



Ocala Elks Lodge 286

Chartered July 11, 1895

Charity ♦ Justice ♦ Brotherly Love ♦ Fidelity



Volume 23

June 2024

Issue 6

Florida State Elks Association 2024 Convention

The state convention was held again this year at the Rosen Centre in Orlando, Florida. Elk members from all over the state attended the annual event. The convention is a great place to meet members from other lodges, learn more about Grand Lodge and State Association programs, purchase Elk-related merchandise and attend the Major Projects luncheon. During this luncheon on Saturday, the scholarship, first responder, soccer shoot, hoop shot, essay winners, poster winners, ritual winners and other dignitaries are introduced.

The opening ceremony on Friday afternoon starts with the parade of lodges. The Exalted Rulers (or other lodge representatives) are encouraged to wear an outfit or carry props that represent their area or lodge. Our Exalted Ruler, David Clayton, represented Ocala by crossing the stage in a horse costume.

Another element of the convention is the announcement of lodge contest winners. Ocala lodge received three awards: First Place Orientation (there were 9 perfect scores), First Place Lodge Bulletin, and First Place Harry Anna Trust per-capita giving for our division, \$42.13 per member.

The new state officers and new committee chairmen are also formally elected or appointed. The North Central District is proud to have Russ Smith, from South Lake Lodge, serving as the State President for the 2024-25 term. Russ is pictured below with his wife, District Deputy Denise. Ocala is also proud of David Clayton, as he is now serving as the State Vice Chairman for Membership, a three-year commitment.



Picture below are members of Ocala Lodge at the closing luncheon on Saturday.



From The Exalted Ruler



Greetings, my fellow Elks,

As we transition into the vibrant month of June, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the continued engagement and support from each one of you. Your active participation in our recent events has been nothing short of inspiring, and it's this very spirit that strengthens the bonds of our community.

Reflecting on the past month, our Kentucky Derby Day and The Preakness Day were successes, filled with excitement, laughter, and the camaraderie that defines us. The Mother's Day Breakfast was a heartwarming occasion where we gathered to honor the incredible women in our lives, sharing stories and creating

lasting memories.

I recently attended the Florida State Elks Convention, and for those who couldn't join us, you were greatly missed! And yes, I did dress like a horse and proudly represented our lodge during the traditional roll call of officers, where ERs are encouraged to dress following a theme that represents their local area.

During the convention, Florida State Elks Association President Russ Smith unveiled his inspiring motto: "Exemplifying Elkdom." President Smith emphasized that Elks are leaders in their local communities, and every day, every Florida Elks member has a duty to exemplify what we are all about.

According to President Smith, "All of the good works and deeds that Florida Elks do, day in and day out, 'Exemplify Elkdom' in each community, and we should celebrate those accomplishments." He also highlighted that his motto is a call to action. "As Florida Elks, we need to be visible, remember our obligation, and act accordingly—both in our local lodges and our communities. By doing so, we inspire those around us, attract new members, get our message out, raise funds for our projects, work in unison, and be benevolent effectively. If we, as Florida Elks, can live each day 'Exemplifying Elkdom,' our lodges and communities will be better suited to complete any objective."

Looking forward to June, our calendar is brimming with activities designed to engage, entertain, and bring us closer together. I am particularly excited about the Belmont Stakes on June 8th, the Flag Day Ceremony on June 12th at 5:30 pm, the Paint Party on June 15th, the Father's Day Breakfast on June 16th, and the OLEO Talent Show on June 22nd, which promise to be wonderful opportunities for fellowship and fun.

Cheers,
David Clayton
Exalted Ruler DavidElk286@gmail.com



VETERANS

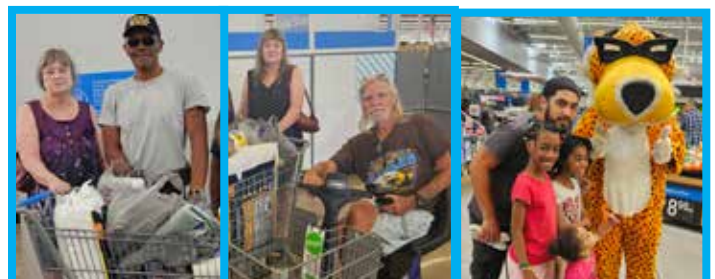


The shopping trips started with Ernesto R. (Army). His most wanted item was a nice combination toaster oven and air fryer. Along with the usual items. Then on the same day we took Albert P. (Army). They both needed basically similar items.

