The Florida Elks Mid-Year Convention is being held in St. Petersburg so that we can ALL help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the institution of the great St. Petersburg Lodge 1224. The Grand Exalted Ruler’s Plaque will be presented to the Lodge on Friday night, November 11. Please plan to attend this historic event and show that Florida Elks appreciate and honor Lodges’ many years of hard work, dedication and Sharing and Caring.

The future of Florida Elkdom is bright indeed: our State Secretary, Carl Seibert and our State Membership Chairman, Don Moon are working hard to reverse our membership decline, and we are beginning to see good results! Please congratulate them when you see them – they have both dedicated many hours and miles to travel around the state and talk to the membership of individual lodges to find out what the FSEA can do to retain the members we have and value, and what we need to do to entice new, enthusiastic members to join the Elks and become active members in their lodges and communities.

I have asked the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc., Board of Directors through our Administrator, PSP Ben Brown, to actively seek to employ additional therapists. There are a number of locations in Florida where we have no therapists currently treating children; I have received phone calls and e-mails from you to alert us to this – the result is that we’re actively seeking to fill in the gaps with a few more therapists to cover the state adequately. You can take enormous pride in the dedication and service we provide to so many who need our help; there is truly not another state association in our great country who does so much for so many!

We are exploring a program that the Elks National Home has successfully administered for many years. They have offered Nursing scholarships to students who would then come to the Home to work; it’s been successful, and we are exploring offering scholarships to deserving students who would major in rehabilitative medicine, physical or occupational therapy services with the obligation to work for us when they graduate. This program is being explored at the present time – we will, of course, bring it to you when we have more information on the various universities who would work with us in implementing this program. But we are hopeful that we

President Frank Hayes is shown with his home Lodge Warrington Elketts and their two awards, 2nd Most Money to the Youth Camp, $5,000, and Most Money to the Therapy Services, $6,500. More photos and statistics page 10-11.
Greetings All,

It has been a busy three months. I would like to extend my gratitude to all who were present at the FSEA 105th Convention, May 28, 2011 at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort. It was a great convention and one that Linda and I will remember for many years. I am very humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve as the President of our great order, the Florida State Elks Association, Inc.

My motto this year is “Vision with Action” and “It Depends on You.” As Linda and I travel throughout the state I will be speaking on my “vision” and what plan of “action” I set forth for our future in Elksdom. Our “Vision and Action”, “Depends on You,” I propose to bring to the forefront of Elksdom the use of Social Media. The times are changing and we too much positive changes to stay current and up with the times. In the months ahead, I will bring forth tools and education to each district that will enable them to have a successful “Social Media” campaign for each of their lodges.

I would also like to touch on membership. Just a few words for thought when seeking potential members: Who should we really be taking a look at as a future member? Everyone says we need younger members, yes I agree, but at what age? Who is the younger member? Is the “middle age” individual our new younger member?

Today’s “middle age” adult is the 40 to 65 year old individual. I feel this is our younger age we need to be targeting.

Why?

• We are living longer than our ancestors
• We are more focused on wellness and health
• We are more active than our ancestors
• We are retiring later in life than our ancestors
• We are more economically secure
• We have raised our families
• We have more free time
• We are looking to fill a void, we need a purpose
• We want to be around people and have fun
• We want to help others

Then I would ask you the following questions about your Lodge:

• What does your lodge have to offer the “middle age” adult?
• Does your Lodge have the desirable environment to attack the “middle age”?
• Does your Lodge have continuous activities that would interest the “middle age”?
• Is your lodge utilizing your facility to its up most capacity to attract the “middle age” (example, boat ramps, docks, ball fields, etc.)?
• Is your Lodge ready for new members?

Our first official visitation in June was to the Central District (Brooksville). Our host VP was Joe Morrow and his wife, Mary Kay. I had to the opportunity to play a round of golf at the Silverthorne Country Club, what a great time and course. The ladies went shopping in historic Dade City and lunch at the famous “Lunch on Lomophone” Restaurant. Saturday evening’s event was hosted by Brooksville Lodge #2582 with a fine dinner and dance. Linda and I enjoyed the decorations of orange and blue, the many guests and renewing old friendships.

Our next visitation in July was to the Southwest District (South Hillsborough). Our host VP was Lucrecia “Lu” Smith. Despite the rain on our arrival Friday afternoon, the weekend turned out to be excellent. On Friday evening we had the luxury of spending time with the Bradenton Ritual Team and wishing them much success as they prepared to travel to Phoenix in hopes of bringing home the “National Championship.” Saturday began with myself, along with PSP Merle Sebal and members of the district playing a great round of golf at the Renaissance Country Club Golf Course, what an excellent facility. Linda and the ladies once again did what they do best, go shopping! Lu had arranged for the ladies to shop at the Prime Outlet Stores in Ellenton with lunch and entertainment at Palmetto Lodge #2449. The ladies were treated to a “Fashion Show” (all male) and an excellent Salad Bar lunch.

The Saturday evening event was host by South Hillsborough #2672 with a themed picnic, “Hoe Down”; it was held indoors, but not without the ants (decorations only). It was wonderful and enjoyed by everyone.

Before we knew it, the National Convention was here. On July 10th, Linda and I flew to Phoenix, Arizona for the 147th Grand Lodge Session. We stayed at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel (Headquarters Hotel) which was in walking distance of the Phoenix Convention Center. It was both honor and exciting for me to be a part of the Opening ceremony on Sunday with the “Parade of Flags.” I was so proud to be honored the honor of presenting the Florida State Flag; this will forever remain a treasured memory.

While in Phoenix, along with VP AL Sean Maguire and Barbara, Linda and I were able to visit local shops and restaurants. We were so impressed with the cleanliness and hospitality of the city, even though the weather was really HOT! After the convention we took a side trip to Sedona along with other friends. This was a real treat. We were honored guests of the Sedona Elks Lodge #2291 on Friday night along with PGER Mike Smith and Sandra, PSP Jim Coggins and Sonja and Bill and Dee Spivey. We stayed at the SKY RANCH LODGE, which was just a mile or less from the lodge, but the most memorable part would be the view from our cabin each day. We were on top of the mountain overlooking the entire town of Sedona, the sun sets were awesome and the sun rises were equally memorable.

Before leaving Sedona, we were able to take a Jeep Tour of the historic trail with views of the western canyons. I never knew that mountains had so many shapes and names. I also saw my first tequila plant, amazing. We also toured the “vortex” and the Cathedral Rock, this was beautiful. Making our way back to the airport of our return flight home we took another side trip to Jerome, Arizona, known as “America’s most vertical city” and the “Largest Ghost Town.” You will have to look this one up on the internet, but the view was spectacular, I guess what attracted us this town was the fact that the population is only 450. It was a great trip.

August is now here and we were in the Southeast District (West Palm Beach). This year I had requested to either play golf or have an outdoor water activity. We had the opportunity to do something I have always wanted to do—ride in an airboat! This visit was hosted by West Palm Beach Lodge #1352 and the District VP was Ted Olson. On Saturday I had my first and exciting experience of “mudding” (4x4) and air boating on Lake Okeechobee. Yes, I am sure there were a few gators in that lake!!!! Special arrangements were made.

Frank D. Hayes
“Vision with Action”
A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE SECRETARY

Carl T. Seibert, PDD

About a year ago, our Association embarked on an aggressive campaign to learn everything we could about our accelerating membership losses. It was a “listening tour,” if you will, aimed at complementing our ongoing efforts to bring about an awareness of the problem and garner a better understanding of it so we could begin to overcome it and reverse the trend. Thanks to our many members who met with us in our statewide town hall meetings, we were able to explore the many causes for our membership decline and analyze the effect they are having on our current members, their decisions not to renew their memberships, on prospective members, and why they might not see the Elks opportunity the same way we do. Through it all we took a long hard look at who we are, what we do, and where we are going, and more importantly, we gained the insight needed to begin a comprehensive initiative in the Association through which to devise and implement actions on both the Lodge and state level to overcome and reverse our loss trend.

In March we asked Exalted Rulers to appoint a Membership Liaison from their Lodge to join with us to work on the actions and implementation of our strategies. I am happy to report that 89 of our 105 Lodges did just that and already we have held two of the five scheduled meetings for this phase of the project.

In each meeting we work on team building, marketing change within the Lodge, leadership, and overcoming challenges. As for tangibles, we have identified nine areas in a membership recruitment and retention strategy and have singled them out for review and refinement. Most of these objectives exist today in our membership program and planning manual and are targeted for simple updating and refinement. Several though do not exist today as stand-alone objectives, and these have been targeted for inclusion into the program along with special emphasis on their implementation. We believe these supplements will make for a more comprehensive program of membership recruitment and retention that will further our efforts to recruit members more attuned to our membership ideals and those who will become more productive and lifelong members of our organization.

The nine areas are as follows:
- Modernizing the Lodge and the Thinking of our Members
- Prospecting for New Members
- Opening our Lodges to New Member Prospects (Open House)
- Inviting Prospects to Become New Members
- A Fresh New Approach to Indocentrion/Orientation
- Managing the Initiation of New Members
- Mentoring our New Members – Assimilating them into the Family
- Lodge Activities as a Means of Retaining Good Members

If your Lodge has a participating Membership Liaison please provide time for them to speak to the members of your Lodge in Lodge meetings and at other membership events. Hold them accountable, as the only way we can affect change is to gain the cooperation of the officers and members and they are learning ways to do this in the Lodge. More importantly, get involved. Our hope is that the Lodge Liaison will go back to their Lodge and build a membership team that will help the Lodge build its membership. Our strategy is to grow this effort from the bottom up. Change is not something we can mandate from the top down. To be effective it will take the cooperation and participation of every member. Become involved. Tell your Exalted Ruler and Lodge Membership Liaison that you want to be involved and find out how! I believe that these efforts will be looked back upon one day to be as important to our Association as was the establishment of the Harry-Anna Trust Fund! Need I say more?

Another way to be an active member of our Association is to become and stay informed. There is no easier or better way to do this than to give us your e-mail address. Stay abreast of the activities of our Association and Lodges in between quarterly issues of the Florida Elks News. Become a part of our VIM (very important member) list today! To sign up, go to our website at www.felks.org and in the upper right hand corner where it says join our E-mail list, type in your e-mail address and click join. It’s that simple!

Our August Quarterly meetings were held at the Youth Camp August 18-20 and as always, the meetings were well attended and very informative. Thank you to all who attended! The barbecue on Friday night was again held in the new multipurpose shelter in the rough camping area of the camp and the food and fellowship were enjoyed by many. The February 2012 meetings will be held at the Youth Camp February 9-11. It is recommended that reservations for the February meetings be made early as room availability is always limited in the Umatilla area during that time of the year. A list of area hotels can be found at our website at www.felks.org.

In late September, I was privileged to attend the annual conference of the Florida Ladies of Elks (FLOE). This conference recognized the ladies’ achievements over the prior year, a highlight of which was their never ending support of our major projects. During 2010-2011 our Ladies organizations donated over $128,000 to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund and our major projects! Congratulations go to FLOE State President, Carol Deresh, and her officers for a great year, and best wishes are given for an even better year to incoming 2011-2012 State President, Betty Groff, and her officer team! Ladies, we thank you!

The 2012 State Convention will be held once again at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort May 24-27. More information on the State Convention will be available in late December/January. The office of the Florida State Elks Association is here to serve our Association and its members. If at any time we can be of assistance or service, please don’t hesitate to contact us. My phone number is (800) 523-1673 extension 230 and the e-mail address is fsea@mpinet.net.

