



The ELKS Call



Vol. 37, No. 4

Huntsville Elks Lodge No. 1648

July, 2019

Message from the ER

There are many things that an individual learns from becoming the Exalted Ruler, and even more things when there are so many changes that occur during the first 90 days of the term. There have also been a lot of changes at a state and Grand Lodge level as well. There is a restructuring of how our accounting is being done as we are transitioning to QuickBooks. I will admit that it is taking some time, however there is really good progress being made in a lot of areas. The Audit and Accounting committee is a primary focus as is the Grant Committee, and the House Committee is being revisited to ensure that both the lodge and the house side are functioning as efficiently as possible with better efficiency as the year progresses.

As I hear from you as members and officers, I am listening and taking notes on what your thoughts and ideas are. It can be difficult at times to maintain a balance between what everyone thinks, wants, and think they want, and harmony throughout the membership and organization. I will state this, everything works much better with an engaged and participating membership. As members I encourage you to come to the meetings, participate in the committees that are doing such wonderful work in our community. How many times it is said that we need to get our new members engaged and involved, which is true, we most certainly do. We also need our current membership to become more of an active membership as well. I understand that there are those of you who have been working in this lodge for years and some of you are burned out and tired. You can provide invaluable insight and instruction for those who are stepping up to fill the many roles that we have. I am simply making the call to our wonderful membership to come together, come to the meetings, participate, work together so that we can accomplish the goals that we need to accomplish.

Membership is an issue which we need to get a grasp of. There are different reasons as to why each of us joined the Elks. One significant reason is that members come here and have fun. The truth here is that we must now define "fun". For some fun is coming down on a daily basis in the afternoon having a few cocktails, perhaps something to eat, conversation with our friends and then go home. For others fun is going to a luau or a rock and roll reunion. Still for others it is Friday night with its activities or the other entertainment which is currently available, or even playing cards on Wednesday night. There have been quite a few members who tell me that they joined after having come to an event because they enjoyed the event so much. Is it possible that some of the loss of membership due to non payment of dues is in part attributed to the fact that we do not have as many events as we used to have? The luau we just had was a fantastic event where everyone had fun - members and guests. I think that in part we need to be working on more events like the luau once a quarter and smaller events perhaps once a month. There is also research being done on making our by laws, rules of order, and house rules better.

There are several upcoming events like the Harvest youth house drug awareness program on the 26th of this month and the golf tournament in September. I have inquired about the possibility of an Oktoberfest celebration. There are several who are really excited about having a roaring 20's or speakeasy event combined with a casino night. We are working to provide you the membership with new and different events.

The Grand Lodge session this year was very interesting and I think there are several things that we can take away from the most recent session. I would like to address what I have taken away from this most recent session and I am including the resolutions and the voting results on page two.

There is now a pathway for two or more State Associations to merge and the procedures for that merger. My opinion is that while there are gains in membership for the first time in 39 years and we saw a gain of 7 members in the State of Alabama, the majority of the moderate gains were in regional areas and not across the board in every state.

The push to require ritual to be performed on the District Deputies visit failed, but it will not keep failing over time. There are many in Grand Lodge who are ritualists and I see this as a yearly push which will eventually end in success. Therefore I am forming a ritual committee with Bob Richmond as the chairman and we will develop an award for the most improved ritualist of the year. There will be other rewards, however this is a start to what I see coming down the road and it will begin to address our ritual needs.

The resolution for a reduced membership fee for married couples in the same household failed. I think that there are other lodges with much higher dues who are in favor of this. Personally I am not. You are either a member with voting rights paying dues or you are a spouse member who is still involved but not able to be an officer or have voting rights. It is not fair to those members who pay full dues to have those right to have another member who receives the same rights for a reduced dues fee.

The resolution allowing the addition of Secretaries and Treasurers to be added to the Board of Directors failed.

The next two basically state that a member suspended from club privileges is still a member in good standing and can attend lodge meetings and functions, but not club and social functions. While any member who has their membership suspended in any way is defined as an unaffiliated Elk.

Membership marketing is now a responsibility of the public relations and membership marketing committee.

There is a requirement for lodges to have two monthly meetings the months of February, March, and April. We are already required under our bylaws to comply with this.

The allowance of district deputies to be appointed to a district outside of their home district failed.

We will now be doing financial reporting electronically once a month. Which is why the transition to QuickBooks is being expedited. The trade off here is that we no longer have to produce an annual report to Grand Lodge the cost of which is more than the projected \$165.00 per year cost of the reporting platform. Overall I think this is a good thing it will allow for oversight by the District Deputies and Special Representatives from Grand Lodge but not be a tool that is connected directly to the Grand Lodge.

Finally Board of Director positions are provided for in the for profit corporation.

I look forward to seeing you at our July 23rd Meeting as we will be discussing and voting on the acquisition and implementation of QuickBooks

Sincerely - Charles Brown E.R.

7/2/2019 10:14

Elks Care - Elks Share



Lee Ann Madole
James Thompson
ER Brown

House Committee

Bills and taxes against the club are paid. The Tut Fann vets dinner for July will be rescheduled due to staff shortage. The club budget has been completed and submitted to the lodge. Club inventory was completed on June 1. Leaks in kitchen and lodge side ladies room repaired. Air filters in lodge have been cleaned. The annual Luau was held on June 22 and a great success. Thanks to member Ed Hopper for managing this event. His team of ER Charles Brown, Loyal Knight Dusty Graham and others grilled a hog that required over 12 hours. Special thanks to those members who donated side dishes. The HC also wishes to thank those members who bring in pot luck dishes on Sundays. Pick up of the BBQ butts for the annual lodge fund raiser is July 3 at 5:30 at the north door. Thanks to those members who help the club staff with club operations. Please submit any ideas to better the club in writing or appear at a HC meeting which are the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30. Thank you all.

