Father’s Day

Mrs. John B. Dodd of Washington first proposed the idea of a “Father’s Day” in 1909. Mrs. Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart. William Smart, a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife (Mrs. Dodd’s mother) died in childbirth with their sixth child. Mr. Smart was left to raise the newborn and his other five children by himself on a rural farm in eastern Washington. It was after Mrs. Dodd became an adult that she realized the strength and selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent.

The first Father’s Day was observed on June 19, 1910 in Spokane, WA. At about the same time in various towns and cities across America other people were beginning to celebrate a “Father’s Day.” In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father’s Day. Finally in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father’s Day.

Father’s Day has become a day to not only honor your father but all men who act as a father figure. Stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, and adult male friends are all to be honored on Father’s Day.

Federal Income Tax

Subordinate Lodges are eligible for exemption from Federal Income Tax by group ruling issued to the Order on October 18, 1951 under Section 501 (c) (8) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, under Section 6033 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended by the Tax Reform Act of 1969, all subordinate Lodges and the Grand Lodge are required to file information returns (IRS Form 950) if their gross income in each taxable year is normally more than $25,000, and applicable returns (IRS Form 990T) must be filed by those Lodges that have income from unrelated trade or business.

The due date of filing Forms 990 and 990T is August 15, and failure to file these forms by the date required may subject the Lodge to a penalty of $10 for each day during which such failure continues up to a maximum of $5,000 and result in the loss of the Lodge’s income tax exemption. To qualify, each new Lodge must authorize the Grand Lodge to include it on the Order’s group exemption roster, said authorization to be signed by the Exalted Ruler or Secretary. Therefore, it is most important to the Grand Secretary’s office immediately after the institution of a new Lodge. A new Lodge does not qualify for the exemption until authorization has been filed.

You should also apply to the nearest Internal Revenue Office for an Employer Identification Number. Upon receipt of this number, it should be forwarded immediately to the Office of Grand Secretary. Such number is necessary whether or not you have employees.

(Persons involved in Lodge accounting and taxes should first check for new regulations which might invalidate this information.)

Fernandez, J. J., President, Florida State Elks Association, 1936-1937
The following Lodges were represented: Arcadia No. 1524, Bradenton No. 1511, Clearwater No. 1525, Cocoa No. 1532, Daytona Beach No. 1141, DeLand No. 1463, Eustis No. 1578, Fort Lauderdale No. 1517, Fort Myers No. 1288, Fort Pierce No. 1520, Gainesville No. 990, Jacksonville No. 221, Lakeland No. 1291, Lake Worth No. 1530, Miami No. 948, New Smyrna Beach No. 1557, Ocala No. 286, Orlando No. 1079, Palatka No. 1232, Panama City No. 1598, Pensacola No. 497, St. Augustine No. 829, St. Petersburg No. 1224, Sanford No. 1241, Sarasota No. 1519, Sebring No. 1529, Tallahassee No. 937, Tampa No. 708, and West Palm Beach No. 1352.

President Mooty reported 33 Lodges were represented at the 1935 Grand Lodge Convention in Columbus, OH; that the Florida float was awarded first prize; that the Chattanooga, TN Boys’ Band paraded under the auspices of the Florida State Elks Association; and that Mooty captured the first prize in the Elks National Skeet Show.

Secretary A. J. Cleary reported that the City of New Smyrna Beach presented three fine specimens of Florida deer to the Columbus Zoo. Also, 2,000 coconuts with the word “Florida” were given away by a Seminole Indian.

The Resolution Committee recommended that the Association enter a float at the Grand Lodge Convention in Los Angeles.

Resolutions were adopted reciting the achievements of Brother David Sholtz of Daytona Beach Lodge No. 1141 and authorizing a committee to formally present the name of David Sholtz as a candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler at the Grand Lodge Convention to be held in Los Angeles, CA in July 1936.

The ritualistic cup was awarded to West Palm Beach Lodge No. 1352.

Palatka Lodge No. 1232 requested authority to hold a Florida State Elks celebration at Ravine Gardens, Palatka, during March 1937. It was granted for one year only.

Panama City No. 1598 was instituted on July 8, 1935.