The 48th Annual Florida Ladies of Elks Conference was a very satisfying and rewarding experience. It was the culmination of a year of cooperation and generosity from the Florida Ladies of Elks Officers, Advisory Council, Delegates, Past Presidents and Members coupled with the outstanding support from the Florida State Elks Association. I would be remiss not to extend my deep appreciation to my LOE organization, Cape Coral LOE 2596, and the entire SSW for their untiring efforts on my behalf.

On behalf of FLOE, I extend our gratitude to FSEA for always making sure that we had whatever was required. From providing our badge es, online May luncheon registration and printing of our Conference Program Book and Memorial brochure you were always there for help and advice. Special thanks go to Carl Seibert, State Secretary, and Administrators Ben Brown, FECTS, and Lynn Warburton, FEYC, and their entire staff who so graciously aided us throughout the year.

Lynn Warburton, FEYC Director, presented the awards for the most money donated and the most campers sent to camp from April 2010 to March 2011. Awards for most money were: 1st Place Punta Gorda Elkettes with $11,200.00, 2nd Place St. Augustine Eland Club with $7,900.00 and 3rd Place Warrington Elkettes with $5,000.00. Awards for most campers went to Punta Gorda Elkettes with 30, Cape Coral Ladies of Elks with 20 and Eustis Anna Miller Circle with 13. Lynn stated that 2,200 children attended summer camp this year, and a total of 17,288 children attend camp for the entire year. The grand total of all donations was $66,688.54 for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

The “365” Club Chairlady, Carole Weston, presented the Therapy Services with a check for $7,600.04. A check in the amount of $3,550.30 was donated to the Youth Camp to pay the balance on the furnishings and landscaping for a new cabin.

PSP Ben Brown, FECTS Administrator presented the awards for most money donated. The awards went to: 1st Place Warrington Elkettes with $6,400.00 and 2nd Place St. Augustine Eland Club with $4,335.00. It was announced that the total money donated from April 2, 2010 to March 31, 2011 was $62,613.18.

Dolores Casella, PSP, presented the Program Book awards. The largest number of Booster ads was 157 by Cape Coral for $471.00, followed by Ft. Pierce with 155 for $465.00 and third was Merritt Island with 77 for $231.00. Punta Gorda had the most ads with a total of $310.00.

FLOE President continued on page 11

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FLORIDA LADIES OF ELKS

Carol A. Deresh, President

“Building a better world one child at a time”
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Note to all Lodge Exalted Rulers and Secretaries:
The articles about the District Lodges is information taken from Lodge bulletins or information sent to your District Reporter. If your Lodge is not represented here as you would like, it is because the reporter did not receive your Lodge bulletin or other information about your Lodge. Please put the following District Reporters on your Lodge Bulletin mailing list.

It would be helpful to the reporters if you would put you community activities and accomplishments or other items of interest you would like to share in the bulletins.

**NORTHWEST**
Karen Knight - 62 Narrow Ln Ct. -Pensacola, FL 32506
Ph and Fax 850-455-8831 -- karenknight@msn.com

**NORTH**
PDD Tom Walden - 276 N. Magnolia Dr. - Tallahassee, FL 32301-2638 - Phone 850-877-9110 -- twalden@psc.state.fl.us

**SOUTHEAST CENTRAL**
Carol Heintz - 474 SE Walters Terrace - Port St. Lucie FL. 34983 - 772-708-1376 - c_m_heintz@yahoo.com

**NORTH CENTRAL**
Christine Borchers - PO BOX 5241 - Gainesville, FL 32627-- 352-317-7275 - nedistrictpr@yahoo.com

**EAST CENTRAL**
Mary Ann J. Bucci - 1400 South Nova Road #395 - Daytona Beach, FL 32114 - 386-323-9865 - maryambucci@hotmail.com

**WEST CENTRAL**
Doris Ward-Jacobs, PER - 5581 95th Terrace North Pinellas Park, FL 33782-- 727-544-7773 - cejemj0205@aol.com

**SOUTHWEST CENTRAL**
Evelyn Cresse - 272 So. Huntley Dr. - Lake Placid, FL 33852 Home 954-303-9648 - lpelk2661@embarqmail.com

**SOUTH SOUTHWEST**
PER Carl Rehling, Jr. - P.O. Box 511598 - Punta Gorda Fl. 33951 - 941-639-1960 - crehling1@embarqmail.com

**SOUTHEAST**
Joy A. Booth - 2100 Springdale Blvd. Apt. Y-107 Lake Worth, FL 33461- 561-967-6024 - wpb1352@gmail.com

**SOUTHEAST CENTRAL**
Karolyn Lind - 7151 SW 12th St. - Pembroke Pines, Fl 33023 - 954-981-5035 - lindfrau@aol.com

**SOUTH**
Glenn Tekerman-13876 SW56th St. Suite 135-Miami, 33175 305-220-4518 - glennzo24@gmail.com

**SOUTHWEST**
Charles “Chuck” Stieb - Lot 43 602 Woodland Estates Ave - Ruskin, FL 33570- 786-383-3823 - charlesstieb@aol.com

Note that I had a “special” airboat – you guessed it, all decked out “Florida Gators,” it was great. We had lunch at Belle Glade–Pahokee #1716 before returning to the hotel. Later in the evening we were honored with an indoor/outdoor BBQ Picnic. The Clewiston “Cook Off” Champs did an outstanding job in grilling ribs, hamburgers and hot dogs. The entertainment and food was enjoyed by all.

August Quarterly was “hot” as usual. Linda and I enjoyed seeing everyone. Thank you to everyone who took chances on “dunking” me in the water tank, it certainly kept me cooler. It was all for a good cause “Harry Anna Trust,” thanks again.

Our South District visitation to Miami was canceled due to Hurricane Irene. We will be making this in December. So it was a rare occasion for us to be able to attend the Elkettes’ Luau. We had a great time, the food was excellent as well as the entertainment. Congratulations to Elkettes President, Gail Grimes and her Luau Committee for a great evening.

It’s hard to believe we are already in September and at our West Central District visitation. Our host for the weekend was Steve Harmon, WC Vice President along with fiancée Anna Marie Bishop and Tampa Lodge #708. We were very entertained and enjoyed very much our visit/tour to the Florida Aquarium and lunch at the Columbia Restaurant. There are nine lodges in the WC District of which we were able to visit; Holiday Isle #1912 and Tampa #708. On Sunday, September 11th was Elks day with the Rays (Tampa Bay Rays). This was a very special weekend marking the 10th anniversary of 9-11. A very moving and solemn ceremony was held at Tropicana Field prior to the beginning of the game; The Tampa Bay Rays –vs- Boston Red Sox. What a great day, I was afforded the opportunity of a life time; I threw the first pitch of the day and got it across home plate! I was accompanied by my youngest daughter, Kimberly, Linda, Steve and Anna Marie. A day I will always remember.

We had a weekend off to catch up on things at home. The following weekend we returned to the Tampa area for the 48th Annual Florida Ladies of Elks Conference. This was a very successful conference under the direction of President Carol Deresh and her officers and board. We had a wonderful time. Congratulations to the ladies for all their marvelous accomplishments and generous donations. Without the support of the ladies our two major projects would not continue to flourish and help so many in need. On behalf of the FSEA, I would like to thank President Deresh for your continued support and commitment for 2010-2011. Best wishes and congratulations to Betty Groff, Officers and Board, may 2011-2012 be a great year for you all.

We have just completed our visit to the Southeast Central District and now in October. Our host for the weekend was “Sir” Charles DeLauder, wife “Saint” Mary and Sebastian Lodge #2714. We were given a guided tour of the “working waterfront project” in Sebastian by the City Mayor, Jim Hill and City Manager, Al Miner. Linda, myself, VPAL Sean and Barbara all hope to make a return visit to see the completed project. We also had a walking tour of Mel Fisher’s Treasure Museum, this was amazing. I never knew such treasure exists. There are ten Lodges in this district; we were able to visit Vero Beach Lodge #1774, Melbourne Lodge #1744 and Sebastian Lodge #2714. Saturday night dinner at Sebastian Lodge #2714 was a picnic theme, complete with “ants” with a great meal of BBQ chicken, grilled Italian sausage with onions and peppers. Entertainment was “Lil Debbie”, with a voice like Patsy Cline. It was a wonderful weekend.

October and November will be very busy months for Linda and me. We will be traveling each weekend throughout the state promoting the FSEA programs. I applaud each district for their outstanding accomplishments. I am so proud of the work they continue to do throughout their communities, I have heard so many stories that have really touch my heart, makes me proud to be an Elk. Linda and I have enjoyed the time we have spent with the Vice Presidents, spouses, lodge members and guests; it is great getting to know everyone.

Please keep our military families, troops and nation in your prayers. We face many new challenges daily. Also please know that even though Linda and I are not visible present in the Lodge and district, we are with you all in thoughts and prayers.

Miles driven: 7,318
Miles flown: 3,404
Hours driven: Approximately 100+
Districts visited: 5
Lodges visited: 11
Conventions attended: 1, National – Phoenix, AZ
1, FLOE – Tampa
Sporting Event: 1 –Rays - Tampa
Quarterly’s attended: 1, August

Fraternally and God Bless,
Frank D. Hayes
State President, FSEA

**District Recognition Certificates & Pins**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name on Donor Recognition Board for $5,000 Certificate</th>
<th>Awarded June 29, 2011 through September 30, 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alvin R. Gould</td>
<td>Punta Gorda #2606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phyllis Scoti McAllister</td>
<td>Fort Pierce #1520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin C. Shiver, Sr.</td>
<td>Perry #1851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Vergason</td>
<td>Palmetto #2449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura &amp; Joe Russell</td>
<td>Green Cove Springs #1892</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gold Pins for Paid-in-Full $1,000 Certificate**

| James Hartz | Jupiter #2469 |
| Phyllis Scoti McAllister | Fort Pierce #1520 |
| Larry Riffe | Pensacola Beach #497 |
| Robin C. Shiver, Sr. | Perry #1851 |
| Judy Vergason | Palmetto #2449 |

**Silver Pins for Paid-in-Full $500 Certificate**

| Joy A. Booth | West Palm Beach #1352 |
| Connie F. Brown | Live Oak #1165 |
| Gerald F. Dickens, Sr. | Palm Coast #2709 |
| Richard Kronawetter | Tarpon Springs #1719 |
| Tom Fendley | Sanford #1241 |
| Frank & La Ray McCarthy | New Port Richey #2284 |
| Douglas Ostrand | Green Cove Springs #1892 |
| Ronald Thompson | St. Augustine #829 |
| Bernard Miller | Sunrise #2273 |
Englewood Lodge 2378

On Sunday, July 17, Englewood Lodge sent four bus loads of children, a grand total of 181 to the FSEA Youth Camp. The lodge has been sending children to camp for at least 12 years.

The program started out transporting about 12 children in private cars, graduated to YMCA buses and finally to tour buses which thankfully have air conditioning, bathrooms and a DVD player! The Youth Camp committee is already planning how to enhance procedures for next year!

North Fort Myers Lodge 2742

North Fort Myers Elks Lodge 2742 held a Flag Retirement and replacement ceremony held on Sunday, September 18, 2011.

Trustees and Veterans Committee Dick Wood & Larry Carey as they remove and replace The American and POW/MIA Flags while other Lodge Officers and members salute and observe.

Fort Myers Lodge 1288

Englewood Elks held a “Kids Bike Rodeo” on Saturday, July 30. Two Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office Deputies conducted a bicycle safety program checking the proper fit of helmets and registering each bicycle.

Children received a sticker for their bike and a certificate certifying that they completed the obstacle course the Elks set up. There were also free hot dogs, chips, lemonade and water. Children also received McDonald’s gift certificates for participating in the Bike Rodeo.