Your House Committee:

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

HOUSE RULES:

Club Operations:

A. Hours of Operation:

(3) The Club Manager will have at the House Committee's discretion the authority to extend the hours of operation when sufficient members are present or to close the club operation at 9PM if insufficient members are present to warrant regular hours of operation.

SECRETARY'S CORNER

I have several people I want to recognize. Sally Ann Culver who volunteered to help Pam Holden on the Membership Committee. Betty Malone who writes our Thank you notes and Condolences. Janice West who has volunteered to write the birthdays on the board each month. Mary Cannon who works many hours on our year end Forms and Budget for next year. Thank you ladies! The Budget will be voted on July 23rd at the regular session meeting. Remember we only have one meeting in July on the 23rd and one meeting in August on the 27th. We have three new member applicants and one reinstatement. The names will be read on the floor July 23 and voting will be August 27th. The quarterly ER Birthday dinner is July 24th. Please get your reservations in so we can have an accurate head count. Thanks to all our Monday night Bar Bingo callers. If y'all want laughs along with your chance to win "Elks Bucks" JuLee Couch and Sally Ann Culver deliver!! Have a Happy and Safe Fourth!!



SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:
Pam Tumminello passed June 19
Wayne Tucker passed June 21



Green Team at Highlands delivered planter and filled with soil.

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.*

Mailboxes Installed at Highlands Elementary



Left to right: Chuck Seals, Jack Rogers and assistant principal.



Chuck Deal, Jack Rogers who built boxes and Tom Ratz.



July Birthdays:

- 1 Kenneth Mitchem
- 2 Lee Eslick
- 3 Sally Ann Culver
- 4 Bobby D. Grubbs, Dorsey Uptain
- 5 Jennifer Parks
- 7 Harold A. Newlander
- 8 Katherine Thornton Lockridge
- 9 Chad E. Hartley, Rodney Reyna
- 11 Margaret Jean Clark, Steve Yearick
- 12 William L. McClure, Barry Mooror
- 13 Charlotte Bailes, Kay Masley, Lisa Smith
- 14 Charles Crute, Phillip P. Towry
- 17 Robert E. Deneefe III, Adam Pearsall
- 20 Julie A. Brakefield, William H. Johnston, Greg Welch
- 21 Michael W. Deegan, Tim Fowler
- 22 Shaun Gonzales
- 23 Randall D. Speegle
- 25 George A. Bailey III, Claud Burton Honeycutt Jr.,
Kurt Lineback, Joe G. Loughheed, George M. Mahoney Jr.
- 27 Ronald Becker, Robert N. Yarbrough Jr.
- 29 Jack R. Bean, William "Fraser" Sparkman
- 30 William Dwayne Beckham, Todd L. Lester
- 31 Randy Bafford



"Thank you to everyone who helped
get a National Membership increase.
We stayed the course and believed in
the plan. Let's keep growing."
-Rick Gathen

GL MEMBERSHIP MARKETING MANAGER

LET'S KEEP GROWING!

Dear Alabama Elks -

Congratulations! Our state finished the 2018-2019 Elk year
with a total of 5,648 members, which is a total of PLUS SEVEN
over 2017-2018.

Nationally, the BPOE has had its first increase in membership
since 1979!!!

Thank you all for your hard work in initiating new members, re-
instating former members, and working on delinquencies.

Thanks again, and congratulations!

Mickey

JULY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	2 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed House Committee Meeting 5:30	3 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed	5 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Steak, Catfish, or Shrimp</i> QUEEN OF HEARTS	6 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
7 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	8 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	9 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed	10 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	11 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Chicken Buffet</i> Civil War Roundtable 6:30	12 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Steak, Catfish, or Shrimp</i> QUEEN OF HEARTS Guitar John in the Lounge 7:00-11:00	13 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
14 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	15 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	16 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed House Committee Meeting 5:30	17 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30	18 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Beef Tips and Noodles</i> Tut Fann Vets for Dinner	19 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Steak, Catfish, or Shrimp</i> QUEEN OF HEARTS	20 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
21 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	22 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	23 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 LODGE MEETING 7:00 p.m.	24 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 ER Birthday Dinner 6:00 p.m. Texas Holdem 6:30	25 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Shrimp Boil</i> Civil War Roundtable 6:30	26 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 <i>Steak, Catfish, or Shrimp</i> QUEEN OF HEARTS	27 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00
28 Open 2:00 Kitchen CLOSED BINGO 4:30	29 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-8:00 BAR BINGO 6:00	30 Open 3:00 Kitchen Closed	31 Open 3:00 Kitchen Open 5:00-9:00 Texas Holdem 6:30			

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24th, 6:00 P.M.

ER BIRTHDAY DINNER FOR MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN MAY, JUNE, and JULY

Honored Member's birthday dinner will be compliments of the Lodge. Guests are invited to attend at the cost of \$12 per person.

Menu of steak (cooked to order) or chicken, salad, wine and birthday cake. Sign up forms are at the bar or in the entry way on the bulletin board.

HONORED GUEST _____ STEAK OR CHICKEN

GUEST _____ STEAK OR CHICKEN

GUEST _____ STEAK OR CHICKEN