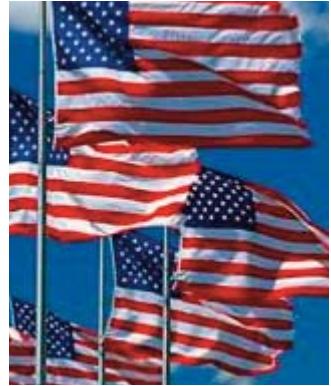




The ELKS Call



Vol. 37, No. 10

Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648

January, 2020

E.R.'s January Newsletter Message to the Membership

First and foremost I hope and pray that each and everyone of you have had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and that you are blessed and continue to be blessed through a successful and prosperous 2020. Speaking of the new year, it is a reminder that there are only three months left in this term and that election of officers will be coming up with nominations and elections happening soon. With that said, I will be running for Exalted Ruler again as there are many things which are not finished. It has been a year of ups and downs to be sure. Having the previous secretary resign and a new secretary who was brand new to the office has been difficult as we have worked to navigate the learning curve for both of us, myself being a new E.R. The resignation of the chairmen of the golf committee at about the time of the election and having to work to break in new chairmen was not as successful. However, I am in the process of working with a golf committee to look at a tournament toward the end of February or the middle of March to make up the income on the event. We are planning to have a drawdown perhaps in connection with a Mardi Gras event in February if the membership finds it something they want to participate in. There is also a first responder's event planned as well, which with the recent death of a Huntsville Police officer on a drug bust should remind us of how important the work that we as Elks do!

We have had successes as well. There have been some very good events like the luau, casino night, the Veterans Day event as a few examples. The conversion to Quickbooks has begun which has been long needed especially with the new financial reporting system required by Grand Lodge going into effect. I do not believe that we are where we need to be with that yet, but it is being worked on. I brought the issue of the parking lot to a vote which like the smoking/non smoking vote had not been brought to the lodge membership for a vote for years. The membership committee, due to the hard work of Pam Holden, is working hard to address the membership needs of the Lodge in a manner which is consistent with the Grand Lodge Statutes. Due to delinquencies in paying dues and purging the roles of members who were not paying dues we dipped under 500 members. We are now solidly above 500 members with a platform to grow on.

There are a few issues that I would like to address to the membership as well. There has been some talk which I have heard concerning officers of the lodge. The whole issue of rumors spreading through our organization is just a reality that I don't know that we can stop. Please remember that if you cannot talk to someone, do not talk about them. We have all heard of wagging tongues and itching ears, let us not be those individuals. When words are spoken to hurt or damage individuals or their families I find it distasteful to say the least, and it hurts our membership and our ability to gain new membership.

As most of you are aware, we have been put on probation and assigned a Special Representative, who is Dan Barger. I find Dan to be very cordial, and sincere in his desire to help our lodge get back on track. I am sure that many of you have questions concerning this Executive Order from Grand Lodge. I have been assured that Dan, who will be at our meetings, will be available to answer questions concerning his assignment with us. I hope to see you all at the meetings and participating in the Board of Director meetings as well as any other committee meeting you are interested in. Once again, this lodge belongs to the membership, and its officers who are your representatives need your participation in it.

Sincerely;
Charles Brown, ER, Huntsville Lodge 1648

Happy New Year!

House Committee

Taxes and bills against the club are paid. Inventory completed. Tut Fann vets dinner served 22 on December 5. Alabama Chapter 2 Rolling Thunder veterans held their annual Christmas dinner in the lodge on December 14. PER Buzzy Byrom won the Annual Turkey Of The Year at the Members Christmas party on December 14. The annual Adopt A Vet (Tut Fann State Veterans Home) provided many gifts to the vets at their Christmas party on December 20. The annual Wheelbarrow Raffle for our employee bonuses was held at the Employees Christmas party December 21. A great success. The golf game in the game room has been upgraded with new software. Belt in the dining room HVAC has been replaced. Thank you Dee Huber for the mints and chocolates at the bar. Thanks to those volunteers who made the club operations easier this past year. Please submit any ideas or suggestions to make the club better to the HC in writing or appear at a HC meeting which is the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Thank you all. Happy New Year!

Your House Committee:

Pat Edwards, Chairman
David Burkett
Billy Carlton
Billy Herndon
Cathy Kulas
Dusty Graham
Nicole Anderson

HOUSE RULES:

Club Operations:

Food Service B, Paragraph 2

No one is allowed access to the kitchen or the area behind the bar unless they are an employee, officer or member of the lodge whose duties require them to have access.