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1936-1937 term:

- President: J. J. Fernandez, Tampa 708
- First Vice President: Alto Adams, Fort Pierce 1520
- Second Vice President: Claude Johnson, Tallahassee 937
- Third Vice President: Fred Lowdermilk, Fort Myers 1288
- Fourth Vice President: R. L. Bohon, Jacksonville 221
- Fifth Vice President: Jim Hooper, Cocoa 1532
- Secretary-Treasurer: J. Walter Hawkins, DeLand 1463
- Tiler: Herman Shrog, Daytona Beach 1141
- Sergeant at Arms: Peter Gessner, DeLand 1463
- Chaplain: Father Flint, Arcadia 1524
- Historian: A. M. Taylor, St. Augustine 829
- Executive Committee: M. Frank O’Brien, Jacksonville 221

West Palm Beach was selected for the 1936-1937 annual session.

The report of J. Edwin Baker, Superintendent-Manager of the Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Home, was received and filed. The Organization Staff was as follows: Superintendent, J. Edwin Baker; Medical Director, Dr. W. L. Ashton; Matron, Mrs. Robert Keller; Supervisor of Wards, Miss Zella Lee Atkinson, R.N.; Physiotherapist, Miss Corrine Way; Dietician, Miss Lois Walters; and School Teacher, Miss Hattie D. Slaughter.

Fernandez served as State Secretary in 1945. He again assumed the position as Secretary serving from 1950-1956 and in 1959. Fernandez was taken seriously ill on March 6, 1957. The board of directors met following the quarterly meeting of the Home Committee and devised and approved plans for the continuation of the affairs of the Association and the Harry-Anna Home. This meeting resulted in the appointment of William “Bill” Lieberman of Leesburg as Acting Secretary, and a few days later Chelsie Senerchia, Chairman of the Home Committee, was made Acting Comptroller of the home. At the advice of the Operating Committee and board of directors, Carver applied and secured a leave of absence from his employer, the Southern Railway System, and moved to Umatilla to help carry on during Fernandez’s illness. Contrary to first impressions, Fernandez did improve and was soon able to return to active though limited duty.
**Fernandina Lodge 795**

Fernandina was the sixth Lodge to be instituted in Florida. Its date of dispensation was June 18, 1902 and its date of institution was July 29, 1902. Fernandina was one of the founding Lodges of the Florida State Elks Association, the seventeenth state to form an Elks Association. There were sixteen charter members. Its charter was granted on August 14, 1902 and was revoked on January 30, 1942. Most of its members demitted to Tallahassee Lodge # 937.

**Financial Statements, Florida State Elks Association**

Methods of Accounting:

- **Property & Equipment:**
  Property acquired by the hospital was recorded at cost. Donated property and equipment was recorded at fair market price.

- **Depreciation:**
  Straight-line method over the estimated useful life

- **Investments:**
  Investments in marketable securities are carried at a lower aggregate cost or market value. Investments in tangible property are carried at cost as market value is only determinable at auction.

- **Restricted Assets:**
  They show on the statement of assets and liabilities and represent assets that are restricted by the donors.

**Financial Statement for the Year May 1906 to April 1907:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash from former Treasurer $77.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash received from lodges for dues 95.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 172.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary Secretary for year 1905-1906 $50.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid for printing books 35.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid for letterheads and circulars as per Files 10.35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid for printing circulars, 3-1-1907 2.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 97.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand this date 74.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due from Lodge No. 795, dues $ 5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand 74.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 79.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due Secretary for term 1906-1907 $50.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of Secretary’s office as per items 6.36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets 23.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 79.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Fine Arts Collection, Florida Elks**

The following is a quote from Past State President J. Pierce Smith, longtime Chairman of the Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.: “An innovative investment of the profits of the Harry-Anna Investment Fund in a collection of fine arts has brought national attention to the Florida State Elks Association and promises future dividends of national public relations and increasing asset value.”