Members and Officers of Englewood Elks Lodge have donated $450 to the Southwest Florida Honor Flight, Inc.

The purpose of this organization is to transport WW II Veterans to Washington, D.C. to be honored at their memorial. The $450 donation will be used to provide transportation, meals, and other basic necessities.

The members and officers of the Englewood Elks Lodge participated in the community Pioneer Day (Labor Day) parade on Monday, September 5th. Past Exalted Rulers of the Lodge rode on a float decorated with flags and red, white and blue bunting. Barbara Gordon, wife of Exalted Ruler Don was dressed as Uncle Sam and also rode on the float. There was also a convertible carrying Charter Members of the Lodge and a convertible carrying Don Gordon, the Exalted Ruler and Mary Crocker, President of Does Drove 203. The Drug Awareness Trailer was located at a park along the parade route and many packets of information and ribbons were distributed to the public both during the parade and at the festivities held after the parade.

In an effort to get and promote more community involvement, the lodge held its annual Flag Day Ritual in downtown Punta Gorda. Assisting in the ceremony was the Boy Scout Troop 351, Punta Gorda Police Department Honor guard, Punta Gorda Lodge Elkettes, and City Council Members.

A reception following the ceremony was held at the Military Heritage Museum with refreshments and pastries. Additionally, the Lodge hosted a Business-Over-Breakfast with the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce. Thirty-eight community business representatives and guest attend. Both events have been so well received that they have already been scheduled for the future.

In another very important on-going community activity, the lodge has partnered with the Yah-Yah Girls, Inc. to help collect food and deliver back packs to Charlotte County Elementary schools as part of the Back-Pack-For Kids Program. This is such a important effort that the Lodge has applied for a Community Impact Grant from the Elks National Foundation.

Mark your calendars!

February 11, 2012 will be the Florida State Elks’ 3rd Annual State BBQ Festival with Rib and Chili Cook-off! It will be held at the Eustis Elks Lodge and will benefit the Florida Elks Youth Camp and the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in competing in the cook-off or would like to be an arts and crafts vendor, please contact Jenny Box as soon as possible at the Florida State Elks office: 352-669-2241 ext. 236 or jenny@mpinet.net. The event is being held in conjunction with the Florida Elks’ February Quarterly Meeting held in Umatilla, Florida at the state headquarters. We hope to make this year better than ever, so come enjoy some barbecue and a fun-filled day while supporting a great cause!
District VP Bill Nichols has completed his visits to each of the lodges and DDGER Carl Ledig is in the midst of his visits.

Lake City Lodge 893

Lake City Lodge held a hamburger and hot dog cook-out on July 4th. This year the event was set up outside and was well attended by Lodge members.

In other news, Lake City has spruced up its dining room, expanded the Tuesday night dinner menu, and added prime rib to the menu on the last Friday night of the month. Like many other lodges, its dining room operation relies upon volunteers to help make it successful. In September, the Lodge began offering food on football Mondays and Thursdays, featuring wings, fries, burgers, and onion rings.

The Lodge is going to miss Treasurer Barbara Holingsworth who has relocated to St. Louis to be nearer to family. Barbara was always around the Lodge pulling together loose ends and she will be greatly missed.

In September the Lodge will be sending its Christmas raffle tickets to raise money to prepare Christmas baskets for the needy and to acquire toys to give away to kids having a meager Christmas holiday. This is always a big event for the Lodge.

Live Oak Lodge 1165

Live Oak Lodge is hosting a fundraiser, selling tickets for only $3 each, for a butcher-packed boxed meat package. Packages will be given away to six lucky winners from the drawing on October 18th. A former fundraiser with Visa gift cards as prizes, was a resounding success.

The Lodge is hosting Karaoke night once a month to bring out the crooners to the lounge for some fun and fellowship. September was the first month, followed by another Saturday night in October.

Marianna Lodge 1516

Marianna Lodge held its Flag Day ceremony on Sunday, June 12. The local Boy Scout troop was an integral part of the celebration. A big thank you was extended to the Lady Elks who provided some wonderful desserts that were shared after the event.

The Lodge hosted a fish fry for charity, with PDDGER Tom Sanson as the chairman and a number of Elks on his committee. A great turn out was realized, making the event a great success. Cheap Eats on Tuesdays continues to draw a crowd for those seeking dinner at a good price and a break from cooking. Seafood Nights have been added on Thursday nights.

Steve Hutton, a Boy Scout from Marianna, was one of four scouts in the nation to be recognized at the Elks National Convention. The Lodge has an award to share with Steve too. Another winner from Marianna is Kaylee Toole, an MVS Scholarship winner, who will be attending Chipola College in Marianna after high school graduation.

A low country boil was held August 24 for all to enjoy. On September 23, the Lodge plans a BubbaQue, an event with BBQ food, as well as the Lodge’s regular Friday night menu, and lots of fun. Members are encouraged to wear their best overalls or best Bubba outfit, with the ladies to work on their best big hair and wear their leopard skin pants. T-shirts with crazy logos are especially sought.

Perry Lodge 1851

Perry Lodge commemorated Flag Day on Monday, June 13th with the help of Boy Scout Troop 600. This is the 50th year of sponsorship of this troop by the lodge. An event later this year is planned to recognize the 50 year anniversary. A side note is that at least two names on the original Boy Scout troop charter are now members of the Perry Lodge. Also in June, the Lodge had the privilege of hosting and providing food for this year’s Special Olympics Awards Ceremony. It was heartwarming to help with this worthwhile endeavor and to see the smiles on every face.

Wii has been added as entertainment at the Perry Lodge. Bowling tournaments have generated a great deal of interest using Wii. More games are planned.

Perry Lodge’s Soccer Shoot was held August 27th with 19 kids participating. Three kids came from Tallahassee due to the publicity provided by Perry Lodge. With participants from two Lodges in the district, the district contest was held immediately after the local competition. The Lodge appreciates the great work accomplished by Inner Guard Drew Taylor and his team of officials who made this contest a resounding success.

Soccer Shoot winners are front row/left to right - Haleigh Barton; Hannah Shiver, district winner ages 7 & under; Ceven Kidd, district winner ages 8 & 9; Drew Taylor, Shootout Coordinator. Back row/left to right - Holden Row; Trevor Barton; Rachelle Goff, district winner ages 12 & 13; Cain McCray; Trent Flores, district winner ages 10 & 11.

A fall fishing tournament is scheduled for October 8th. Categories include trout/redfish, grouper, and a free youth trout category. Drew Taylor has all the details and expects a good crowd for this fundraiser.

Tallahassee Lodge 937

Tallahassee Lodge is proud to have one of our own, Michael Fugler, appointed as Chairman, Creative Marketing and Social Media Task Force for the FSEA. Michael was selected for this position by FSEA President Frank Hayes due to Michael’s creativity and ability to “think outside the box.” The slogan, BE PROUD, VISIBLE, VOCAL, AND LOCAL is one to recite to yourself and practice those tenets. You will notice the similarity to PGER Mike Smith’s slogan, “BE PROUD, BE LOUD, BE VISIBLE.” While we Elks know the good that the organization does, those achievements need to be shared with others who are not aware.

The Lodge has acquired an AED defibrillator. Lodge member Barbara Langnhehs, with her EMT and medical background, conducted a class to show members how to use the device. While we hope we never have to use the defibrillator, we appreciate Barbara’s instruction.

At the Elks National Convention, Tallahassee Lodge won First Place in the nation in the “Focus on the Community” awards category. The award recognizes Lodges who have had the most impressive and effective newspaper article published in their local media. Our entry was “Elks Open Hearts to Everhart,” published in the local newspaper, the Tallahassee Democrat. Everhart is a local school for physically and emotionally challenged youth that the lodge has adopted as a local charity. An annual September event is the trip to the FEYC, where the Lodge charters buses and with Lynn Warburton’s help, allows the kids and their families to use the camp for the weekend.

Another school in the focus of the Lodge is Bond Elementary. Donations were accepted for school supplies – paper, pencils, erasers, rulers, crayons, and folders, to help provide needed supplies for the kids who need them. An added request was belts in all sizes because one teacher does not allow pants to hang down in her class. All supplies were delivered to the school by Trustee Denise Mick.

INDOCTRINATION

By Marston Robertson, Member
Grand Lodge Membership Committee

When we think of Indoctrination, we think about informing a prospective candidate, spouse, and family about the Order of Elks, our beliefs and our charitable works. We also acquaint them with the Lodge, State Association, and what we do in the community.

To be effective, Indoctrination must include the Lodge Officer Corps and their spouses, and involve the Lodge’s Chairperson. To provide brief overviews of their committees. The Lodge must be clean and those present must project a friendly congenial community.

When this approach is used, pride in membership becomes a reality that sells the Order of Elkdom to all, proving that Elks Care-Elks Share
**St. Petersburg 1224**

The Lodge made a $1,000 donation to help with the cost of sending the local Northwest Youth Baseball All-star Team to Southaven, Mississippi All-star World Series Play-offs. There were 13 on the U14 team who made the trip to represent St. Petersburg in the play-offs.

The Lodge recently entertained 39 foreign exchange students for the day. These students were part of the EF Inter-cultural Foundation, representing Spain, China, Japan, Mexico, France and a few other countries. The teens had a pool party, lunch and a dance lesson.

The Elks Ladies Auxiliary held their annual Kids Christmas party poolside. There were over 135 children in attendance. They had lunch, took part in games, cookie decorating, Christmas tree decorating, diving for quarters and a visit by Santa.

Under the leadership of VAVS Deputy Rep. Johnny Miller and the Lodge veteran’s volunteer crew, Veterans from Bay Pines enjoy dinner and karaoke twice a month at the Lodge.

**Largo Lodge 2159**

Under the direction of youth activities chairman, Jeanette Hammel, backpacks filled with supplies, were distributed to local needy school children.

The Lodge presented 20 local firefighters and police officers with tickets for the Elks Day at the Rays.

The Lodge veterans committee continues to host the veterans for dinner on the third Tuesday of each. During the evening, canteen books are given out enabling the veterans to make purchases at the hospital canteen.

**Dunedin/ Clearwater Lodge 1525**

Once again members from the Lodge traveled to Baldomero Lopez State Veterans’ Nursing Home in beautiful Land O’Lakes. The Veterans and staff were treated to a picnic style lunch of grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, with all the fixings, baked beans, potato salad and chips. The music, provided by member Paul Kinias had everyone tapping their toes.

**Holiday Isles Lodge 1912**

The Lodge was pleased to have sent 11 youths to the Florida Elks Youth Camp this summer. In addition, gift certificated were presented to 5 “Turn Around Students” from Seminole Middle School for their improvement during the school year.

The Lodge participated in the “playing cards for vets” distributing cards at the community living center at Bay Pines Veterans Medical Center and during the veterans dinner outings at the Lodge.

The Lodge donated $250 to the City of Madeira Beach toward a new 9/11 memorial dedication.

**New Port Richey Lodge 2284**

The Lodge has purchased 480 dictionaries to be given to third graders in the Pasco County School District as part of the Dictionary Project. Local doctors and nurses will be traveling to Haiti to distribute $300 worth of flip-flops, sunglasses and reading glasses for the children of Haiti currently in orphanages there, on behalf of the Lodge.

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**Excellent Perspective**

To Those of Us Born 1925-1970

First, we survived being born to mothers who may have smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and didn’t get tested for diabetes. Then, after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-based paints. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, locks on doors or cabinets, and, when we rode our bikes, we had baseball caps, not helmets, on our heads.

As infants and children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, no booster seats, no seat belts, no air bags, bala tires and sometimes no brakes. Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was always a special treat. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, 22 rifles for our 12th, rode horses made up games with sticks and tennis balls, and -although we were told it would happen- we did not put out very many eyes.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend’s house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn’t had to learn to deal with disappointment.

