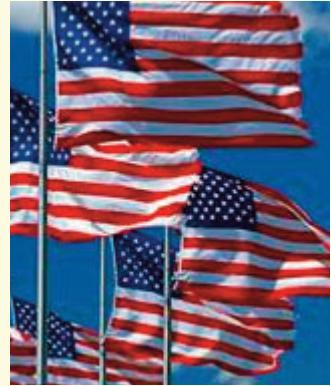




The ELKS Call



Vol. 40, No. 12

Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648

March, 2023



Exalted Ruler's Message

Spring is upon us this month if we can get winter to go away. It's been quite an incredible year for your Lodge. From all of the new events and activities to all of our so meaningful community service projects.

Your Lodge Nominations for 2023-2024 officers and five year trustee were unanimous and announced at the February 14th, 2023 meeting for the return of each position. This is followed by the announcement of the February 28th, 2023 election Lodge Meeting as I'm writing this just in advance of occurring.

I wish to thank every officer and trustee for your service. You have each volunteered your time to "The Service to Our Lodge's Membership." With that leadership position comes great responsibility and I encourage each of you to lead from the front working side by side in our community service projects as well as your Lodge activities.

I challenge every member to get involved in 2023-2024 inside and outside your Lodge as well. Committees are beginning to form as we speak and there has been such an influx of new and actionable members that I call on you all. If you're a new member and you wish to get involved, reach out to me. Likewise to our tenured members I recognize that you may have served for many years. However, your Lodge needs you to return to work alongside our new members to carry forth our traditions and to listen closely to the new ideas springing forth.

We are at a turning point in our history. I've been reading the history of Alabama Elks Lodges written by our own PER James Record. He speaks of another time when in the 1960's they paid off all of the debts. Then in the 1970's as our ranks grew to almost 1300 members. Leading from the front, I wish to continue to bring our Lodge back into full prosperity for our Lodge's Future. These steps upwards can only be reached by each and every member in our Lodge getting involved.

I'm speaking to each of you to pay your renewal dues today in support of your Lodge. I challenge you at home reading this and you've not been to your Lodge to come back and enjoy another evening here. But all of you know of one or two friends, coworkers and family that you could propose for membership. Your Lodge is looking for candidates for membership worthy of The Oath of The Elks, not just numbers.

With us all working together we can make your Lodge in "The Largest City in Alabama" the most preeminent place to be a member within our metro city area. Think right now who and call, text or email them to meet you at the Lodge and propose membership to them by their proper filing of an application, along with the prerequisite \$50.00 application fee to propose for membership.

In closing, I hope you'll be reaching out to me to be a part of your Lodge more over the next year. Don't be surprised if I walk up to you and hand you my contact information so that we may speak further. I appreciate your confidence in me and as I said before and let's shake some things up this year!

Until next time.

Fraternally Grateful, Mike A. West, Exalted Ruler Huntsville Elks Lodge #1648

House Committee

All bills and taxes are paid.

Your House Committee last met in session 2-20-23 with ER West presiding as temporary lead in the absence of its Chairman, Billy Herndon. The committee is currently reviewing the club costs and revenues to continue to provide the great meals and beverages to our members while maintaining appreciable cost levels. The smoke eater is up and running and other repairs and equipment needs are in discussion for submission to the BOD. In this meeting HC members honored our Chairman Herndon whose term of service officially ends 3-31-23. We honor his memory and service.

Your House Committee:

Greg Welzyn
Mary Cannon
Pat Edwards
Ed Limback
Peg Rathz
Tom Rathz
David Burkett (Honorary HC Member)



Happy Birthday

March Birthdays:

- 1 Stephen Simpson, John Wallace
- 2 Linda Bennett, Patrick Mickle, John Weatherly
- 3 Thomas Cash, Rodney Smith
- 4 Craig Brower
- 8 James Henley
- 9 Jan Abbott, Steve Casey, Owen Roberts
- 10 Tony Wright
- 11 Tom Hales, Bruce Niemeyer, Ken Williams
- 12 April Wiggins
- 13 William House, Gary Murfield, Dan Tweedy
- 14 Walter Porter
- 16 James Buchanan, Butch Perkins, William Sammons, Bud Steger
- 19 George Neal
- 20 Paula Fordham, Kirk Ritter, MB Spragins
- 21 Kathy Young
- 24 Stan Cannon, James Garner Jr., Kathy Henley, Barry Johnson
- 25 Stanley Rowe
- 27 Bob Crook, Mark Hooper
- 28 Kelly Stinson, Lillian Strickland
- 30 Harvey Rex McCrary
- 31 Byrom O. Goodwin, Ashley Lorino

Grant Committee 2022-2023

Grant Committee:

- Christy Johnson
- Scott (Barbara) Stokes
- Jerry (Anna) Skonieczny
- Cathy Kulas

*If anyone would like to help participate in the 2022-2023 grants this year, please email the Elks Lodge Secretary, Nicole Anderson at nicole-anderson@comcast.net



Secretary's Corner

Dues for fiscal year 2022-2023 are \$113.00 through 31MAR2022! If you have not paid your dues for this current year please do so or you will become "INACTIVE". There are 40 members who have not paid.

Dues for fiscal year 2023-2024 are \$118.00. Please read your invoice carefully. If you want a card for your spouse, please add another \$5.00 to your check and note it on your payment. Also, we are grateful for ENF donations as well.