In 1987, while the stock market was declining, the art market continued to rise, and this led Brother Jim Richardson of Gainesville Lodge No. 990 and financial advisor for the past forty years to the Florida State Elks Association to suggest an investment in the fine arts. Working with the well-known New York art expert, David Tunich, the purchase of an outstanding collection of prints by the Norwegian expressionist of the 19th and 20th century, Edward Munch (1863-1944), was completed. The collection consisted of 32 prints plus one print belonging to Brother Richardson’s personal collection. The only known significant collection of Munch prints is housed in the Munch Museum in Oslo, Norway. According to the State Treasurer’s report dated December 31, 1987, this collection was purchased en bloc for approximately $1,826,850.

When not on tour, the collection was stored in a fireproof vault with round-the-clock security and in a humidity controlled atmosphere at the Sam A. Harn Museum in the University of Florida in Gainesville. This storage service included insurance for five years at no cost to the Association.

The collection was first on tour from 1990 through mid 1992. By having this collection available for viewing nationally, the Florida Elks added a new dimension to all of Elkdom.

In March of 1999, Christie’s of New York valued the Harry-Anna Investment Fund’s collection of prints by Edward Munch:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Value Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vampire</td>
<td>Drypoint, 1894, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,000 - $20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study of a Model</td>
<td>Drypoint, 1894-1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,000 - $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christiania-Boheme I</td>
<td>Etching and aquatint, 1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$6,000 - $8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christiania-Boheme II</td>
<td>Etching and aquatint, 1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,000 - $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tete-a-Tete</td>
<td>Etching and aquatint, 1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$6,000 - $8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attraction</td>
<td>Etching and aquatint, 1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$6,000 - $8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Stages of Woman</td>
<td>Etching, drypoint, and aquatint, 1895, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,000 - $30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(The Sphinx)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Two Girls and</td>
<td>Drypoint, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000 - $7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Skeleton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jealousy (small version)</td>
<td>Lithograph, 1896, unsigned</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,000 - $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(trimmed margins, backed with Japan)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sick Child</td>
<td>Etching, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,000 - $12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>Lithograph in black and red, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$40,000 - $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(tears in margins, one extending into image)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attraction</td>
<td>Lithograph, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,000 - $30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Lovers on the Shore)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberation (Separation)</td>
<td>Lithograph in midnight blue, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$35,000 - $45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Death Chamber</td>
<td>Lithograph, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,000 - $35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portrait of August</td>
<td>Lithograph, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000 - $15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strindberg</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man’s Head in Woman’s Hair</td>
<td>Colour woodcut, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$40,000 - $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women on the Shore</td>
<td>Colour woodcut with hand-colouring, 1896, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$80,000 - $120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ages of Woman</td>
<td>Lithograph, 1899, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$20,000 - $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(The Sphinx)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl’s Head on the Shore</td>
<td>Colour woodcut, 1899, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$60,000 - $80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two People</td>
<td>Colour woodcut, 1899, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$80,000 - $120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(The Lonely Ones)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sin</td>
<td>Colour lithograph, 1901, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,000 - $70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Nude with Red Hair)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening (Melancholia)</td>
<td>Colour woodcut, 1901, signed in pencil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$45,000 - $55,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENCyclopedia of FLorida Elkdom

F

The Violin Concert
Lithograph, 1903, signed in pencil
$20,000 - $30,000

The Kiss in the Field
Woodcut, 1905, unsigned
$10,000 - $15,000

Girls on the Bridge
Woodcut, 1920, signed in pencil
$25,000 - $35,000
(condition problems showing mostly in the margins)

Low Estimate of Munch Collection
$746,000

High Estimate of Munch Collection
$1,035,000

While such investment items such as gold and silver, stamp and coin collections, diamonds, etc. have not progressed as steadily as the fine arts, it is difficult to put any kind of financial value to an art collection. The Florida State Elks Association art agent in New York stated there was considerable interest being shown by art collectors in the Munch prints. With this fine arts collection in their portfolio, the Florida Elks enjoyed a steady and fine investment.

The collection has since been sold and retired from the portfolio.

Fines

Early in Elkdom, fines were imposed to help finance their social session following the business session. This custom was taken from the earlier Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes. A chairman was appointed and fines were imposed for all manners of offenses, imaginary or otherwise, and upon various pretexts.

