

# Elks' Call Newsletter

HUNTSVILLE ELKS  
1648



Patrick D. Mickle

Exalted Ruler  
Elks Lodge #1648  
Huntsville, AL

## Exalted Ruler's Message

I hope everyone had a **Merry Christmas** and **Happy Hanukkah** with your family and friends. Please make sure that you are taking time for yourself and your family this time of year. It is the one time we know that most people will come home or visit.

On December 7, 2024, Elks Lodge #1648 held the annual Elks Memorial Day ceremony. This day is set aside for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) all across America to hold a program to honor those members who have passed before us. It is a day of remembrance that we, as Elks, hold very dear to our hearts. We honored five members during this most important and solemn ceremony. Later in the month, we also lost two additional members from our Lodge. We will miss our Elks brothers, but they will always live in our hearts. Rest well.

It's hard to believe that **2025 is here**. I want to take a moment to **thank our hard-working Lodge committees**. Our Lodge has gone through many changes this year. The **House Committee**, with John Worley at the helm, has worked to improve the lodge environment and bar offerings. The kitchen underwent a major makeover spearheaded by Russ Grimes. I don't know what we would have done without Russ Grimes, Stephen Grimes, Todd Lester, and Bob Gamble stepping up!

**Our Grants Committee** and **Veterans Committee** have worked tirelessly this year to ensure the North Alabama community is supported. The **Activities Committee** has hosted many new events and has more surprises planned for the new year. The **Membership Committee** is preparing more opportunities to showcase our Lodge by hosting Membership Drive Activities. The **Audit Committee** ensures that our Lodge is operating within the guidelines. Our Lodge cannot survive without these dedicated volunteers. In the new year, please ask how you can help make your Lodge an even better place. If we all help out, many great things can be achieved. I look forward to seeing what great things are in store for 2025!

January 2025



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*Patrick Mickle,  
Exalted Ruler*



# Dinner & Bingo at the Lodge with Tut Fann Veterans

December 9, 2024

Bingo Buddy's are needed January 13th

when the Veterans will come to the Lodge again. Please arrive at 5:00 pm.  
2nd Monday each Month



Thank you to Cathy Kulas  
for bringing dessert.

BINGO is for Everyone – Elks, please join in!!!

Elks...Last Month to sign-up if interested!  
Then we'll schedule a time that's good for everyone



1) Tour of Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home  
~10 minutes from the Lodge

2) Charlotte Robinson (Tut Fann Director) offered to speak  
to Elks Veterans & their spouses at the Lodge  
about little-known Veterans Benefits.

<https://form.jotform.com/232430647429154>

Contact Tracy: (713) 824-9086

3) Veteran Mentor Ray Zimmerman offered to speak to Elks about the  
Veterans Court Program.



Thank You for Donating Monthly to the...

Tut Fann Veterans Snack Basket  
Delivery is made in the last week of  
each month.



Jeffrey & Tracy Swayne  
Veterans Committee Co-Chairs

## Tut Fann Veterans Angel Tree

Thank You to all the Generous Elks that adopted 35 Veterans for the Angel Tree



A Huge Thank You to  
**Kathy Davis-Chesser...**

who organized all the Angel Tree gifts and made last-minute purchases from the  
Grant funds. Mike & Janice West then helped deliver all the gifts to Tut Fann.  
Veterans had an awesome Christmas!



Elks Angel Tree gifts were distributed to the Veterans at TUT Fann Veterans Home at their Christmas Party on December 20th. In the facility area pictured, Elks visited with four of the regulars that come to the Lodge for Bingo on the second Monday each month.

**Elks Volunteers at the party were Andy Ledbetter, Louis Tumminello, and Mike West.**

Mike West stated, "It was a great time to sit and talk to these women and men that served our country. I encourage everyone to consider volunteering for Bingo Buddy's and other Veterans events through the Lodge.

These Veterans appreciate our time more than any gift.