Efren R. (Marine) had his wife and 3 girls join us for shopping. They all were delightful. The girls had a treat of seeing Chester Cheetah and receive snacks.

Also one of our Elks provided Efren with a pair of new work boots. All the items were deeply appreciated.

Tyrone R. (Army) is mute, but that didn't hinder us in the least. He was a pleasure to shop with and I'm including his texted message I received after our trip because it moved us to tears and touch mine and





Karen's hearts. We wished we had given him a hug. "Thank you for being so nice to me. I am not used to receiving that much kindness. I was a little in shock. It really was a nice surprise. I was trying not to cry in your presence. Excuse me if I seemed a little stand-offish. You

took me by surprise!!! am very grateful for your help... very grateful!!! You are doing a good thing! I hope that you keep it up. Again thank you very much!"

Gary S. (Army) had a Red, White and Blue cowboy hat on and was fun to shop with, as are most of these Veterans. Cleaning items were high on his list. Bryan H.(Navy) along with the usual items he wanted more in the way of hygiene products. Last, but certainly not least was Joseph R. (Air Force). He was a very pleasant young man that the outstanding remembrance of his trip was he found a plant in the clearance items that he wanted and named "Elk" so he would remember what the Elks did for him.

May was a rewarding month in a lot of ways for helping and honoring the Veterans we serve.

Remember the Elk's Pledge, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."



Pam Kinard - Veterans Service Chairperson

FLORIDA ELKS CHILDREN THERAPY SERVICES



Lucca is a sweet and active 3 year old little boy. He was diagnosed with a rare genetic mutation of CACNA1S gene when he was 2 years old. This rare gene mutation causes progressive muscle weakness, developmental delays, and sometimes epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. Not much else is known due to its rarity. In Lucca's case, he demonstrates inconsistent performance with balance and coordination tasks, and

muscle fatigue. He also has speech and language difficulties and is receiving speech therapy. He is a happy little guy and loves swimming and playing with his big brother and sister and loves all things spider man! In the picture shown he is working to improve strength and stability while swinging on a bolster swing!



Samantha Yox, PT, DPT
Physical Therapist

Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services

m: (352) 257-9670

f: (352) 247-4822

w: floridaelks.org/children

e: samantha@floridaelkscts.org



ENF GRANTS

Ocala Elks Serve at Interfaith Emergency Services

On Wednesday, May 15th, a group of Ocala Elks visited Interfaith Emergency Services to serve a hot meal to individuals at the shelter. Our lodge has been committed to feeding women and children at the shelter during every odd-numbered month.

Interfaith Emergency Services provides essential needs such as food, clothing, shelter, medications, hygiene items, and more to improve the quality of life and alleviate the burdens for those in financial distress. Their clients include the homeless, elderly, veterans, disabled, underprivileged children, and the working poor. Through their outreach and services, Interfaith assists approximately 30,000 people in Marion County.



If you are interested in volunteering for any of our grant-sponsored projects this year, please contact our Lodge grant's coordinators Keith Gage or George Griffin III -PER. Volunteering is always enjoyable and a wonderful way to connect with fellow Ocala Elks members.



HARRY ANNA TRUST

This year's bar has been set high with State President Russ Smith setting his goal for Harry Anna Trust donations at \$1,000,000. I know that sounds like a lot, but it really is achievable. Last year's goal was \$750,000. and the lodges in the state exceeded that by over \$134,000. The seven lodges in North Central District collectively raised \$111,208.39 lead by South Lake Lodge with \$27,076.00 and Ocala Lodge with \$25,830.15

Our Sporting Clays Fundraiser for this year is on October 5th. This event is our major fundraising event for Harry Anna. We have a goal to double our donation from last year. We need your help: we're looking for volunteers to help identify sponsors, help recruit teams to participate, sell our raffle tickets, and acquire items for the silent auction held during the event. On the day of the event, volunteers will be needed for the refreshment cart, tickets sales of the 50/50 raffle and the silent auction.