Flag

A. C. Mooreland, Grand Secretary from 1881 to 1890, is responsible for the flag on the altar as well as the Elks traveling card.

In 1896, the Elks began placing the American flag beside the altar in Lodge opening ceremonies.

In 1907, the Grand Lodge designated June 14 as Flag Day by resolution. The Grand Lodge of the Order adopted mandatory observance of the occasion by every Lodge in 1911, making the Elks the first fraternal organization to require observance of Flag Day with appropriate ceremonies.

The Elks prompted President Woodrow Wilson to recognize the Order’s observance of Flag Day for its patriotic expression, but it was not until 1947 that President Harry S. Truman, himself an Elks member, signed Public Law 203 officially declaring Flag Day beginning in 1949. Thereafter, June 14 would be a day of national observance for the symbol of our country. Thus the Elks claim the responsibility for the nation observing Flag Day.

Later, the Elks participated in a coalition, The Citizens Flag Alliance, to bring about Congressional consideration of a constitutional amendment prohibiting defacing the flag.

(See also Citizens Flag Alliance Committee)
(See also Pledge of Allegiance)

Flag Folds

The flag folding ceremony represents the same religious principles in which our country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing states our veterans served in uniform.

The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is only inverted when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our country honorably in uniform.

In the evening in the armed forces of the United States at the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered and folded in a triangle fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation’s honored dead.

The next morning it is brought out at the ceremony of revile and run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

The First Fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The Second Fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.
The Third Fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The Fourth Fold represents our weaker nature: for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as times of war for His divine guidance.

The Fifth Fold is a tribute to our country, in the words of Stephen Decatur, “Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong.”

The Sixth Fold is where our hearts lie - and it is with our hearts that we pledge to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Seventh Fold is a tribute to our armed forces: for it is through these same armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The Eighth Fold is a tribute to the One who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day; and this fold is made to honor Mother, for whom the flag flies on Mother’s Day.

The Ninth Fold is a tribute to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty, and devotion that the characters of the men who have made this country great have been molded.

The Tenth Fold is a tribute to Father, for he, too, has given of his sons for the defense of our country. We fold from the stripes toward the stars, for the stripes represent the thirteen original colonies that founded our republic, and they are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars, so the stars cover the stripes.

The Eleventh Fold, for in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, this represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

The Twelfth Fold, for in the eyes of a Christian citizen, this represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies in their eyes God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, which reminds us of our national motto, “In God We Trust.”

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under Gen. George Washington, and the sailors and Marines who served under Capt. John Paul Jones and they, followed by their comrades and shipmates in the armed forces of the United States, have preserved for us the rights, privileges, and freedom we enjoy today.

Changes in the U. S. Flag Code

Changes address the salute and reciting of the Pledge

As a result of the Congressional Research Service for Congress study, there has been a change in the U.S. Flag Code as it relates to the salute and reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Section 4 of the code states that “the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove non-religious headaddress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.”

Section 9 of the code governs conduct during hoisting, lowering, or passing of the flag and now states, “during the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present in uniform should render the military salute.”

It goes on to say that “members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headaddress with their right hand hold it at their left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.”
Flag Protection Amendment

(See Citizens Flag Alliance Committee)

Flag Retirement

The United States Code states, “the flag, when it is in such condition that is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.”

Florida Congress in Democracy

(See Democracy, Florida Congress of)

Florida Elks Charities, Inc.

“No Man Stands So Tall as He Who Stoops to Help a Child.”

Florida Elks Charities, Inc. has been established to coordinate and manage the various fundraising projects of the Association and its affiliates. The board of directors of this corporation shall have general charge of its property and the direction of its affairs. The board of directors shall be appointed by the President of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. and shall operate according to the bylaws of Florida Elks Charities, Inc. The number of such directors shall initially be seven in number. At the 1988 Annual State Convention of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc., on the last day thereof, the President shall nominate and with the consent of the convention appoint one member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks as a director for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, one for five years, one for six years, and one for seven years. Each year thereafter at each Annual State Convention, the President of the Association shall nominate and with the consent of the convention appoint one member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks to serve as a director for a term of seven years. Vacancies which occur as a result of death, resignation, and otherwise shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term as provided in the bylaws of Florida Elks Charities, Inc.