**WE HAD friends and we went outside and found them!** We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits from those accidents. We would get spankings with wooden spoons, switches, ping-pong paddles, or just a bare hand, and no one would call child services to report abuse.

We ate worms, and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, 22 rifles for our 12th, rode horses made up games with sticks and tennis balls, and -although we were told it would happen- we did not put out very many eyes.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend’s house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn’t had to learn to deal with disappointment.

**Imagine that!!** The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law! These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers, and inventors ever. The past 50 to 85 years have seen an explosion of innovation and new ideas.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all. If you are one of those born between 1925-1970, CONGRATULATIONS!

You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives for our own good. While you are at it, mail it to your kids, so they will know how brave and lucky their parents were. Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn’t it?

A quote by Jay Leno:

“With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?”

**DID YOU KNOW...**

Since inception in 1928, the Elks National Foundation has provided more than $60 million in scholarships, helping tens of thousands of bright young minds receive college educations. Each year, the foundation allocates $2.6 million in scholarships. Our scholarships, coupled with the more than $4 million awarded by State Elks Associations and local Elks Lodges, make the BPO Elks one of the largest providers of scholarships among private charitable organizations.

Providing college scholarships to deserving youth is just one of many ways your donations to the Elks National Foundation are working to provide a better future for our country.
Kissimmee Lodge 1873
The Lodge held their first New Member Picnic on September 4, 2011 to help new members initiated during the past year interact with members and officers. Traditional picnic fare was served in the Lodge picnic area which provides plenty of room for families and children to have fun. Karaoke and games were available as were 2 inflated water slides. ER Jim Platt welcomed all attendees.

Brooksville Lodge 2582
PER and Treasurer Paul Stark received a Leadership pin from the Elks National Foundation (ENF). The award was the result of the Lodge having reached the per capita goal of $4.50 which automatically makes the Lodge eligible for a grant from the ENF. The award was presented to him by Exalted Ruler Tony Arboritanza at the Elks meeting on Sept. 12, 2011.

West Citrus Lodge 2693
Exalted Ruler Jean Orr has honored Adelina and Anthony Schiappaa (better known as Ne Ne and Tony) as Elks for the months of August and September. This husband wife team takes pictures and makes slide shows of Lodge events. They help the house and entertainment committees, in the kitchen, events room, set up tables, wait tables, clean up, help set up the Lodge room for indoctrination and do whatever is asked of them. The Elks motto of Caring comes from their hearts and Sharing their time. Congratulations!

Aripeka Lodge 2520
On August 27, 2011 approximately 120 Veterans were treated to a cook out at Baldomero Lopez State Veterans Nursing Home. On July 9, 2011 the Lodge in conjunction with the Florida Blood Services collected 14 pints of blood.

Elks Care and Elks Share at Orlando Lodge and the members give from the heart. A few months ago Lodge member, Bob Schimmelpennig, created the Elks Care Team. The team goes to members residences to provide assistance in such areas as: painting rooms, trimming trees and bushes, removing old water softeners, fencing out ducks and even helping restore a shore line.

Photo above shows, Resident John MacAuly, Diver with the Navy; Lucille Marino, E.R. Hal Stettes; PDDGER Central District; Frank Marino, PER. Information reported by Lodge PR Chairman Mary Ann Steffes.

East Central continued from page 15

Orlando Lodge 1079
Elks Care and Elks Share at Orlando Lodge and the members give from the heart. A few months ago Lodge member, Bob Schimmelpennig, created the Elks Care Team. The team goes to members residences to provide assistance in such areas as: painting rooms, trimming trees and bushes, removing old water softeners, fencing out ducks and even helping restore a shore line.

The Lodge sent 25 local boys and girls to the Florida Youth Camp this summer.

The Lodge received a generous donation of $540 from Marine Corps League Detachment #846 for the FEYC. Member Jeannette Piatkiewicz recently donated an electric wheelchair to the Florida Elks Youth Camp in the memory of Antony Piatkiewicz.

Sponsored Boys Scout Troop #270 recently thanked the Lodge for their continued support in helping to acquire field uniforms. The Troop has been involved in various community activities and fundraisers.

The first Freddy Gleissner Vinny Gough, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament was recently held to help establish scholarships for students in pursuing a career as a firefighter in our home state.

Sanford Lodge 1241
A fish fry fundraiser was held to help raise money for Lodge repairs. A great job was done by Marc McKenna, PER who performed the 11 o’clock toast at the State Convention competition.

The Lodge was presented with a Citation of Merit for contributing to the growth of the Order, and is very proud to be second winner in division one for Harry-Anna Trust contributions.

Memorial Day was a special day for the Lodge, flags were placed at the gravesites of veterans at several local community cemeteries.

The Sanford National Guard provided a Flag Honor Guard during the Lodge’s Flag Day ceremony. Recently, Boy Scout Troop member Miles Bradford Pflueger was awarded the highest scout honor of Eagle Scout.

Titusville Lodge 2113
A golf tournament benefit for eight year old “Tripp” Skinner was organized to help raise money for his quality of care. Tripp was born with spina bifida which has no cure. To date, he has had a number of major surgeries, including six to his brain and six to his spine. He spent the major portion of last year hospitalized. He also needs braces to walk and as he grows they require replacement. The Titusville Elks Monthly Golf League along with the Willow Lake RV residents donated $300.00 to Tripp Skinner at the tournament. PSP and PGESQ Mike Phillips donated $500 to defray the costs of a new fountain pump that runs in the pond outside the Lodge.

Member JJ Renaud donated $400 to the Honor Flight on behalf of the Lodge so that a WW II veteran can be flown to Washington, DC to see the veterans’ memorial.

The Lodge sent 25 local boys and girls to the Florida Youth Camp this summer.

A collection of $105 for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund derby helped Jockey, Loyal Knight Pete Hemmer win $590 in prize money that was donated to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.
Bradenton Lodge 1511

On August 22nd, Dan Tabor, Florida State Chaplain and SWD Advisor initiated his son Matt and Matt’s girlfriend, Paige Bower into the Elks.

The Lodge held their Endless Summer Fundraiser during the Labor Day Weekend. Crab races, reverse karaoke, a Dean Martin impersonator, and a classic car show were some of the entertainment held during the weekend. Bob Slacker, chairman of the event reports $8000 was raised for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund. Backpacks and supplies donated during the weekend are for the Feeding Empty Little Tummies Campaign.

Lakewood Ranch-Sarasota Lodge 2855

Danny Tabor, Florida State Elks Chaplain, and Lakewood Ranch-Sarasota Elks ER, Joe Cooper presented an Elk’s Certificate of Appreciation to retired New York City Firefighter, Johnny Schroder, at the 10th Anniversary Commemoration of 9-11 held in Sarasota, FL.

Schroder was one of the first 15 responders to enter the World Trade Center Towers on 9-11 and was the featured speaker to the 900 in attendance.

A Certificate of Appreciation also was presented by Danny Tabor, Elks State Chaplin, left, and Joe Cooper, ER, right, to Dr. Tom Pfaff, Chairman of the Sarasota Ministerial Association.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks 9-11 program is to honor the memory of those who perished by extending charity to those in need was used in conjunction with a procession of all clergy to open and close a united, interfaith service. ER Joe Cooper carried the Lodge 9-11 flag in the opening procession.

Manasota Lodge 2734

At the Manasota Elks Dinner on August 13th, honoring DVP “Lu” Smith, Dakota Hunt thanked the Elks for a great camping experience. Dakota liked all the activities especially ultra-capture the flag and expressed the desire to return next year. He hopes to be a camp counselor in the future.

South Hillsborough Lodge 2672

The South Hillsborough Elks Lodge hosted the Florida State President Frank Hayes and VPAL Sean Maguire visit to the South West District. The District consists of Bradenton Elks Lodge 1511, Lakewood Ranch-Sarasota Elks Lodge 2855, Manasota Elks Lodge 2734, Palmetto Elks Lodge 2449, Sarasota Elks Lodge 2495, South Hillsborough Elks Lodge 2672 and Venice Nokomis Elks Lodge 1854. On July 8th, the President’s party arrived at the Sun City Inn for a meet and greet and then were driven by van to the Bradenton Lodge for dinner. On the 9th, the Presidential party played golf at the Renaissance Country Club Gold Course and the ladies shopped at the outlet mall in Ellenton, with lunch at the Palmetto Lodge. On Saturday evening, the South Hillsborough Lodge hosted the District to honor President Hayes and VPAL Maguire.

Venice-Nokomis Lodge 1854

The Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge has held a July 4th Picnic, a Caribbean Evening, a Labor Day Cookout and Christmas in July Celebration in the last few months. Sven Nelson, ER reports these events have raised $1,600 for the Harry Trust Fund. Homemade cookies, pies, cakes, brownies, and cheesecakes have been donated on Bingo Night and have raised $800. to benefit our charities.

David Brate of Brate Aluminum presented the South Hillsborough Elks Lodge with a check for $800.00 September 6th at the Lodge. This donation will be forwarded to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.

Back Row, L to R: Ed Beckman, Bill Gaither, Russ Sens, PER, Herb Cucuinni, Dustin Clark. Front Row, L to R: Lu Smith, DVP, Grace Bibisi, PER, David Brate, Brate Aluminum, Chuck Stieb, ER

David R. Carr, Grand Exalted Ruler

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks made a solemn pledge: “So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.”

WHEREAS: The fulfillment of this pledge is the obligation of every Elk, as set forth in Section 4.290 of the Laws of the Order, and

WHEREAS: Serving our nation’s veterans is an expression of patriotism in its purest sense;

NOW, THEREFORE: By virtue of the authority of the office of Grand Exalted Ruler, I hereby proclaim the month of November as “National Veterans Remembrance Month” and request all Lodges to observe this month of recollection of the debt we owe to all veterans in the manner which has been recommended by the Elks National Veterans Service Commission in its communication to all Lodges.

David R. Carr, Grand Exalted Ruler
Florida Ladies 365 Chairman Carol Weston with Lynn Warburton donating $11,150 bringing total donated since 1977 to $363,631.84.

Queen Betty Groff with her King James Groff.

Punta Gorda Elkettes sent Most Kids to Camp (30), and donated Most Money ($11,200), to the Youth Camp, Judy Schall shown with Lynn Warburton.

Largest percentage of members at conference 50% Live Oak Anna Miller Circle. Ladies Chairman Douglas Schwartz and Donna Goldie.

Cape Coral Ladies of Elks delegate Ginger Capehart received Attendance and Miles Awards from Douglas Schwartz Ladies Chairman.

Cape Coral Ladies of Elks received the Traveling Trophy for Attendance and Miles, Douglas Schwartz and Kathleen White.

Past Ladies of Elks President Dolores Casella gives Oath of Office to Betty Groff as she lights her Pink Candle of Office.

48th ANNUAL FLORIDA LADIES OF ELKS CONFERENCE
TAMPA, FLORIDA SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2011

can have dual successes: providing deserving students with much needed financial aid in the therapy services areas, and be able to utilize these graduates in our Therapy Services Program. It would be a win-win situation for all.

We can now celebrate the completion of our new cabin expansion at the world class Florida Elks Youth Camp. We voted at the State Convention in May, 2010, to award the contract for 25 new cabins – increasing our number to 67 (co-incidentally, one for each county in Florida). The timing for construction could not have been better. Our costs were fixed with the acceptance of the bid price for the job. During construction, we saw how advantageous our timing was – the price of the main components of steel, concrete and labor increased almost overnight. I congratulate you on the foresight and wisdom to choose to expand while the construction industry was going through a downturn. We benefitted greatly by doing this project at this particular time.