Becoming a sustaining donor for Harry Anna Trust and the Elks National Foundation is one of the easiest ways to help ensure that the Ocala Lodge meets its goals for the year. There was an increase of 21% in sustaining donors statewide in 2023-2024. The links to the related websites are to the right. Please take a minute and sign up. Don't forget to select Ocala Lodge 286 as your lodge.



THIS MONTH'S COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Hoop Shoot - The committee shall guide, promote and encourage a Hoop Shoot Contest by your lodge. Provide assistance in conducting a State Contest as well as assist in every way possible with the National Hoop Shoot effort as needed.

Lodge Activities - Assist in the promotion of and participation in all programs sponsored by the Grand Lodge Committee on Lodge Activities. Examples of the Grand Lodge program include Golden Antler Achievement Awards and Contests for: Lodge Bulletin, National Foundation per capita contributions, Membership Gain, Flag Day, Memorial Day, and more.

Public Relations - Promote intelligent publicity of the lodge activities. Assist the Editor of the Florida Elks News and GL National Magazine in gathering material for said publication by gathering and submitting newsworthy information from the Lodge.

Drug Awareness - Install, implement, and monitor the Grand Lodge program; promote the awareness of the Grand Lodge programs with schools, parent groups with parallel programs. The Chair shall pro-actively contact the Lodge to ensure they have the appropriate materials.

OLEO



Welcome to June. There are so many ways to enjoy this month. The main things are D Day on the 6th and Father's Day on the 16th. Actually, June is the Great Outdoors month. There are many reasons to get outside and play in the sun. Holidays such as Flip Flop Day, Iced Tea Day, Go Fishing Day, Sea Shell Day and Picnic Day. So, get out and have



some fun. And you know Florida, if it's raining, wait 5 minutes and the sun will be back out.

Some of you may not realize it, but the OLEOs have a trailer which is full of decorations which are used in the dining room, lodge room and the lounge for all the events and seasons. Somehow it got overloaded and very unorganized. So, 14 of our OLEO ladies spent a Monday cleaning out and reorganizing. What a difference! See attached pictures. We have a wonderful group that I can always count on to step up and help. Thanks to all that gave their time to help.



We are always looking for new members. If you are interested and have any questions, please contact Carole Knight, Membership Chairman at 352-875-7100 or you can reach me at 352-895-3042.

The June luncheon will be at Milano's Italian Grill located in Heathbrook Commons on Hwy. 200 on Wednesday, the 19th. Please let Carole Knight know if you are attending no later than Tuesday morning the 18th. Time will be 11:30 am-noon. Visitors welcome.

Our June birthdays are: Dianne Watson (5th), Gail DeVilling (12th), and Boosters: David Morrill (10th), Mike Miller (13th), and Jack Mattheus (28th).

No meeting this month.

Sincerely,
Sandra Harton, President



June 8th

At Ocala
Lodge 286

Doors open at 4:00PM
Post Time
FOX Sports 6:41PM



FLAG DAY

Ceremony
Wednesday,
JUNE 12 @ 5:30

Lounge opens
after the ceremony

Fab Flamingo

PAINT PARTY
SATURDAY JUNE 15 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

\$35
11x14 Canvas

LOCATION

702 NE 25th Ave, Ocala, FL 34470

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT \$5 OFF IF SIGNED UP BY JUNE 5TH
REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 12TH

HOST: Vickie Perea-Tenorio
ICreSsRt@gmail.com
352.598.0513
Facebook.com/divinedesigns.com

FACEBOOK PAYPAL

SIGN UP HERE

Happy
Father's Day

FATHER'S DAY Breakfast

JUNE 16, 2024 9am-1pm
\$15 adult \$8 kids 6-15
5 & under Free

FULL BREAKFAST BUFFET

OMELET STATION Made your way
COFFEE TEA ORANGE JUICE
Mimosa or Bloody Mary
\$5 each

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE LODGE & IN THE STATE



EVER DREAM OF BEING AN ENTERTAINER!