Florida Elks Children’s Clinic

Formerly known as the Lower East Coast Clinic, its name was changed on January 14, 2007 to Florida Elks Children’s Clinic (FECC) with a change in the bylaws revision. Through its affiliated doctors, the clinic provides orthopedic care to disadvantaged children. Over the years, the Lower East Coast Clinic has cared for close to 700 children from Broward County, Palm Beach County, and Martin County.

In 2000 a branch of the Lower East Coast Clinic was formed at Plantation Lodge #2273. The clinic was to be staffed by Dr. Lucy S. Cohen of the Sunrise Rehab Hospital and served by various volunteers. Serving at the time of its formation were Bill and Dorothy Cunningham, Janet Dimino of Oakland Park Lodge, and Fred “Smokey” Wist, Clinic coordinators.

The clinic operates in cooperation with the Pompano Clinic and the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services. Each has its specialty and patients are referred to match this specialty. These clinics fill a void with treatment for those illnesses which are more severe and cannot be treated by the therapy alone but are severe enough to warrant surgery.

The Chairman schedules and runs the Operating Committee meetings and appoints Operating Committee members to committees formed to address daily, monthly, or annual operational issues. The committees of the FECC include the Auditing Committee, the Budget Committee, the Bylaws Committee, the Credentials Committee, and the Nominating Committee.

A Clinic Manager reviews applications and distributes the applications for care between the three Clinic Administrators. The Clinic Manager collects information on the children examined by the doctors and expenses
billed by the doctors and orthopedics providers and provides the information to the Chairman for acceptance of the children into the FECC and for approval of all expenses by the Operating Committee. The Clinic Manager sends the information on the children accepted into the FECC and the approved expenses to the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services Administrator for tracking of the children and for paying the expenses.

The Clinic Administrators interface between their respective doctors and the parents of the patients to set up the dates when the children will be seen. Clinic volunteers assist the Clinic Administrator in contacting the parents and checking in the patients on the day of their examination. Clinic volunteers often include an RN or LPN and an interpreter.

Past Clinic Chairmen

- 1988-1990 Dr. Jerry Mills, PDD Boca Raton #2166
- 1990-1991 Norman Mandel, PDD Pompano Beach #1898
- 1991-1992 Gary Murphy, PER Lake Worth #1530
- 1992-1993 Bill King, PER (Deceased) West Palm Beach #1352
- 1993-1994 Robert Pastor, PDD Pompano Beach #1898
- 1994-1995 Jimmy Roy, PDD (Deceased) Port St. Lucie #2658
- 1995-1996 Ben Dooley, PER (Deceased) Delray Beach #1770
- 1996-1997 Luther Arendall, PER West Palm Beach #1352
- 1997-1998 Wayne Keller, PER (Deceased) West Palm Beach #1352
- 1998-1999 Wally Gies, PDD Delray Beach #1770
- 1999-2000 Joe Acosta, PER (Deceased) Margate #2463
- 2000-2001 Larry Shields, PDD Margate #2463
- 2001-2002 Phil Macnack, PER Palm Beach West #2785
- 2002-2003 Calvin Crook, PER Margate #2463
- 2003-2004 Jim Blake, PER Boca Raton #2166
- 2004-2005 Charlie Fisher, PER Pompano Beach #1898
- 2005-2006 Al Mauk, PDD Margate #2463
- 2006-2007 Eleanor Pastor Pompano Beach #1898
- 2007-2008 Sean Maguire, PDD West Palm Beach #1352
- 2008-2009 Donna Berkowitz, PDD West Palm Beach #1352
- 2009-2010 Barbara Maguire West Palm Beach #1352

Clinic Managers

- 1988-1999 Jerry Smolar, PER Pompano Beach #1898
- 1999-Present Fred Bennington, PDD Margate #2463

BY-LAWS OF THE FLORIDA ELKS CHILDREN’S CLINIC

Below are the amended bylaws as adopted by the Operating Committee at the regular meeting on January 14, 2007.