The additional cabins increase our capacity for Summer Camp from 1,813 to 2,548 campers. Summer Camp, 2011 brought us 2,200 campers. We were also able to accommodate 364 campers during our Army of Hope Camp for the dependents of military personnel.

Florida Elks have been spectacular in sending needy and disadvantaged children to experience a safe, quality camping experience. Our challenge now is to have full utilization with 2,548 campers during Summer Camp 2012. Pat yourselves on the back - we are doing more, in this state, to help disadvantaged children, children who need therapy services and the children of our military personnel than ANY state association of any kind in our great country.

Way to go, Florida Elks!
The following donations are from the period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 and include contributions to the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Youth Camp, Trust Fund and Elks Charities. A combined total of $62,113.18 was donated to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund, Elks Charities and the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services. Another $66,688.54 was donated to the Florida Elks Youth Camp.

**FLORIDA LADIES OF ELKS DONATIONS 2010-2011**

Southwest Central District
- Brandon Ladies of Elks: $1,288.00
- Lake Placid Ladies of Elks: $4,200.00
- Plant City Ladies of Elks: $4,062.00
- District totals: $6,683.00

East Central District
- Ladies of the Island Elks-MI: $576.00
- Edgewater/New Smyrna Beach: $1,537.00
- Port Orange Elks Hearts: $2,205.00
- Titusville Does Dr. 183: $100.00
- District Totals: $8,582.00

Southeast District
- District totals: $1,497.00

Southeast Central District
- Ft. Pierce Elkettes: $2,585.00
- Melbourne Ladies Auxiliary: $1,471.00
- West St. Lucie: $1,309.00
- Vero Beach Ladies: $1,025
- District totals: $5,723.00

Southwest District
- Bradenton Elkettes: $1,365.00
- District Totals: $1,910.00

North District
- Live Oak Anna Miller Circle: $1,532.00
- Marianna Ladies of Elks: $1,500.00
- Tallahassee Elkettes: $587.00
- District totals: $4,329.00

Northeast District
- St. Augustine Eland Club: $4,335.00
- Jacksonville Ladies: $3,100.00
- District totals: $7,435.00

Central District
- Aripeka Ladies of Elks: $1,189.00
- Kissimmee Elkettes: $720.00
- Orlando Does Drove 66: $550.00
- West Citrus Ladies of Elks: $1,000.00
- District totals: $3,290.00

West Central District
- Dunedin-Clearwater Ladies: $1,000.00
- Pinellas Park Ladies of Elks: $531.00
- St. Petersburg: $1,225.00
- Tampa Ladies of Elks: $4,277.00
- WC Past Ladies Presidents: $500.00
- District totals: $8,203.00

South Southeast District
- Boca Raton Does Drove 173: $25.00
- Delray Beach Elkettes: $1,032.00
- Pompano Beach Does Drove 142: $650.00
- Plantation/SW Broward: $650.00
- District totals: $2,417.00

South Central District
- Miami Elkettes of 948: $1,235.00
- District totals: $1,235.00

Total District contributions: $62,613.18
Florida Ladies of Elks: $25,850.82

FLOE Past Lady President Carol Dresch continued from page 3
Doug Schwartz, State Chairman of Ladies Organizations gave out the Attendance Awards. The Percent of Membership in Attendance went to Live Oak with 8 members out of 16 in attendance for a 50% showing. The miles traveled to Conference award was won by Cape Coral with 5,120.7 miles reported. Cape Coral also received the award for most ladies present in the room at Roll Call since they had 39 ladies present.

Senior Delegate Kathleen White and members of the SSW District performed a very moving Memorial Service. Soloist Sandra Blackhurst’s hymns, sung a cappella, were inspiring. It was a truly beautiful service honoring our departed sisters.

PSP Frank Palladini was the guest speaker. His very informative speech stated that Lodges and Ladies Organizations are separate and distinct entities. He stressed that the 501C A Not for Profit Fraternal Organization group exemption number does not cover the Ladies organizations that operate as auxiliaries within their Lodges. It is important to file a 990 post card or 990EZ report with the IRS. Ultimately, organizations should check with the Lodge Auditor or a local attorney for the proper course of action. It was a very informative and helpful presentation.

It was an honor to serve with two Florida State Presidents. My tenure began with James Hurst, Jr. and his lovely wife Julia. State President Frank D. Hayes and his gracious wife Linda were able to share the 2010-2011 FLOE Conference with me. The dedication of these people to the principles of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks inspires all of us. It was my pleasure, as State President of the Florida Ladies of Elks, to have been able to serve with you.

My sincerest wishes are extended to Betty Groff and her staff of Officers for every success in the coming year. I know you will keep building a better world one child at a time.

2011-2012 FLORIDA LADIES OF ELKS OFFICERS

2011-2012 FLOE officers starting with State President Betty Geoff on the right then left to Carol Phelps, Vice President; Judy Reyes, Secretary; Jane Moon, Treasurer; Connie Pouge, Chaplain; Linda Rittenhouse, Parliamentarian; Becky Long, Historian. Advisory Council - Beverly Messerschmidt, PSP, Chairlady; Carol Deresh, PSP, Secretary; Bonnie Lee; Joan Fritz, PSP; Isabella Simpson, Felicia Veletich, and Shirley Shaffer.
Sunrise Lodge 2273

A Murder Mystery Dinner & Show was held July 9, the players were Elks and Elkettes from the Lodge. Not only was this a great show and a lot of fun, but a great Lodge fundraiser.

July 4th found members in the Sunrise 4th of July Parade, with the most Patriotic Award. Exalted Ruler Carol Ruiz, rode in the lead car, (Jim Lind’s yellow convertible), which was decorated in a patriotic display, there were several pick-up trucks, cars, tricycles, and the Elk Riders in our entourage, we’re not sure who had more fun the spectators or the Elks!

The annual Christmas in July dinner dance was held July 30, it was the annual Christmas in July dinner dance. Music was provided by Sound Relations. The Chinese auction was a big hit, it raised approximately $2,500 for this great project. “Christmas for Kids” is the biggest charity event of the year, making sure those less fortunate have a Christmas to remember.

August brought the Victory Living Group back to the Lodge for a spaghetti dinner and bingo for the afternoon. 40 dictionary’s and 15 flags were donated to Excel-sior Elementary school. Two more schools will be getting dictionary’s also.

The Lodge participated in National Night Out at the Sunrise Civic Center, with both of the Drug Awareness information.

The First Comedy Show, “A Night at the Elksprov Comedy Show” was performed at the Lodge to raise funds for a local Lodge scholarship fund. This fund will benefit financially challenged high school seniors within the community surrounding the lodge. Six local comedians volunteered their time and talents to perform at the Elks Lodge. They were Perry Sak, Duke Stephens, Amy Tinoco, Kirkland Meadows, Pam Bruno, and Cee Preston. Three Elk members also performed comedy routines on stage that night, Gary Wilder, Pete Ruiz, and John Aiello. This comedy show could not have taken place without all of these comedians.

An uproariously fun night was had by all as the Lodge magically turned into a comedy club for the evening. This event was a great success as 145 people filled the audience.

Anchorage APF 2011

Independence Day Celebration went off with a BANG! The weather was gorgeous at Lake Ida Park, with the boats going by and the breezes flowing. Volunteers made barbecue for the 100 people who attended. Thank you “Elks Riders” for joining us! The horseshoe contest was once again filled with exciting competition.

Thanks go to all who donated during the July Blood Mobile.

This quarter the Lodge has donated $3,150 to charitable organizations.

Delray Elks donated the banquet hall and hundreds of volunteer hours to support the Delray Jaycees 17th Annual Fishing Tournament. Approximately 200 people enjoyed the Captains Meeting. Proceeds of $10,000 go to several child-related charities in Delray Beach. Elks care…Elks Share!!!

Pictured: Chamber President Mike Malone, Delray Commissioner Fred Fetzer, Trustee Pat Gostley, Trustee PER James J. Eaton, PR Chair Carol Dugan, Chaplain Judi Sikes and Chamber Chairman of the Board Gregg Weiss.

There was a whopping turn out for the 10th Annual Kevin Knight Memorial Golf Tournament. 133 golfers took to the greens and returned to the lodge for lunch, awards and raffle prizes. Hundreds of volunteer hours go into this fundraising event to make it so successful every year!

The Annual Flag Day ceremony had a new twist with Boy Scout Troop 301 participating in the ceremony as flag bearers. That night PER Doug Moore presented Students of The Year Awards to the following schools: St. Vincent Ferrer, Trinity Lutheran and Carver Middle Schools. With the list of activities these students participate in, it’s hard to believe they have any time to study! Elks strive to make a difference in our community by recognizing our children, our future generations.

Delray has joined the program “Adopt-A-Street” in Delray Beach! We are making a difference in our community by cleaning adopted street four times a year. The goal is to improve the quality of life through litter prevention, education and promoting volunteerism, to promote civil pride, and enhance Delray Beach’s visual appearance.

Evelyn Marple handing supplies to a Veteran

Sebring Elks have been distributing a “Goodie Box” to anyone in the Armed Services. Non-perishable items, cookies, potted meats or whatever “Goodies” our Service Men and Women would enjoy while away from their friends and loved ones.
**Gainesville Lodge 990**
The Lodge held a Bingo, American Song Fest and Flag Day Service on June 12th for the Veterans at the Malcolm Randell VA Medical Center. A record number of members assisted with the event, which was enjoyed by all Veterans present.

The July Golf Tournament to benefit Elks charities enjoyed a great turnout. Exalted Ruler Becky Spence shot a Hole-in-One on hole #11.

The Lodge Rib & Potato Salad Cook-off in August was well attended with folks bringing their favorite recipes, with House Committee Chair Lynn Dowling taking 1st place in both the ribs and potato salad categories.

**Green Cove Springs Lodge 1892**
District VP Ron Snow opened the month with a PER ‘fun’ raiser weekend that included a barbecue feast and live music by the Boggy Creek Band Friday evening. On Saturday night, over 300 members and guests rocked to the sounds of the Sauce Boss.

**Jacksontown Lodge 221**
The Army of Hope picnic was held in June in Jacksonville on behalf of the Northeast District. In addition to many speakers and dignitaries, the Elks’ mascot for drug awareness joined the fun, as well as the Jacksonville Sheriff’s department, the Red Hat Ladies, and members of the Getaway Sam’s Club. Over 60 volunteers assisted with food, set up and fundraising activities. All seven Northeast District lodges were present making it a true district project. Through the generosity of all, over $5,000 was raised for the Army of Hope.

**Mandarin/St. Johns Lodge 2866**
The Lodge procured a Dog/Cat Treat Basket from Pet Co in Mandarin to utilize as a raffle item raising $168 at the Army of Hope picnic in Jacksonville.

In June the Lodge held their first annual Pig Roast/Luau. One Hundred tickets were sold raising $500 for the Elks National Foundation, and three visitors attending the event applied for membership in the Order.

Lodge members held Bingo in June, July and August at the Lassen Nursing Home, which has grown to 79 residents. Each month the number Veterans joining in the fun grows, as does the number of Elk volunteers from not only Mandarin/St. Johns, but Green Cove Springs and St. Augustine Lodges as well. Members bake goodies to share with the Veterans. The Lodge presented the Lassen Nursing Home with a new 5’x8’ State of Florida flag for the home’s third flag pole. Young people from the #2866 Antlers group have become involved in assisting with bingo and interacting with the Veterans.

Speaking of Antlers, the newly evolving program for youth is well under way at Mandarin/St. Johns. Planned activities and programs include peer tutoring, career night, Antler of the Month, drug awareness, and financial training.