(You don't need a lot of talent, just the willingness to put yourself out there for our kids and Veterans)

YOU CAN DANCE, SING, TELL JOKES

LIP SYNC YOUR FAVORITE SONG

OR PUT TOGETHER A SKIT

WE NEED YOU FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT ADELLA @ 727-542-7114 or LINDA CRAWFORD @ 352-694-5210

NOT INTERESTED IN ENTERTAINING, PURCHASE A TICKET AND ENJOY THE SHOW!

Date: Saturday, June 22, 2024

Doors open 7:15, Show 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$20.00 each

Dinner will be available in the Dining room prior to the show

(Dinner not included in the cost of ticket.)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OLEO!



LUAU
AND **JUNE**
Birthday
BASH

Saturday
JUNE 29th
6-9 pm

CAKE and
ICE CREAM

JULY 13TH

OCALA ELKS#286
JOHN DIXON BAND 129th
Lodge Birthday
and
JULY Birthdays
WESTERN NIGHT

"286" 10 oz NY Strip Steak
OR
Fried Haddock
Baked Potato. Green Beans
Salad . Roll
Tea or Coffee
Cake & Ice Cream

Tickets \$29.99 includes Tax
Purchase your ticket by JULY 1st
Dinner: 5-7PM
Entertainment: 6-9PM

FUNDRAISER
for
ENTERTAINMENT
ROARING 20'S MURDER:
DEATH BY BATHTUB GUN

Location: ELKS Lodge "Speakeasy"

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER
\$40.00
Date: Saturday, JULY 20th
Time: 5:30 pm

Dinner:
Spaghetti, Garlic Bread & Salad
BIRTHDAY CAKE

YOUR LODGE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ELECTED LODGE OFFICERS



Exalted Ruler
David Clayton
404-409-9785
davidelk286@gmail.com



Leading Knight
Michael Saxe
516-732-5867
msaxe01@gmail.com



Loyal Knight
Keith Gage
352-673-0957
Kgage1@juno.com



Lecturing Knight
Pat Gilbert
352-355-0533
gilbertp1@cox.net



Secretary
Bobbi Kassick
352-732-7091
Secretary@elks286.org



Treasurer
Connie Davis
352-239-0711
treasurer@elks286.org

APPOINTED OFFICERS



Esquire
Debra Poole
309-85 5-9197
dspoole3@cox.net



Chaplin
Carlos Quiles
352-999-0592
asi924@aol.com



Inner Guard
David Breitenbecker
352-351.5618
tbirdallso@yahoo.com



Tiler
Kathie Barkley
352-237-0718
chatkat98@aol.com



Organist
Ken Sarsony
352-857-6441
tlv3@live.com



SPJ Judge
Dan Hicks
352-351-3353

TRUSTEES & LODGE ADVISOR

One Year
Vacant



Two Year
Alan May
352-239-0588
cmmay51@yahoo.com



Three Year
Kevin Gage
845-417-8808
sparky3274@msn.com



Four Year
Dan Hicks
352-351-3353



Five Year
Barbara Shepard
352-460-7209
Barbara@floridaelks.org



Lodge Advisor
Nick Miller
352-602-0441
nick@feyc.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Committee	Chairman	Email
House	Brenda Cornelius	bmsrichar@yahoo.com
Flag Day	Alan May	cmmay51@yahoo.com
Veterans	Pam Kinard	pammanella@embarqmail.com
Investigations	Ken DeVilling	sram814@aol.com
Co-Chairman	David Morrill	DLMRacing@gmail.com
Elks Memorial Day	Bobbi Kassick Carlos Quiles	bobbikass@yahoo.com asi924@aol.com
Entertainment	Kathie Barkley	chatkat98@aol.com
Sporting Clays	Ken Davis	kdavisauto@aol.com