ARTICLE 1. NAME

SECTION 1. This Clinic shall be known as the FLORIDA ELKS CHILDREN’S CLINIC - SE, SSE, SEC (herein after referred to as the Clinic) of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc., of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc.

SECTION 2. The Clinic shall be designated as an outpatient clinic of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services.

ARTICLE 2. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the Clinic shall be an Executive Committee, the current Exalted Ruler and two (2) members elected to an Operating Committee from each member Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Florida Elks Children’s Clinic SE, SSE, SEC, and the Clinic’s attending physicians.
SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Clinic Manager. One person may be elected to and hold more than one office at a time.

SECTION 3. Membership in the Operating Committee shall be by election by a majority vote of the current members of the Operating Committee and shall be limited to not more than two (2) members, preferably but not limited to Past Exalted Rulers from each of the Lodges comprising the Clinic. Also included in the membership are the current District Deputies and District Vice Presidents of the Southeast Central, Southeast and South Southeast Districts, and all Past District Deputies and District Vice Presidents as long as they remain active in the Clinic (see Art. 7).

SECTION 4. A designated member from a participating Lodge will be elected into membership of the Operating Committee upon a majority vote of a quorum of the current Operating Committee members at a regular meeting provided that person has attended two prior consecutive meetings of the Operating Committee. All elected members shall remain so until they either dimit from their Lodge, or are removed for absenteeism. A member that demits shall attain the status of a “Member at Large,” upon proof that they are a member of another Lodge within the Clinic’s jurisdiction.

SECTION 5. A “Member at Large” member shall have all the rights, duties and responsibilities of a regular member.

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the members of the Operating Committee to report immediately, any change of residence or title, to the Secretary of the Operating Committee.

ARTICLE 3. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The Operating Committee may, by not less than a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Operating Committee members present at a regular meeting, taken by secret ballot, elect 2 members in good standing, to Honorary Life Membership for distinguished service to the Clinic and to the Operating Committee after a period of not less than five (5) years, after not less than ten (10) days written notice prior to the meeting at which the election will be held.

SECTION 2. All past Chairmen shall become LIFE MEMBERS immediately upon the installation of their successor.

ARTICLE 4. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Clinic shall hold not less than one (1) open-house meeting each year on a date and at a place determined by the Operating Committee, at which time some patients of the Clinic may be presented and their conditions, diagnoses and treatments will be discussed and explained by an attending physician of the Clinic.

SECTION 2. The Operating Committee shall meet monthly on a date and at a time and place designated by the Chairperson, except that in the months of July and August the meetings may be canceled by a majority vote of the Operating Committee. The Chairperson can call special meetings at any time, provided that the Secretary shall give a written notice of all such meetings to the members.

SECTION 3. Five (5) members of the Operating Committee, of whom at least two (2) shall be elected officers, must be present to constitute a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE 5. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1. The Clinic Manager is appointed by the Operating Committee and will hold this position until retirement or recall/removal from Office. The duties of the Clinic Manager are:
1. Present a comprehensive monthly report on the present Clinic bills to the Operating Committee for approval.
2. Receive and present to the Operating Committee new applications for approval.
3. Receive and condense medical reports for the Operating Committee.
4. Maintain and update historical Clinic data.
5. Forward all approved Clinic bills to the Administrator of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services.

SECTION 2. The Chairperson shall be the executive officer of the Clinic and shall preside at all meetings of the Clinic and the Operating Committee. The Chairperson can call special meetings when necessary, appoint all necessary sub-committees and have general supervision over all matters pertaining to the Clinic.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairperson to assist the Chairperson in the performance of his/her duties and to officiate in the absence of the Chairperson.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep correct minutes of all meetings of the Operating Committee, and to keep current mailing lists of the Operating Committee members and the Exalted Rulers of the Lodges comprising the Clinic.

SECTION 5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all money and shall handle all funds from every activity. The Treasurer shall present all bills related to the Operating Committee to the Operating Committee for review and approval. Following approval, the Treasurer shall send all bills with the supporting documents to the Administrator of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services for payment.

SECTION 6. The Auditing Committee shall at appropriate times present to the Operating Committee a proposed annual budget, and after adoption thereof, submit the same to the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services Board of Directors, and/or other designated Committees of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc.