**Orange Park Lodge 2605**
The Lodge provided a $500 grant through the Elks National Foundation to 15 year old Alyssa Elliott whose grandfather, Bob Morse, is a lodge member. Alyssa submitted her resume outlining her objectives and goals to be part of her church’s Youth Ministry Team scheduled to take a Mission Trip to Lima, Peru over the summer. The team worked with a local orphanage in Lima, providing clothing and school supplies.

This was Alyssa’s first ‘out of country mission trip’ having concentrated her previous efforts on local outreachs. Alyssa excitedly shared “While we’re down there we’re going to go to a few high schools and do some skits and just share God’s word with the people down there. I’ve prepared by really digging into God’s word and praying about the mission trip.”

Upon her return, she indicated the trip was way more than she even anticipated. She shared “They were all so super sweet and really open with us. We taught them the cupid shuffle and they taught us one of their dances, which was a lot of fun.” Alyssa was extremely grateful for the support of the Orange Park Elks Lodge and the Elks National Foundation.

Another $500 Gratitude Grant recipient was the L’Arche Harbor House located in Jacksonville and is a faith-filled residential community consisting of five family-like homes for adults with developmental disabilities. Their mission is to create an environment where people with developmental disabilities can share their gifts, effecting a positive change in their world. They celebrate the unique value of every person and recognize our need for one another.

Despite the Jacksonville Suns’ loss to the Birmingham Barons, resident Veterans of the Robert H. Jenkins Domiciliary enjoyed a great day of minor league baseball in Jacksonville. Prior to departing for the game, the residents enjoyed a lunch and drinks and fellowshipped with Elk Members and Ladies of Orange Park Elks. Resident Doug LeCroy stated, “This is really a great way for the Orange Park Elks to treat us to a day of fun! I will be sure to sign up for future events that your Lodge hosts”.

Marc Lozano of Jacksonville received a scholarship of $1,000 per year for a total award of $4,000 as the winner of one of the 500 Most Valuable Students. He was one of 10 students who submitted scholarship applications to the Orange Park Lodge. Marc has been accepted by Yale University and began attending college this fall.

Stephanie Haynes from the Children’s Therapy Service visited the Lodge in June as a guest speaker, sharing with members what Children’s Physical Therapy does for the children of Florida. All services and equipment necessary to accomplish the needed treatment is provided at no charge to any child between birth and 18 years of age, paid for through the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.

**St. Augustine Lodge 829**
The Lodge presented Susan Ponder Stansel, President of Northeast Community Hospice, a donation in the amount of $5,000. This is the Lodge’s second donation to Hospice.

The Lodge held a Bluzfest with bands performing in three locations on the property. Nationally acclaimed Willie “Big Toe” Green, in his mid 80’s, was wheeled in front of the stage, handed a microphone and a harmonica, and brought the crowd to their feet with an incredibly powerful harmonica solo. Over 80 Elks assisted with the production of the weekend putting in a total of 864 hours of work, making the Fest a smooth operation.
STATE PRESIDENT’S VISIT TO THE SOUTHEAST CENTRAL DISTRICT

Among the several dozen greeters awaiting the State Presidents arrival, from left, Betty Tewksbury, Arlene and Gus Simonelli and Susie Simonelli.

Sebastian Mayor Jim Hill, right, conducted a tour of the historic Sebastian working waterfront for VP DeLauder, SP Frank Hayes, and his entourage of 15 Elks and spouses.

Ft. Pierce Lodge 1520

Our Lodge hosted the District Vice President of the SEC District on September 10. The theme was ‘Proud To Be An American - We Will Never Forget 9/11.’ A display of memorabilia was provided by the FSEA. It was a great way to display not only Elk events, but other memorabilia as well.

Port St. Lucie Lodge 2658

Our Lodge is still closed for renovations, which are moving along. We are hoping to reopen by the end of November or the first of December, depending on how things progress. We will keep you informed, and the Lodge may hold a grand opening. We will let you know. If you want to see photos of the progress go to our website - elks2658.com, click on Gallery. There are about 20 photos, and we will try to keep updating them about every two weeks.

Sebastian Lodge 2714

Sara Eden, 18, was the winner of the El-Doe’s essay contest for this year. She was awarded a $1,000 Scholarship for having her essay titled ‘What College Means To Me,’ chosen from many entries. Sara recently graduated from Sebastian River High School, where she was in the International Baccalaureate Program, and has been accepted to the University of Florida. Her future plans include being an Environmental Engineering major, and she has the desire to travel abroad to New Zealand, because that country is foremost in the world in environmental issues, and they have opportunities for her to study in her field.

Vero Beach Lodge 1774

Our Lodge held its first Annual Antique Car Show and Father’s Day Brunch on June 12. The event included a buffet brunch, music, awards, and door prizes. Money made at this event went to the Vietnam Veterans. We look forward to next year to an even bigger and better Father’s Day and Antique Car Show event. Rose Tufano is our local ‘Queen of Cookies.’ She has been packaging and shipping cookies, more than two dozen cartons monthly, to our soldiers overseas. She has received many letters of thanks from our troops and has gotten to know them through their letters. One of the men who has returned home will be stopping by in the next few weeks to thank her personally. Our Lodge will be hosting a dinner in the near future with proceeds going directly to help with the shipping and handling of future deliveries.

West St. Lucie Lodge 2823

Plans are going well for our Golf Tournament being held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and proceeds will go toward Toys For Tots. Our Night At The Races should be a very successful evening, with proceeds from that function going to the Veterans. July 4th was a huge success and Labor Day, led by our PER Association, was terrific. We are finalizing the plans for our District Deputy’s visit on October 15. We are also partnering with the Boys and Girls Club for the Hoop Shoot. Each one of these functions mentioned above could not happen without the hard work of our Lodge Volunteers. Everyone is working very hard to make our Lodge a success, and to spread the word about Elkdom - “Elks Care and Elks Share.”

Stuart-Jensen Lodge 1870

In July we held a fourth of July indoor picnic and our annual Christmas in July celebration and Santa “aka Elk Member Ed Pass” made a special appearance! Once August rolled around, we were busy collecting school supplies for Martin County School district. Special thanks to Lisa Potvin, PER and community activities chairman for organizing our back to school drive! We collected enough supplies to help over 8+ classrooms! We also hosted Veteran’s from the VA hospital in West Palm Beach in late August, these fine Veteran’s can’t wait to come up to our Lodge for lunch and bingo and they are so appreciative! Our Labor Day Indoor Picnic and tribute to 9/11 was a huge success! We had nearly 180 in attendance and raised money for ENF with our Chinese Auction, run by member Lois Gravius! Our Elks of the Month were; July - Gary Beardlsee, August -Gala Hamrick, September - Ruth Pelosi! To Our Absent Members who passed, Cindy Clemons on September 9th, and Mark Mosteiko on September 22nd.

Correction of Omission in previous issue

Charles DeLauder, District Vice President, Southeast Central District

Charles DeLauder was born in Hagerstown, Maryland in 1942. He has been employed in Production and Inventory Control all of his working life. He retired from Mack Trucks Inc as Materials Team Leader after 28 years of service in 2003. Charles served many years as a Volunteer Firefighter and continued volunteer service as an Emergency Medical Technician in his community.

After retirement Charles and his wife Mary moved to Florida and live in Sebastian. They have a combined family of 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

Charles joined the Elks in March 2005, after being invited to visit the Lodge and soon became an active and dedicated member in his Lodge and to Elkdom. He has not only served as an Officer since he has been a member but as a cook, bartender, lawn maintenance provider, and event planner and because of his dedication he was named Officer of the Year 2005/2006 and 2010/2011. Charles served the Sebastian Lodge as Inner Guard, Loyal Knight, Esteemed Leading Knight, and in 2009-2010 he served his Lodge as Exalted Ruler. In 2010/2011 Charles served as District Esquire to the District Deputy for the Southeast Central District. His current position in his Lodge is Chairman of the Trustee and Chairman of the Study in her field.

Environmental issues, and they have opportunities for her to study in her field.

Among the 137 attendees at the Friday evening dinner at Vero Beach Lodge were these leaders of the Southeast Central District, from left; Tommy Thomason, SSE District Vice President; Bob Carroll, PDD, HOPE Scholarship Committee; Don Moon, PER SWC District, State Membership Chairman; Herman Heydinger, PDD, Interlodge Visitation Committee; James “J J” Johnson, PDD; Ed Jackson, PVP, State HATF Chairman; Bill Orblych, SEC DDGER; Dennis Ryan, Vero Beach Exalted Ruler; Betty Tewksbury, PDD, FEYC BOD; Frank Hayes, FSEA President; Gus Simonelli, PDD; Sean Maguire, VPAL; John Harris, PDD, District Leader; Charles DeLauder, PER, SEC District Vice President.
News from the Elks Riders U.S.A.
The Northeast Florida District, in collaboration with many other riding groups in Volusia County, hosted a benefit poker run for the Volusia Honor Air. The organization is responsible for flying World War II veterans to Washington, DC to visit their respective memorials. Some World War II veterans from several East Central District Lodges will be a part of the journey.

Port Orange Lodge 2723

Members and officers of the Lodge attended a groundbreaking ceremony of a new “Veterans” Memorial at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Park. The Lodge, with the aid of an impact grant from the Elks National Foundation, is a major sponsor of this project. The monument will stand almost directly in front of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse.

Don Clark, PER participated in the 11 o’clock competition at the State Convention and brought home the trophy for winning first place.

At the National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, Exalted Ruler Angelo Cretella accepted the Veterans Remembrance Award. This is the second time the Lodge was chosen due to the dedication of members, Ed Jackson, PER, Patricia Heller-Jackson, PDVP and Emory L. Bennett Nursing Home VAV representative, and Lodge Veterans Chairman, Dan Theodore. This would be the last Veterans Remembrance Award the Grand Lodge would give out to a Lodge.

PDDGGER Sonny Armstrong recently had dinner with one of his grandsons, Michael Knight, at the Lodge. Michael, a US Army Infantryman was celebrating his graduation from basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia. He will be traveling to Fort Lewis in Washington State where he and his brother battalion will be deployed. Sitting at a table with his grandfather, Michael was introduced and greeted by other veterans who were having dinner; were happy to share their military stories with him. Sonny is also proud has of other grandsons, one who served in the US Marines in Iraq and the other who served in the US Navy.

The Lodge hosted the arrival of the Brotherhood Riders from Naples Florida who were on their way to New York City to be present at the 911 ceremonies. The group, comprised of 43 men and 2 women, all firefighters, police officers and emergency personnel, was started 5 years ago by Jeffrey Morris, President and Founder. The riders were given a dinner where they had a chance to break bread with the District Vice President, Larry Skates, PER and his wife Marci. Sleeping arrangements were provided at the Lodge; massages were provided by Palmer Chiropractic College students; after a good night’s sleep, the Lodge served a hot breakfast. Exalted Ruler Angelo Cretella was presented with a plaque from the Riders in appreciation of the support from the Elks, in turn the Lodge donated $100 to help the Riders.

Deland Lodge 1463

The Lodge PERs hosted their first Annual Parke and Mark Elks Memorial Golf Tournament at the Deland Country Club. Parke and Mark were members of the Elks and well respected individuals in the community. The proceeds from this tournament will be going towards scholarships to students from five area high schools. This year’s Parke & Mark Memorial Elks Golf Tournament will help our Elks Children Therapy Services, the Elks National Foundation, Florida Elks Youth Camp, as well as providing scholarships to area high schools.

Recently, members visited the Emory L. Bennett Nursing Home in Daytona Beach for a fun day of bingo with the resident veterans. Phil Watercutt, PDDGGER and Chip Haverty have been running a horse derby at each VP visitation to benefit the Harry-Anna Trust Fund. Several Lodges of the East Central District have won the horse race; collectively they have won amounts adding up to $2,320; the winning Lodges will include the money they won for their Harry-Anna per capita.