Committee	Chairman	Email
ENF Grant Coordinators	Keith Gage George Griffin, III	Kgage1@juno.com
Elks National Foundation Fundraising	Emery Shepard	Emery@Elks286.org
Harry Anna Trust Fundraising	Emery Shepard	Emery@Elks286.org
Scholarships	David Renau	avidseek839@centurylink.net
Membership	Dina Gage	dinarella2@msn.com

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS	
Secretary Phone	352-732-7091 Ext 1
Lounge	352-732-7091 Ext 2
Catering	352-732-7091 Ext 3
Treasurer	352-239-0711

[Click here to sign up now for Harry-Anna](#)

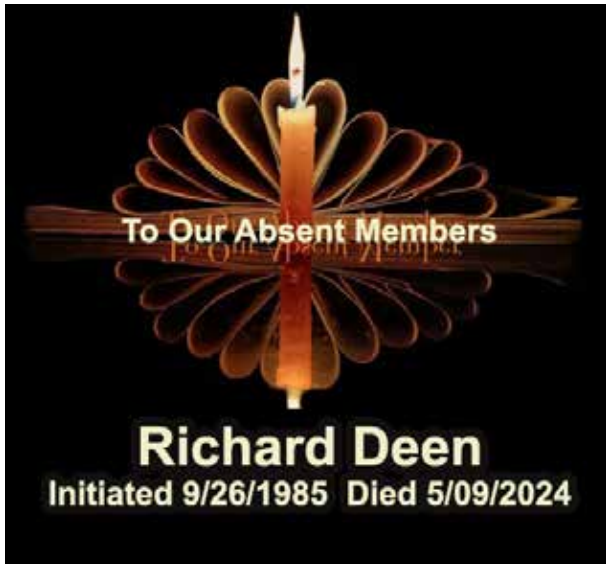


You can become an ENF sustaining donor, just click on the Elk or go to elks.org/enf
Our ENF goal this year is \$4.80 per member

HATF and ENF as of 4/30/24	
ENF	\$260.00
Harry Anna	\$229.00
Harry-Anna Sustaining	12 members \$229.00


OCALA ELKS WEEKLY SCHEDULE		
Secretary	Monday-Friday	1:00-5:00PM
Catering Office	Monday-Friday	8:00AM-1:00PM
Monday	Closed	
Tuesday	Lounge Open Dining Room BINGO	4:00-9:00PM 5:00-8:00PM 5:30-8:00PM
Wednesday	Trivia or Games & Queen of Hearts	Lounge Open Dining Room 4:00-9:00PM 5:00-8:00PM
2nd & 4th Thursday	Meeting Nights Lounge Open	6:00-7:00PM and after the meeting
Friday	Lounge Open Dining Room	4:00-11:00PM 5:00-8:00PM
Saturday	Lounge Dining Room	4:00-10:00PM 5:00-8:00PM
Sunday	Closed	

Current Lodge Membership as of 5-29-2024					
Total	Life	Candidates	Associate	Delinquent	% Delinquent
583	107	4	3	100	17



Below is the Elks Magazine cover of 100 years ago. The entire magazine and much more available at ELKS.org. Create your account today and see all the resources





This month's famous Elk

Eli Manning
Summit, NJ
Lodge 1246

"I don't think in the past. I don't think in the future. Grasp the moment"

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Patrick Helenhouse	01	Morgan S. Evans	16	John F. Plourde	24
Debra A. Henderson	01	Doreen Penn	16	Elijah Eli Allison	25
Thomas Lea, III	01	William Henry Puckett	16	Steven T. Arnold	25
Owen Shelton	01	Louise M. Haddock	17	Teddy Feaster, Jr.	25
Hermann Winters	03	J. R. Bloodworth	18	John D. Hatfield	25
Bradley E. Richell	05	Daniel Inkell	18	Carlo Caturano	26
James R. Sheffield	07	Donald C. Parr	18	Frank A. Roberts	26
Edwin J. Smith, Jr.	07	Christine A. Bradshaw	19	Linda Grassel	27
Wayne Argo, PER	08	Charles C. Broaderick	19	Roy R. Wimmer	27
Glen Goodwin	09	Daniel Hicks	19	Robert C. Luke	28
Fred S. Jackson	09	John E. Futch, PER	20	Jack L. Mattheus	28
David Lamar Morrill	10	Ronald M. Gartman	20	Violet A. Matthews	28
Donald G. Williams	11	Atha M. Andrews	21	Phillis Rankin	29
Jacques Ford	12	Gene B. Camp	21	Celeste F. Bisson	30
Michael Miller, PER	13	Clarence Quast	22	Terry McCormack	30
James P. Goulette	14	Terry E. Bovaird	24		