January Birthdays:

- 1 Greg Jennings
- 2 John P. Davis
- 4 Walker McGinnis
- 5 Jerry Byrom, Roy H. Turner
- 6 Anneliese M. Bonds, Duane Willis
- 7 John M. Henriksen, Barbara Tran
- 8 Dan Aldridge
- 9 Helen Grabney
- 10 John Heath
- 11 Lee Anne Madole, Donna M. Theriault
- 13 Jim Askins
- 15 Shaun Canter
- 16 Bill L. Nettles
- 17 Janice Schuckman
- 20 Suzanne G. Byrom, Walter B. Smith
- 22 Edward M. Limback, Tom Rathz, Cynthia Tippett
- 23 William Frazier
- 24 Patricia Ann Lamon
- 25 Roger T. Davis, Mark E. Pullen
- 26 Jerry L. Bredeson, Sherry Yarborough
- 27 Nancy L. Cunningham, Alan D. Peterson
- 28 Gregory R. Barrett, Lee Roy Cunningham
- 30 Gary C. Collins, William F. Porter, Beth Wright

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: kathylockridge@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.***

2019-2020 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler - Charles Brown

Esteemed Leading Knight - Michael Hepler

Esteemed Loyal Knight - Dusty Graham

Esteemed Lecturing Knight - Mike Davis

Secretary - Katherine Lockridge

Treasurer - Stan Cannon

Chaplain - Robert Richmond, PER

Esquire - Kim Oliver

Tiler - Gary Lunsford

Inner Guard - Randy Speegle

5 Year Trustee - Buzzy Byrom, PER

4 Year Trustee - Louis Tumminello, PER

3 Year Trustee - Mary Cannon

2 Year Trustee - Phillip Towry



**Join in the fun:
QUEEN OF HEARTS
FUNDRAISER
Every Friday Night**

JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 New Year's Day Open 11:30 Serving: Ham, Blackeyed Peas, Turnip Greens, Cornbread, Bloody Marys Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	2 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken Fried Steak</i> Little Civil War Roundtable	3 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 QUEEN OF HEARTS	4 Open 2:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
5 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	6 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	7 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed House Committee Meeting 5:30	8 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	9 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken Buffet</i> Civil War Roundtable	10 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 QUEEN OF HEARTS	11 Open 2:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
12 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	13 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO - 6:00 College Championship Game	14 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Lodge Meeting 7:00 Black Chair for John Bell	15 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	16 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Beef Tips</i> Tut Fann Vets	17 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 QUEEN OF HEARTS	18 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
19 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	20 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	21 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed House Committee Meeting 5:30	22 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	23 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Meat Loaf and Vegetables</i> Little Civil War Roundtable	24 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 QUEEN OF HEARTS	25 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
26 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	27 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	28 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Lodge Meeting 7:00	29 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	30 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Shrimp Boil</i> New Members Dinner	31 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 QUEEN OF HEARTS	

Membership News

***The Membership Committee will host a New Member Dinner
Thursday, January 30, 2020.***

We have welcomed 25 new members in the past six months.

***New members and spouses,
along with their sponsors, will receive mailed invitations
to attend the dinner within the next two weeks.***

Our next New Member Dinner will be held the last Thursday in June.



126 Creekwood Drive, Florence, AL 35630 • Phone: (256) 275-0242
Email: dbarger126@comcast.net

Dan D. Barger
Special Representative
B.P.O.E. Grand Lodge

December 18, 2019

Dear Members Huntsville Elks Lodge 1648:

My name is Dan Barger. Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman by Executive Order has expressed concerns and appointed me as Special Representative to the Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648. His Executive Order will be read on the floor by the Lodge Secretary at the January 14, 2020 meeting. Though the situation is serious, it is one that your lodge leadership and I will work to resolve with the least possible interference and disruption. Those primarily involved will include your Board of Directors, Lodge Secretary and Treasurer.

There are nearly 2000 Elks Lodges across the country and the Huntsville Elks Lodge is one of the premiere lodges among these. Huntsville has long been looked upon as a leader in Elkdom. So, when there is a problem or a perceived problem in Huntsville you draw the attention of our State Association and the Grand Lodge. It is in this light that I have been appointed as Grand Lodge Special Representative and asked to provide guidance to your Lodge and its leadership. While here in addition to guidance, I will be evaluating your operations, personnel and adherence to Grand Lodge policies and procedures. I am not an expert; however, I bring a great deal of experience to the table. I am an Elk of forty-four years, three-time Exalted Ruler in two lodges, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and I have served in every lodge office except chaplain. I will avail myself to the charge of ensuring the continued success of the Huntsville Lodge. I will not have all the answers to all of the questions that will arise, but I do have the resources and support to achieve this goal.

Within our organization the Grand Lodge has established a prescribed set of standards, policies and procedures. These are clearly defined in our constitution, statutes and by-laws. These are proven business practices that when followed protect the organization, its members' interest and those individuals charged with the execution of its financial and judicial affairs. They also ensure equity to all members. An Elks lodge adherence to these is not optional. In fact, this adherence is woven into the obligation of our initiatory ritual and the oath taken by every officer.

It appears your lodge has fallen short in adhering to these expectations. This is not to say that what was done was not done in the interest of the lodge. There have been no accusations of theft, defalcation or misappropriation of funds; however, failure to follow protocol could avail questionable transactions to such. During my work in Huntsville I will audit specific transactions in addition to reviewing routine lodge affairs, books and records. To accomplish this, I will rely heavily on the cooperation of lodge officers, trustees and members. This is not a hunting expedition. I, as I am sure you want to identify where any breakdown (if a breakdown) occurred and what can be done to prevent such discrepancy in the future.

I am in your lodge serving you at the request of the Grand Exalted Ruler. I will update you as appropriate and assure you the success of your lodge is of the utmost concern in this process. My email address is dbarger126@comcast.net and I welcome any comment or concern.

Fraternally,
Dan Barger
Special Representative