The Lodge held a PER golf tournament to help raise money for area high school student scholarships, and a sock hop fundraiser helped raise $400 to benefit local children’s Halloween and Christmas parties at the Lodge.

The Ladies auxiliary, Deland Delites, held a Jimmy Buffet benefit; the Delites raised over $2,200 to help with Lodge repairs.

Edgewater/New Smyrna Lodge 1557

Volunteers of the Gifts of Love have received bushels of fresh vegetables from the Lodge’s garden that was started over a year ago that is benefiting the local community.

Lodge Secretary Cynthia Painter, PER along with Exalted Ruler John Sterio, District Vice President Larry Skates and PSP Victor McClellan were present at a ribbon cutting ceremony of Oak Hill’s Burns Science Technology Charter School. Principal Dr. Jan McGee was presented with several flags for the classrooms. Lodge Officers and members were also present for the flag presentation.

The Lodge sponsored eleven boys from the South Daytona Stingrays team to attend the Cal Ripken Experience in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They competed against several other teams in a championship baseball game; the Stingrays came in second.

A dinner for East Central District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Roger Johnson, PER, and East Central District Vice President, Larry Skates, PER was given at the Lodge. Exalted Ruler John Sterio and his wife Pamela were on hand to welcome Lodge Advisor John Lesko and his wife Marci, Exalted Ruler Vicki Sheehan from Merritt Island, and other guests from the district. Mary Johnson, PER presented her husband, Roger Johnson with the jewels of his office; it was noted the jewels were previously worn by Clarence Rogers, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and PER of Daytona Beach Elks Lodge 1441.

Serving in the community and doing what he loves best, former NASA employee and member of the Lodge, Ed Ehrenspeck has visited many local schools in the Oak Hill and Edgewater/New Smyrna Beach area. Currently, Ed is teaching a rocket science class to some of the students of the newly formed charter school, Burns Science Technology Charter School in Oak Hill. Ed has been honored with many awards and certificates from thankful educators. His name appears on several space monuments, and has appeared in news articles with former astronauts John Glenn, Gordon Cooper and Ken Ham. Ed’s main goal is to motivate and stimulate student’s interests in the field of rocket science.

The Lodge continues to collect aluminum can pull tabs to help support the Seeing-Eye organization for a new guide dog for the visually impaired or legally blind.

Merritt Island Lodge 2650

Army Staff Sergeant William Castillo and his family were invited for a weekend to attend a VP visitation where they were greeted by the District VP, Larry Skates, PER. William was struck several times while on a rescue mission to save marines. For his bravery and courage he was awarded The Purple Heart. He has dedicated himself to helping other wounded veterans. Although William and his family live in Orlando, he decided to become a member of the Lodge.

There’s a camper with a sign in front of a cabin (#45) at the Merritt Island Youth Camp that reads, “Donated by the past and present future members of Merritt Island Lodge #2650.” Members of the Lodge raised $5,000 for the cabin.

The Lodge held a ceremony with local policemen, firemen, veterans, and the Patrick Air Force Base Color Guard honoring the 10th anniversary to those who lost their lives on 911. The Lodge was presented with an All-American Lodge award.

Palm Coast Lodge 2709

At the State Convention the Lodge received several awards namely: Lodge Bulletin; All State Lodge, highest gain in membership. Diana Kaminski, Lodge Secretary, received an award for bringing in the most members.

On the 10th Anniversary of the September 11th, the Lodge unveiled and dedicated a monument and memorial. Two steel beams that were part of the World Trade Center buildings were secured by a member of the Lodge. A Pentagon shaped pedestal serves as the base supporting the two beams. Tablets at the base depict the events of September 11.

The Lodge participated in a community Special Olympics 2nd Annual Invitational Golf Tournament to benefit local organizations and charities.

Members of the Lodge collected over 1,019 cell phones to be shipped ReCupl. This is an ongoing program to help military personnel phone home.

Most Valued Student Scholarship 2011 winner Marielena Dias was given the honor of carrying the POW flag alongside Ladies Auxiliary president Pat Maureat the annual Flag Day Ceremony. Members of Boy Scout Troop #270 and the Marine Corps League contingent were a part of this year’s celebration.

Continued on page 8
The Past Exalted Rulers of the Arcadia Elks Lodge held a “Delivery Lunch” fundraiser for the Cub Scouts Pack 39. Arcadia Elks Lodge 1524 represented their Lodge and the community by organizing and kicking off the City of Arcadia’s 4th of July Parade. Arcadia’s Elks PER Ronald Neads, was the Parade Director, PER Mary Lynne was the parade’s announcer, Indoctrination Chairman Ed Lynne was the parade’s Line-up Chairman, and ER Jackie Tucker chaired and organized the City of Arcadia’s 4th of July Parade.

Lake Placid Lodge 2661

Manna Ministries was presented with a $1,000 gratitude grant from the Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661. Manna Ministries has provided aid to families in need. Every $100 donation Manna can help 10 families each week with food and clothing. These are families who otherwise would not have had access to their basic necessities of life.

Brandon Lodge members marched in the 2011 Greater Brandon Fourth of July Parade along with members of Boy Scout Troop 627.

Forty years ago the Brandon Elks Lodge started in the town. Lodge 2383 has been in one of the town’s Fourth of July parade almost every year.

September 11th was commemorated with Brandon Elk members taking a bus trip to the Tampa Ray game. Pre-game tributes were heartwarming and best of all, the fun and enjoyment the Brandon members were having brought back the feeling of one reason why we joined the organization so many years ago. Members we thanked for supporting the Lodge, and the State Elks Association, by participating in this event. Through the statewide sales of game tickets to the Elks about $5,000 was donated back from the Rays organization. This money went to support Elks charities, which is the core mission of the BPOE!

Lake Wales Lodge 1974

In August Lake Wales Lodge housed Lance Robinson a Marine Veteran who is crossing the country on foot thru 48 states in recognition of those in uniform whether veterans, police officers, fire-fighters and EMTs.

As of August Lance had walked through 18 states in his quest to honor veterans and active duty military. Robinson said that as he traveled, he realized the importance of including police, firefighters and emergency medical personnel, especially since he is tying the recognition to Sept. 10, which he calls “The Eve of Destruction.” Joe Webb, ER of the Lake Wales Elks, said they were pleased to have the chance to help Lance Robinson and “honoring vets is a big thing with the Elks. Lance Robinson’s comment about his journey was the Lake Wales Elk Lodge was another example of “The kindness of strangers” that he has seen throughout his journey.

Lakeland Lodge 1291

June 18th was a great day to be a member of the Lake-land Elks Lodge. A family member of one of the members at the Lodge was diagnosed with stage 7 Leukemia. Eighteen month old Maverick is receiving Chemo every day at Tampa Hospital and his dad is out of work and also cares for two younger children. Lakeland Lodge stepped up and proved once again “ELKS CARE - ELKS SHARE! Thanks to the donations from members & guests in attendance at an outdoor party, over $3,700 was raised to help Maverick’s family in their time of need.

Plant City Lodge 1727

Plant City Elks Lodge 1727 raised $300 at a luncheon for the Plant City’s Little League team tournament bound toward for the Little League World Series.

From left, Trustee Kenny Rogers, Lance Robinson, Angie Altrey, and ER Joe Webb.

In August Lake Wales Lodge housed Lance Robinson a Marine Veteran who is crossing the country on foot thru 48 states in recognition of those in uniform whether veterans, police officers, fire-fighters and EMTs.

As of August Lance had walked through 18 states in his quest to honor veterans and active duty military. Robinson said that as he traveled, he realized the importance of including police, firefighters and emergency medical personnel, especially since he is tying the recognition to Sept. 10, which he calls “The Eve of Destruction.” Joe Webb, ER of the Lake Wales Elks, said they were pleased to have the chance to help Lance Rob-
On Saturday, October 8, the Lodge held its Autumn Holiday Fair, which was free to all members and guests. Between October 22nd and the 27th, 55 Lodge members set sail on a five-night charity cruise on the Celebrity Millennium to the Western Caribbean.

From left to right: Mr. Antonio Brooks, Exalted Ruler South Dade Lodge 2870, Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Vice-Chair Miami-Dade County School Board, Mr. Raul Garcia, Principal, Goulds Elementary, Ms. Ana Buznego, 3rd grade teacher, Goulds Elementary, and Mr. Wilbur Bell, Esteemed Loyal Knight, South Dade Lodge 2870.

Miami Lodge 948 will hold its Annual Charity Ball on Saturday, November 19th. This year’s theme is “Brazilian Masquerade”, and tickets will be $45.

Florida Keys Lodge 1872

On August 6, Miami Lodge 948 held a Polynesian Luau. Over 180 members and guests attended and were treated to a feast of Hawaiian delights and banana breads for dessert. Poolside entertainment included an exciting Fire Knife Warriors Act, Real Hula Girls presented by the group “Island Flowers” and as always music inside at the bar was provided by the lodges “Karaoke Man”, Walter Cordle. The event raised over $3,700 for the Lodge.

On August 20, the Lodge held its Annual Charity Casino Night, which was attended by about 120 members and guests. The event raised over $700 for charity.

At its first weekly meeting in September, Ms. Ana Buznego, a Lodge member and a third grade teacher at Goulds Elementary School made a request that the Miami Elks Lodge donate $400 toward the purchase of “Agendas” for the second through fifth-graders at Goulds Elementary School. A motion was placed on the floor and seconded and the attending members approved this donation.

During the same meeting, Mr. Wilbur Bell, the Loyal Knight for the newly formed South Dade Lodge 2870 personally donated $500 to Miami Lodge 948. His donation was in gratitude for the assistance that Mr. Jeffrey Muehlfeld, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the South District and a member of Miami Lodge 948 gave in the formation of his new Lodge. After the Lodge meeting, Mr. Bell and Mr. Muehlfeld decided that the two lodges would split the donation of $400 towards the agendas for the Goulds Elementary School students.

On Wednesday, September 21 before the last meeting of the month, Mr. Antonio Brooks, Exalted Ruler South Dade Lodge 2870, Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Vice-Chair Miami-Dade County School Board, Mr. Raul Garcia, Principal, Goulds Elementary, Ms. Ana Buznego, 3rd grade teacher, Goulds Elementary and member of Miami Lodge 948, Ms. Lajean Reed, Assistant Principal, Goulds Elementary, and Mr. Wilbur Bell, Esteemed Loyal Knight, South Dade Lodge 2870 were guest of Miami Lodge 948 for dinner. After dinner and before the meeting the Lodge was presented a plaque in recognition of its charitable donation to Goulds Elementary.

Miami Lodge 948

On August 20, the Lodge held its Annual Charity Ball on Saturday, November 19th. This year’s theme is “Brazilian Masquerade”, and tickets will be $45.

From left to right: Dan Ferguson of Florida Keys Lodge 1872 awards $5,000 in Scholarships to Four Coral Shores High School Seniors. Benjamin Ignacio, Ryan Dugan, Cecilia Podrecca and Chelsea Salatowski are the 2011 Elks Scholars. Congratulations to all.

South Dade Lodge 2870

The Benevolent and Protective Oder of Elks and the Florida State Elks Association conducted the institution of South Dade Elks Lodge 2870. The institution of the new Lodge took place on Sunday, August 28, 2011 at Miami Elks Lodge 948 at 2PM. The new lodge will be located in the Cutler Bay area of Miami-Dade County. South Dade Elks Lodge 2870 will carry on the great tradition of service to the community and humanity.
Inverness Lodge 2522

Inverness Lodge received a $1,000 ENF Gratitude Grant which will be used for Adult Scholarships. The funds help meet tuition and fee expenses of local residents who are enrolled in programs which help them change careers.