As I was leaving at 4:30pm "Taps" was being played throughout the inside and outside speakers. It was quite chilling to hear that, see all the Veterans and the American Flag flying out front.

**God Blessed America"**



On **December 7, 2024**, Elks Lodge #1648 held the annual **Elks Memorial Day ceremony**.

This day is set apart as a day for Elks to gather and freshen with the dew of recollection, the tender blossoms of hope and love entwined about the memory of their departed.

**Exalted Ruler Patrick Mickle** opened the ceremony and led the proceedings with all officers participating in the ritual. **Secretary Christy Johnson** read off each of the member's names as a tribute to each. **Treasure Janice West** offered the invocation and benediction prayers. ER Mickle also recited the "**Eleventh Hour Toast**."



## Elks Lodge #1648

### Departed Members

<b>Jimmie Musick</b>	<b>01/03/2024</b>
<b>George Ellzey</b>	<b>01/09/2024</b>
<b>Joe Lougheed</b>	<b>03/05/2024</b>
<b>Hap Beach</b>	<b>03/30/2024</b>
<b>Chuck Curry</b>	<b>05/21/2024</b>
<b>Walker McGinnis</b>	<b>12/11/2024</b>
<b>Billy Carlton</b>	<b>12/12/2024</b>



**Reminder-**  
**Regular Lodge Meetings- 1/14/2025 & 1/28/2025**  
**2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month**



**Be sure to attend the January 14 Regular Lodge Meeting**  
**when we will initiate our newest**  
**members to Elks Lodge #1648!**

**Committee Meetings 1/7/2025 & 1/21/2025**  
**House Committee Meeting @ 6:00 pm**  
**Membership Committee Meeting @ 6:30 pm**

When proposing a New Member,  
please ensure the Application is  
complete, signed, and includes  
the \$50 fee



**Alabama Elks Mid-Year State Conference**  
**Perdido Beach Resort-Orange Beach, Alabama**  
**January 16-19, 2025.**



### Lodge Contacts:

Lodge Phone Number: (256) 539-4093



Patrick Mickle: [ER.Elks1648@gmail.com](mailto:ER.Elks1648@gmail.com)

Kevin Butler: [MembershipElks1648@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipElks1648@gmail.com)

Christy Johnson: [Secretary.Elks1648@gmail.com](mailto:Secretary.Elks1648@gmail.com)

Newsletter Submissions: [Newsletter.Elks1648@gmail.com](mailto:Newsletter.Elks1648@gmail.com)



What is happening at the Lodge?  
Check us out on Facebook!

Public page: Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648 Alabama  
Members Only page: Elks Lodge 1648- Members Only



# Lodge Activities



# January 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			January 1 NEW YEARS DAY	January 2 Trivia @ 7:00 pm	January 3 STEAK NIGHT	January 4 LRC Tournament @ 5:30 pm
January 5 Bar Opens @ 2:00 pm	January 6 Bar Bingo @ 6:00 pm	January 7 House Committee Meeting @ 6:00 pm  Membership Meeting @ 6:30 pm	January 8 Texas Hold'em Poker @ 6:00 pm	January 9 Trivia @ 7:00 pm	January 10 STEAK NIGHT	January 11
January 12 Bar Opens @ 2:00 pm	January 13 Veteran's Buddy Bingo @ 5:00	January 14 Regular Board Meeting @ 6:00 pm  Regular Lodge Meeting @ 7:00 pm	January 15 Texas Hold'em Poker @ 6:00 pm	January 16 Trivia @ 7:00 pm	January 17 STEAK NIGHT	January 18
January 19 Bar Opens @ 2:00 pm	January 20 Bar Bingo @ 6:00 pm	January 21 House Committee Meeting @ 6:00 pm  Membership Meeting @ 6:30 pm	January 22 Texas Hold'em Poker @ 6:00 pm	January 23 Trivia @ 7:00 pm	January 24 STEAK NIGHT	January 25
January 26 Elks Sunday Brunch 11 am-2 pm  Packing Happi Clinic Diaper Bags 3:00 pm	January 27 Bar Bingo @ 6:00 pm	January 28 Regular Board Meeting @ 6:00 pm  Regular Lodge Meeting @ 7:00 pm	January 29 Texas Hold'em Poker @ 6:00 pm	January 30 Trivia @ 7:00 pm	January 31 STEAK NIGHT	



1/4/2025 @ 5:30 pm

LRC Tournament!