SECTION 7. It is the duty of the Operating Committee to approve or deny applications for services of the Clinic for patients who have received preliminary examinations by the Clinic’s attending physicians. Approval by the Operating Committee will allow patients to proceed with further examinations and resolutions by the Clinic’s attending physicians.

ARTICLE 6. ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Annual nominations and elections of officers shall take place at the regular meeting of the Operating Committee during the month of February each year.

SECTION 2. The officers elected at the annual elections shall be installed by one or more of the Vice-President(s) from the districts comprising the Clinic at the March Operating Committee meeting and the newly installed officers shall assume office on April 1st.

ARTICLE 7. VACANCIES

SECTION 1. Whenever an elected office shall become vacant for any cause whatsoever, the Chairperson shall forthwith order a special election to fill such office for the unexpired term. This election is to be held at the next regular meeting of the Operating Committee.

SECTION 2. The Operating Committee shall have the power, by majority vote, to vacate or remove the position of any Officer or Member who is absent from a regular meeting of the Operating Committee for two (2) consecutive months if they do not inform the Secretary or the Chairman that the absence is unavoidable.

SECTION 3. The Operating Committee shall have the right to impeach and remove from office, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, any officer guilty of immoral conduct or abuses in office or dishonorable practice of any kind, after five (5) days written notice is given to the officer prior to a regular or special meeting at which the vote will be held. Upon call of three (3) members, a special meeting may be called for that purpose.

ARTICLE 8. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. All amendments and revisions to these by-laws shall be proposed in writing, read at a regular meeting and laid over for a vote at the next regular meeting. Notice in writing, setting forth in full the proposed amendment
or revision shall be sent to all members of the Operating Committee at least ten (10) days prior to the vote, and shall become effective upon approval of the Board of Directors of the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc.

**ARTICLE 9. RULES OF OPERATION**

SECIIION 1. The Rules of the Order in the current Guide and by-laws by the Grand Lodge 4 Committees (sic) on Judiciary will govern the Rules of Order of the Clinic and the Operating Committee, except those which by the nature are not applicable.

SECTION 2. “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall be the guide for any parliamentary rules not provided for in said Rules of Order.

SECTION 3. The operation of the Clinic shall be in conformity with the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc. and under control of the present Board and/or their successors.

SECTION 4. The operation of the Operating Committee shall be in full compliance with all rules, policies and procedures adopted by the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc.

SECTION 5. The Clinic fiscal year shall conform with the Grand Lodge fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st).

**ARTICLE 10. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Standing committees are appointed at the beginning of each fiscal year by the newly elected Chairperson. Where applicable, the Chairperson will make quarterly reports.

SECTION 1. A Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers for the ensuing fiscal year at the regular February meeting.

SECTION 2. A Credentials Committee shall maintain and report on member participation by member Lodges in the Clinic.

SECTION 3. A Budget Committee shall prepare and present at the October meeting a budget for the coming fiscal year. This budget is to be forwarded to the State Association in time for its November budget allocation meeting.

SECTION 4. The Chairperson shall appoint a Chaplain at the beginning of the fiscal year.

SECTION 5. A Historian shall keep a record of the Clinic’s accomplishments.

SECTION 6. By-laws Committee shall review and propose amendment of the Clinic by-laws at least every five (5) years. The by-laws Committee may review and propose amendment to the Clinic by-laws earlier, when required.

Adopted 1988
Previously amended March 12, 1995
Previously amended 1999 (?)
Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee

With the closing of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, this committee now became the Florida Elks Major Project Committee. Section (G) of the By-Laws of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc. Committee read:

(G) In the event of permanent discontinuance of the function of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc., all funds and other assets of the Association, which shall have been held or received for the establishment and operation of the Hospital shall be made available for the operation of other major projects of the Association, or to the State of Florida, any community in the State of Florida, any National Organization and/or any other responsible agency engaged in similar charitable endeavors, and approved by the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee: the Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors the proposed disposition of the assets held by the Association in reserve for the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital in which event the Board of Directors shall make its own recommendation to the Association in Convention assembled. A two-thirds vote of the total accredited Delegates in Convention assembled shall be necessary to empower the officers of the Association to effect any disposition of the assets hereinbefore mentioned.”