It Pays to Attend Lodge Meetings

Date	Drawings	Amount	Member/Winner	
5/09/2024	Previous Meeting	\$150.00	Ernestine Porter	Not Present
5/09/2024	50/50	\$77.00	Pat Gilbert	
5/09/2024	20/20 1st Drawing	\$150.00	Laverne Hope	
5/09/2024	20/20 2nd Drawing	\$100.00	Barbara Algeria	
5/23/2024	20/20 1st Drawing	\$150.00	Andrew Moniuk	
5/23/2024	20/20 2nd Drawing	\$100.00	Dina Gage	



UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Summer Camp 2024

There is still room for campers this summer at the youth camp. If you know any youth 9-13 years of age that could use a week at camp that is highly inspirational, you can register them at <https://floridaelks.org/camp/>. They will need your name, member number, and lodge number. This does not mean you are paying for them; just that you are the Florida Elks sponsor for that registration. If they need financial assistance, they just check that box during the registration. If you'd like to pay for a youth's summer camp drop by or mail a check to the lodge secretary and, in the memo line, write "Campership FEYC".



Soccer Shoot

September is our Soccer Shoot at Big Sun Soccer. Ken Davis is needing volunteers to help with the planning and the day of the event. Whether you're a returning volunteer or a new one for this event, you can contact Ken at 352-816-5781 or email kdavisauto@aol.com



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kdavisauto@aol.com

Lodge Rental Rates	
Warner Wilson	\$50.00
Card Room	\$100.00
Patio	\$100.00
Lounge	\$150.00
Lodge Room	\$150.00
Dining Room	\$150.00



Ocala Lodge Logo shirts are now available for you to order. These shirts are \$32 each for sizes small through extra large and \$34 for sizes 2XL and up. The net proceeds goes to our ENF donation. You can place your order by contacting David Clayton or Pat Gilbert. This is a great way to show your lodge spirit and benefit ENF at the same time.

We want to share your Elks stories whenever we can. If you have a story to share, please submit it and photos to: NEWS@Elks286.org

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Ocala, Florida 34470

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A FREE MONTHLY
PUBLICATION**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

June		
Thursday	6th	Board of Directors Meeting 6:00PM
Saturday	8th	Belmont Stakes at the Lodge
Wednesday	12th	Flag Day at the Lodge
Thursday	13th	Lodge Meeting
Saturday	15th	Paint Party
Sunday	16th	Fathers Day at the Lodge
Thursday	25th	Lodge Meeting
Saturday	29th	Birthday Bash

July		
To Be Determined	TBD	Board of Directors Meeting 6:00PM
Thursday	11th	Lodge Meeting 7:00PM
Saturday	13th	Lodge 286 Birthday
Saturday	20th	Murder Mystery
Thursday	25th	Lodge Meeting 7:00PM
Saturday	27th	Birthday Bash

Ocala Fundraising Events	
Sporting Clays at Blackjack Sporting Clays	10//05/2024

Florida State Elks Association	
Grand lodge Austin Texas	6/30-7/3/2024
Elks Day at the Rays - St Petersburg	8/18/2024

OLEOs	
Variety Show	6/22/2024

June Entertainment		
Friday 7th	Party With Arty	
Friday 14th	Fred Campbell	Tropical Rock, Classic Rock, Standards, Doo Wop, Feel Good 50's and 60's
Friday 21st	Lisa Coan	Dance to her Oldies and goodies.
Friday 28th	Dino	Music from the 50's to the 90's