Grand prize winner will receive  
a \$500 cash prize. The buy-in  
for this tournament is \$15 cash.

Rebuys are available for \$10  
cash.

BBQ sandwich plates will be  
available for \$5.00 each.

**Reminder-**  
**Regular Lodge Meetings**  
**2nd & 4th Tuesday**



1/24/2025 @ 7:00 pm  
Line Dancing with Melissa!

Come learn a new line dance or  
two, then dance the night away.

Elks Lodge #1648 Officers 2024-2025



1/26/2025 11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Join us for Brunch on Sunday!

**HAPPI** Health

1/26/2025 3:00 pm  
Service Project:  
Packing Happi Clinic Baby  
Diaper Bags!

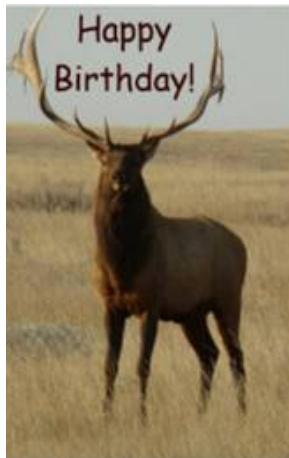
Exalted Ruler..... Patrick Mickle  
Leading Knight.... Stephen Grimes  
Loyal Knight..... Kevin Butler  
Lecturing Knight...Wesley Knowles  
Secretary..... Christy Johnson  
Treasurer..... Janice West

#### Trustees

1-Year .....Jan Abbott  
2-Year .....Todd Lester  
3-Year ..... Mary Cannon  
4-Year .... Louis Tumminello  
5-Year ..... Kathy Pierce

Chaplin ..... Sommer Woods  
Esquire..... Davis Smallwood  
Tiler..... Vacant  
Inner Guard .... Taylor VanKoughnett

## Elks Lodge #1648 January Birthdays



1/1	Greg Jennings James Schrimsher	1/11 Ashley Yates	1/23 Michael Bates William Frazier
1/2	William Borgos John Davis	1/14 Sean Ballard	1/25 Roger Davis David Little
1/5	Buzzy Byron Christina Skonieczny Roy Turner	1/15 Shaun Canter Owen Smith	1/26 Larry Woodruff Mark Pullen
1/6	Bradford Sterling	1/16 Andrew Ledbetter	1/27 Gregory Gray Vaughn Honeycutt
1/7	Lynn Benefield John Henriksen Barbara Tran	1/17 Cotton Demarcus	1/28 Gregory Barrett Kevin Butler
1/10	John Heath	1/19 John Meredith	Alan Little
		1/20 Darrell Jones Dana Wilbanks	1/29 Sally Anne Cos Tom Rathz