In the first objective, five graduates of the Nature Coast Emergency Medical Services Training Center were recently given $100 awards to help them prepare for, and take, the required state Emergency Medical Technician license exam. A few of the students, along with the Lead EMT Instructor, were treated to lunch recently at the Lodge.

The second objective targeted $500 to the local Veteran’s shelter for homeless vets to attend and become certified in food handler/food manager class at the local trade school.

Lodge members of the memorial club are L-R Frank Stoothoff and District Deputy Mike Mongeluzzo Sr. Stoothoff served 21 and Mongeluzzo served 23 years. The fire bell, center, symbolizes the 5-5-5-5 ceremony, a New York firefighter tradition, when the fire bell is rung to remember fallen comrades.

Silver Springs Shores Lodge 2730

Lodge members staffed a booth at the Chamber of Commerce Nine Mile Pond celebration in Belleview, FL. PDD Bruce Henry is shown with the Elks poster board and the many handouts explaining what we do.

Winter Garden Lodge 2165

For more than 20 years, the Big Orange Games have given youngsters with ‘disabilities’ chances to showcase their ‘abilities’ and the members of the Lodge have always been active supporters of the Games.

Lodge members are shown preparing to feed the children including (l-r) PDD Mike Jernigan, Dan and Sharon Valance, PER Ray DeWeese (Lodge Chairman), and “Possum” Jernigan.

Recently, Withlacoochee Technical Institute staff-ers, from left, Chef Hap Hough and Sandra Van Dervort met with Lodge Secretary Bill Whalen to set up the “adult scholarship” program that will help those looking for a new career to get their certification.

Ocala Lodge 286

Janet Warren was presented with the FSEA Veteran Volunteer of the Year Award by ER Pat Mullin. Janet has partnered with Vets Helping Vets in Ocala and has organized the Elks program for feeding, collecting clothing and food for local veterans in need of assistance.

Disabled FDNY firefighters and members of the FDNY 343 memorial club based in The Villages includes 75 retired New York firefighters from an area that consists of several counties.

Winter Park Lodge 1830

Winter Park Lodge supports Casselberry Elementary School along with other Partners in Education to assist the needy in their community.

The Lodge was instrumental in developing a food pantry as a resource storage closet to store food and sundries from the Lodge’s Bingo players, dictionaries to third grade students and monetary gift cards to help at Christmas time.

Here is a device found in this Lodge and many other Lodges in the North Central District that is both ingenious and practical.

PER Dick Craft of Inverness Lodge 2522 has been making Charitable Contribution boxes for several years. It’s ingenious in that it gives you something to do with all those pesky quarters that cause your pockets to lump and sag, that get lost in the bottom of your purse or that jingle when you walk and it’s practical because it is an easy way for you to contribute to the Harry Anna Trust Fund and / or the ENF.

A slot under a person’s name is big enough to feed into a tube that holds $10 worth of quarters. Fill up your tube – it ‘magically’ empties, you receive a receipt for your contribution, you and the Lodge receive credit and the tube is ready for another $10 worth of quarters.

Winter Park Lodge is using the desktop displays provided by the FSEA Publicity & Public Relations Committee during Indoctrination, public yard sales and Community Parades to inform our neighbors of the community contributions by the local Lodge thanks to local fund raisers, Grand Lodge and State Association activities.

Apopka Lodge 2422

The Lodge donated $1,000 to the Apopka Fire Department to promote fire safety and protection for seniors and children in the community and donated $1000 to the Apopka Elementary School’s All Pro Dad’s Chapter. The Lodge donated the use of the Lodge to the Relay for Life’s fundraising events.

Members of the Lodge held several dinners to raise money for the Apopka Fire Department’s custom made emergency cart. The cart will help rescue personnel get into areas an ambulance would not be able to. It will handle a full size gurney as well as storage for all types of emergency situations.
West Palm Beach Lodge 1352

As most lodges experience the slow months of summer, we are no different. However, we have had several functions, under the direction of Elaine Wherry, our House Chairman, to raise enough money to purchase new bar stools for our lounge area. They look great and blend in with the new folding door that separates the lodge room and lounge area. The Lodge now has a fresh look and appears much cheerier.

We were also pleased to receive the Gratitude Grant from last year. Tim Hadsell did a fine job applying for this grant and the $1,000.00 was given to the Goldcoast Down’s Syndrome Association to help support their work with Downs children and adults in the area. Tim is also in the process of applying for the Promise Grant.

The Lodge hosted a DD Clinic in early April under the leadership of DDGER Bruce Cook and SEDVP Ted Olson. It was quite a meeting! Half way through, the lodge was beset with severe electrical problems and everyone had to cut the meeting short and leave because of the sparking lights, popping fixtures and smell of smoke.

The Ladies Auxiliary hosted a Christmas in July event for a benefit for VPAL Sean Maguire. The ladies decorated the lodge with Christmas tree and all the trimmings. The crowd was even surprised by a visit from Santa who was gracious enough to sit for pictures with everyone. The meal was a complete turkey dinner.

Clewiston Lodge 1853

The Clewiston Lodge sent Barbeque Teams to the West Palm Beach Lodge to cook ribs for the State President’s visit on August 6th. They did an excellent job as always. Member Ron Stevens is in charge of the Lodge’s Newsletter so this District Reporter will have to better a contact at the Lodge for more local news next time.

Jupiter Lodge 2469

The Lodge gave out three $500.00 scholarships to seniors from the local high schools. Also in dealing with schools in the area, the Lodge members collected school supplies and distributed them to local schools. They have just completed contacting all the elementary schools to see if they were in need of sneakers for the children. Some schools were very appreciative and some reported that they still had sneakers from last year, but would let them know when more were needed.

On September 24th, the Lodge put on a Country Western Night under the direction of Mary K. Swinson. There was a Country Western Dance Show done by a group, one member was a member of the Lodge. After the party, plans are underway to teach country line dancing during some evening at the Lodge.

Like many of the Lodges around the state, Mary Austin, Secretary, reports things have been slow this summer; however, business seems to be picking up lately.

Belle Glade/Pahokee Lodge 1716

In June, right before school ended for the year, the Lodge hosted a Teachers’ Party for the Glades Area Schools. There were approximately 40 teachers in attendance and ready to celebrate the end of the year and the beginning of summer vacation.

On Saturday, August the 6th, the Lodge hosted the State President Frank Hayes, his wife Linda, and his entourage on an airboat ride on Lake Okeechobee. After the ride, the group, a little hot and a lot muddy, returned to the Lodge for a lunch of hamburgers, chips, and drinks. After the exciting morning, they returned to West Palm Beach to rest and clean up before a picnic.

The Steak Night on August 20th was followed by a Lia Sophia Jewelry Show. Many fine pieces were shown.

On September 23rd, the Lodge hosted a Vendors Fair for the Glades Area.

Warrington Lodge 2108

Members are asked to come to the Sock Hops and welcome the new members, get to know them a bit as this will be their opportunity to meet all the wonderful people that are ELKS! The new members will be at designated tables and will be wearing the nametags that the PER’s provided.

August and September were very busy months at the Lodge. A rather risqué rendering to open the ‘Cabaret’ by our Sweetheart Linda, then deteriorating to a rendition of the ‘Blue’s Brothers’ aka Joe R and Jack D, defaming the Great city of Chicago with their lively antics. That not being enough, the ‘Blue’s Brothers’ returned to the Lodge for a Country Western Night under the leadership of DDGER Bruce Cook and SEDVP Ted Olson.

Then along came our Elkettes Annual Luau; Lodge members were surprised but pleased to have State President Frank Hayes and Linda dressed appropriately while attending the annual Warrington Lodge Elkettes “South Seas Luau” dinner and floorshow.

Holly-Navarre Lodge 2787

Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11th to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States. Many Americans refer to Patriot Day as 9/11 or September 11.

Everyone pick up a MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and carry it with you and sponsor a NEW MEMBER!

Don’t forget Sunday’s NASCRA at the Lodge. Check out the Elk’s Riders U.S.A. ‘Gathering of the Herd.’

Ft. Walton Lodge 1795

Fort Walton Elks Lodge and Emerald Coast McDonalds of Fort Walton Beach recently raised $15,000 for the Ronald McDonald House of Northwest Florida with help from many area sponsors and volunteers during the first annual Big Mac Shootout Fishing Tournament held at the Elks Lodge. There were 27 kids participating and the fishing was done right on the Lodge from their docks in Ft. Walton Beach.

Pensacola Beach Lodge 497

Well, summer is on its way out. September was busy and hot, starting with the District Deputy Clinic in Destin. Thanks go to all members that attended, and to the ladies for the Sock Hop. This month come out and help wind down the summer. It is time for college and pro football. So let’s watch the games at the Lodge. Darts are back and we are getting more players each season.

George Scribner is working hard on the Veterans Day Parade and is in need of volunteers. Please let him know if you can help. We would like to see this parade be the biggest and best yet.

Hey, the kids are back in school and the beach traffic is gone. This time of year things slow down on the beach. Yet our business continues along. The bar and restaurant are doing well. Friday nights are doing great. I think everyone seems to enjoy the entertainment along with the great food. Lunches haven’t changed much. Sunday breakfast is steady. The buffet on the last Sunday of the month does real well. I would like to reiterate the importance of making reservations for Friday night dinner. When we have an idea of how many dinners we are going to serve. The kitchen can prepare in advance the salads; they can bake the right amount of potatoes, and precook the correct number of Prime Rib Lois. This last month we ran out of some items, due to the large number of walk-ins. So please help us in trying to give our members a great meal at a great price.

For those that are not aware, the waitresses volunteer their time, and work strictly for tips. We do not have tip monies included in the price on the menus, nor in the price for the buffets. Please take care of our bartenders and waiters.

Twin Cities Lodge 2747

Due to an increase in Lodge functions and the number of people, we ask that members either come to the Lodge or call and get on the sign-up sheet for the functions to help us better determine how much food is needed.

Please join with the Veterans Committee for their monthly visits to the Manor and Pavilion bringing good cheer to our deserving veterans. Call Rose Marie Bolton at 850-678-4566 or 850-420-1314 for details on our visits.

Crestview Lodge 2624

The Lodge Turkey Shoot runs until December 17, 2011, and meets at 9:00 AM each Saturday at the Lodge Pavilion. From 85N, turn right onto Hwy 90 heading toward Mossy Head, turn left onto Fairchild road (last black top road before crossing the Shoal River bridge) and proceed 1/2 mile. The entrance to the pavilion is on the left Elks Lane. For additional information or assistance, please call our Lodge, 682-2110, after 3 PM, Wednesday.
New Cabins are Here!

Our expansion is complete! This gives us 52 camper cabins and 15 staff cabins. Our business is helping the children of Florida. The business for our Lodges is to find the children to send. We have the room, we need the kids...

Summer Camp 2012

Week 1 June 17th - 23rd
Week 2 24th - 30th
Week 3 July 1st - 7th
Week 4 8th - 14th
Week 5 15th - 21st
Week 6 22nd - 28th
Week 7 July 29th - Aug 4th

Dependents of Military / Army of Hope Week

In the current economy it’s more important than ever for Lodges to help those less fortunate than ourselves!

Deadline for the Winter Edition—December 18, 2011

ADDRESS CHANGES

Neither the Florida State Elks Association Office nor the Editor of the newspaper maintains the mailing list for the Florida Elks News. The mailing list is obtained from the Elks Magazine Circulation Department at Grand Lodge Headquarters in Chicago.

All address changes must be delivered to your home lodge secretary and should include your current and new address along with your lodge membership number.