm
21 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Broasted Chicken 1-4pm Outside Bar Open 12-5pm	22 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Queen of Hearts 50/50 Band: RJ	23 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Bango 1-3pm	24 Christmas Eve Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Show Me the Money 1-3pm Exalted Ruler's Eggnog Party 4pm	25 Christmas Day Lodge is Closed	26 Cardio Dance Fitness Class 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outdoor Bar Open 5-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Dinner 4:30-7pm Band: Tat2	27 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm
28 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Broasted Chicken 1-4pm Outside Bar Open 12-5pm	29 Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-10pm Outside Bar Open 3-7pm 5 Card Lucky 1-3pm Queen of Hearts 50/50 Band:Tavo Tiki Tunes	30 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm Bango 1-3pm	31 New Year's Eve Zumba 9:30am \$7 Indoor Bar Hours 11am-7pm New Year's Eve Party Cocktails begin at 5pm Clearwater Band	1 New Year'a Day Lodge is Closed		

BOOSTERS 2025

A \$5 annual donation per person will help offset our website costs. Complete the form on this page of the Staghorn and submit it with payment to our secretary's office, and your name will be added to this list of appreciated Boosters. Asterisks by your name means it's time to renew. Thank you!

Avena, Robert A. (IMO) 4/26 Bishop, Steven & Christin'e 4/26 Bennett, Cynthia 10/26 Besase, Sam 6/26 Bielchler, Vivian (IMO) 8/26 Brown, Francie 8/26 Burner, Catherine (IMO) 8/26 Cormier, John & Anita 10/26 Demere, Leon & Angie 5/26 Fitzgerald, Brad & Sue 6/26 Gerace, Carl 9/25* Gerace, Cathy 9/25* Gerace, Tiffany 9/25* Gravatt, Robert & Darlene 4/26 Hale, Lee & Joy 6/26 Haskell, Bruce and Barbara 4/26 Hintz, Skip & Patty 3/26

Hoar, Diana 7/26 Horn, Dave & Chris 6/26 Humphreys, Bob & Jean 4/26 Hyatt, Lenny 6/26 Keller, Randy & Susan 5/26 Kepler, Pat & Norm 6/26 Kinnear, Russ & Mary 7/26 Lang, Thomas & Ellen 4/26 Little, David 4/26 Maines, Margaret & William 4/26 Marchert, Joe 3/26 McAtee, Tina & Daniel 4/26 McConnell, Kevin & Anne 4/26 Meyer, Meg 9/25* Nostrand, Julie & Peter 3/26 Olsen, Lynn & Tom 3/26 Petrulo, Steve (IMO) 6/26 Prescorla, David & Mary 4/26

Please update your Booster status, if asterik is by your name.



Rewis, Ken & Donna 9/26
Roye, Melissa & Gergory 4/26
Ruger, Dean 4/26
Rupprecht, Gary & Sue 8/26
Thompson, Art & Monica 7/26
Trethewey, Delores 5/26
Toth, Ed & Sherry 8/26
White, Paul 10/26

Sta	ıgho	rn E	Boos	ter	Form
(\$5	per	per	son,	per	year)

Please print name or names

Email:

\$5.00 per person (name) per year Enclosed:\$

Mail your donation to: Rotonda Elks #2710 303 Rotonda Blvd. E. Rotonda West, FL 33947

Or drop off form with payment to the Secretary's office.