Club access cards and replacement cards are \$5.00 each.

We have 40 delinquent members. Please remember that only members current on their dues may enter the building and they cannot sign in "delinquent" members as guests.

Payments can be made when you come in. Please put your payment in the Secretary's Box on wall to the left of double glass doors or you can pay online at

<https://search.revopay.com/elkslodge>

Membership Applications: Members, if you plan to propose someone for membership, please fill out the application in its entirety and include the fee. Many of these apps are coming to the Membership Team not properly filled out and/or no payment. Let's help them run things much more smoothly so we can get them initiated soonest.

Secretary hours are on Tuesdays and some Wednesdays from 5pm-7pm at the Elks Lodge and always by email at nicole-anderson@comcast.net

Nicole ❤

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Please contact Sally Culver for any sickness and distress.
Email sallyculver@bellsouth.net
Phone 256-508-2834.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee meets on the first Tuesday of every month.

The Elks Membership Committee conducts interviews and orientation on the first Tuesday of every month. We especially enjoy it when current Elks attend the meetings as they are instrumental in helping the applicants understand our cardinal principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity. And since the strength of our Lodge depends on our members, please consider proposing a friend for membership the next time you stop in.

Thank You,

- Drenda King
- Julie Schenck-Brown
- Kevin Butler
- Cathy Kulas
- Lorren Bailey

Audit and Financing Committee 2022-2023

- Kathy Chesser
- Alan McClendon
- Nancy Stuart

MARCH 2023

Please remember it is your responsibility to help keep our lodge healthy!
Please wash your hands often and if you feel unwell, please stay home.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Texas Holdem! 6:30 p.m. 	2 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia 7:00 p.m. (Every Thursday)	3 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m.	4 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Serving Hot Dogs and Pizza
5 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed	6 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open House Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m. BAR BINGO 6:00 p.m.	7 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Membership Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.	8 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Texas Holdem! 6:30 p.m. 	9 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia 7:00 p.m. (Every Thursday)	10 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m.	11 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Serving Hot Dogs and Pizza
12 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed	13 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open BAR BINGO 6:00 p.m.	14 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Lodge Meeting 7:00 p.m.	15 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Texas Holdem! 6:30 p.m. 	16 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia 7:00 p.m. (Every Thursday)	17 St. Patrick's Day Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m.	18 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Serving Hot Dogs and Pizza
19 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed	20 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open House Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m. BAR BINGO 6:00 p.m.	21 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed No Meetings	22 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Texas Holdem! 6:30 p.m. 	23 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia 7:00 p.m. (Every Thursday)	24 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m.	25 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Serving Hot Dogs and Pizza
26 Open 2:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed	27 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open BAR BINGO 6:00 p.m.	28 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Closed Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Lodge Meeting 7:00 p.m.	29	30 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia 7:00 p.m. (Every Thursday)	31 Open 4:00 p.m. Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 p.m.	

MARCH SPECIAL EVENT

St. Patrick's Day Party with DJ!

Elks Lodge Officers 2022-2023

Exalted Ruler: Mike West
Leading Knight: Kathy Pierce
Loyal Knight: Scott Stokes
Lecturing Knight: Julie Schenck-Brown
Secretary: Nicole Anderson

Treasurer: Janice West
5 Year Trustee: Mary Cannon
4 Year Trustee: Phillip Towry
3 Year Trustee: Jan Abbott
2 Year Trustee: Jay Lockridge

1 Year Trustee: Louis Tumminello
Chaplain: Sally Culver
Esquire: Peggy Rathz
Tiler: Kevin Butler
Inner Guard: Tom Rathz



Please welcome our newest members

Left to right top row: Andrew Ledbetter, John Vankampen, Jeff Swayne, Mike Izzo

Left to right bottom row: David Jones, Jennifer Sickels, Tom Pluth

MARDI GRAS



Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table Schedule

General Meetings

(2nd Thursday of each month 6:30-8:00pm)

- March 9: Stopping Hood - The US Navy in the Tennessee Campaign (Greg Biggs)
- April 13: "I Will Pay the Sum" - Reflections of Robert E. Lee (Mark Vogl)
- May 11: Behind the Rifle - Women Soldiers in Mississippi (Shelby Harriel)
- June 8: Nashville & Decatur Railroad (Walter Green)
- July 13: Black Confederates (Teresa Roane)
- August 10: Hampton Roads - Civil War Naval Operations (John Quarstein)
- September 14: Lee & Grant (Curt Fields and Thomas Jessee)
- October 12: Fort Pickens vs. Fort Sumter (Michael Acosta)
- November 9: The Sultana Disaster (John Fogleman)
- December: No Meeting



Little War Round Table Schedule

(4th Thursday of each month 6:30-8:00pm)

- March 23: Antietam, Part 1
- April 27: Antietam, Part 2
- May 25: Antietam, Part 3
- June 22: Antietam, Part 4
- July 27: TBD
- August 24: TBD
- September 28: TBD
- October 26: TBD
- November: No Meeting
- December 14: TBD



The Bulletin Board

Only caps that screw on will be accepted from now on.

No flat plastic lids or caps that DO NOT screw on.
Holy Family extends their deepest appreciation for Elks Lodge 1648 contributions to their cap collection.

Mike Kessler
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler
mwkessler53@charter.net