Come for Brunch on the 4th Sunday!  
January 26 11:00 am -2:00 pm

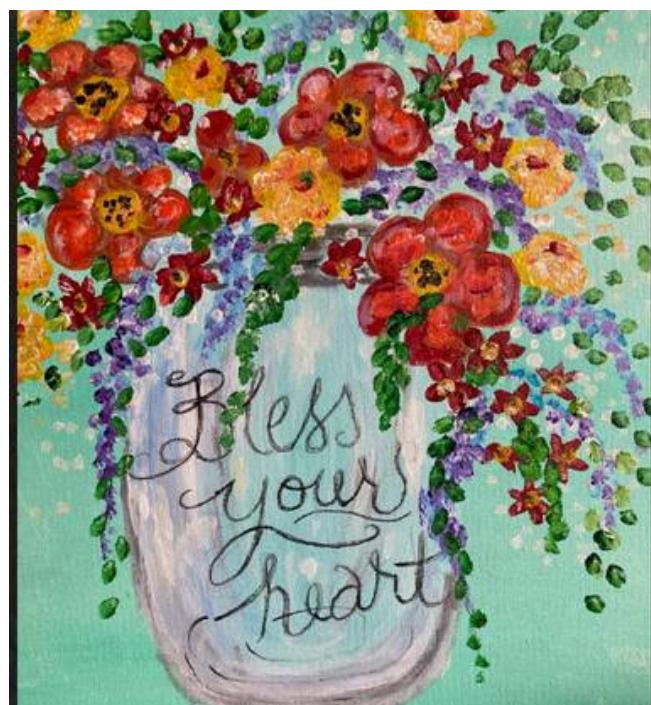


Make plans to join us to pack the  
Happi Clinic Baby Diaper Bags on  
@ 3:00 pm on  
Sunday, January 26, 2025.

**Wine & Paint Wednesday**  
**February 12th at 7pm.**

**Please use the following link to  
register.**

[https://elkslodge1648.ticketspice.com/  
wine-and-paint-with-connie-loughheed](https://elkslodge1648.ticketspice.com/wine-and-paint-with-connie-loughheed)



# Committee Updates



## Membership

### **Membership Committee**

Kevin Butler, Chair

Drenda King

Cathy Kulas

Jeffrey Swayne

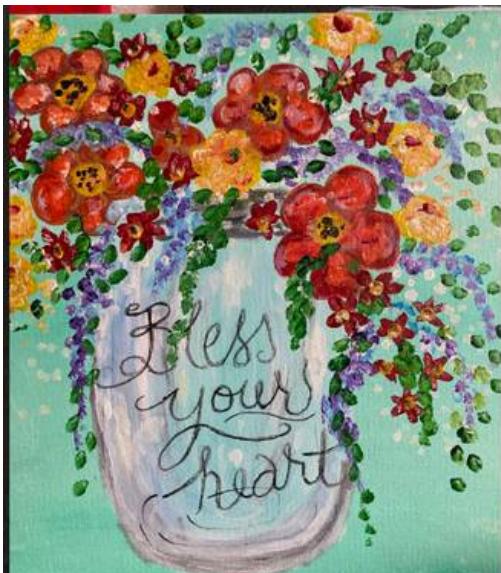


**Grants Committee: 2024-2025**  
Co-Chairs - Scott Stokes & Mike West;  
Jerry Skonieczny; Anna Skonieczny

Please consider donating to the  
[Elks National Foundation \(ENF\)](#)  
501(c)(3)



**Audit & Accounting Committee: 2024-2025**  
Chair - Kathy Davis-Chesser;  
Alan McClendon; Butch Buffaloe; Mike Wisner



### **House Committee (HC):**

John Worley- Chair

Pat Edwards; Pete Ferrell,

Russ Grimes, Todd Lester, Fran Morris

### Membership Committee

The **Membership Committee** hopes you all had a great Christmas! Please consider bringing a friend or two down to the Lodge for some of our social and/or charitable events.

We truly enjoy getting to know the new candidates.

Please make sure that the new applications are complete before they are placed in the Secretary's box. Keep sending them our way!



### **Activities Committee**

Melissa Ryman, Co-Chair

Kyle Rone, Co-Chair

Fran Morris

Kevin Butler

### Activities Committee

The **Activities Committee** has some cool stuff planned for the start of the year: LRC tournament, country line dancing, Sunday brunch, and a charity event for HAPPI.

Check the calendar and the Members-Only Facebook page for details.

### **Wine & Paint Wednesday February 12th @ 7:00 pm**

Please use the following link to register.  
<https://elkslodge1648.ticketspice.com/wine-and-paint-with-connie-lougeed>