With that it now became the Florida Elks Major Projects Board which would work with the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services and Florida Elks Youth Camp. However, this still remains a piece of the history of the Florida State Elks Association and the hospital which functioned from 1933 to its closing in 1999.

Section 1. The Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee shall consist of all the Officers of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc., both elective and appointive, all District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers during their terms of Office, and all Past Presidents of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. In addition to the above named, each Lodge shall have three (or more) members on the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee, one of whom shall be the Exalted Ruler of the Lodge, and upon the adoption of this Constitution and Laws, the Exalted Ruler then in Office
shall appoint two members to the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee - one for a term of two years and one for a term of one year. Each year thereafter, the Exalted Ruler then in Office shall appoint one member to the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee for a two year term. In addition to the above appointments by the Exalted Rulers of the various Lodges, the President of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. with the approval of the Board of Directors, may at his direction appoint additional members on the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee to serve during his term of office.

Section 2. Duties of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee.

(A) The Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee, (subject to the supervision and control of the Board of Directors), shall during the interim between annual meetings of the Association, advise the Board of Directors of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc., in the operation and maintenance of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital and its related programs. It shall in all cases protect the interest of the Association in addition to promoting the objects and welfare of the Hospital.

(B) The Committee shall by majority vote select its own chairman. The Committee shall submit recommendations to the President of the Association who shall appoint, subject to the consent of the Convention, the Board of Directors of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc., which shall consist of one member from each of the Vice-President Districts of the Association, and one at large member, who shall be a Past State President. All regular vacancies shall be filled by appointment for 3-year terms; when additional Vice-President Districts are added to the Association, a member shall be appointed for a 3 year term from each of said Districts and the Association’s Board shall cause the bylaws of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc. to be amended accordingly. The at-large appointment shall be for a 3-year term. Vacancies, which occur as a result of death, resignation or otherwise shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term by the President of the Association. The maximum period which a member of this Board may serve is 6 years, provided however, a member who has served 4 years or less, may complete a term of office to which he has been appointed.

The Board of Directors of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc. shall annually elect its own President, Chief Administrative Officer, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and such other Officers, as it deems advisable.

(C) For the purpose of transacting such business as may come before it, the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee shall hold regular meetings in August and February of each lodge year, and during the time and place of each Annual Meeting and Mid-Year Conference of the Association, except that meetings may be held at such other times as the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may for good reason direct. Seventy-five (75) members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting.

(D) The Chairman of the Hospital Committee shall have full authority to call special meetings of the Committee as may be deemed advisable for the best interests of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital.

(E) The Hospital Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors the suspension of any member of the Committee who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Committee without good and sufficient reasons. Vacancies thus created shall be filled in accordance with the laws governing in paragraph (H) below.

(F) The Hospital Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors of members to fill vacancies that occur during the term. Any action taken on such recommendations by the Board of Directors shall be ratified by the Association at its Annual Meeting.

(G) In the event of permanent discontinuance of the function of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc., all funds and other assets of the Association, which shall have been held or received for the establishment and operation of the Hospital shall be made available for the operation of other major projects of the Association, or to the State of Florida, any community in the State of Florida, any National Organization and/or any other responsible agency engaged in similar charitable endeavors, and approved by the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee: the Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors the proposed disposition of the assets held by the Association in reserve for the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital in which event the Board of Directors shall make its own recommendation to the Association in Convention assembled. A two-thirds vote of the total accredited Delegates in Convention assembled shall be necessary to empower the officers of the Association to effect any disposition of the assets hereinbefore mentioned.
(H) The Exalted Ruler of each Lodge, plus the regularly appointed one-year and the two year member of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee, shall be recognized and shall function as the Lodge Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee, in addition to protecting the interests of the Association and promoting the objects and welfare of the Hospital, this sub-committee shall be charged with performing specific duties during the interim between the four regularly held meetings of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee:

(1) Attend each regular and special meeting of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee, and keep their Lodge abreast with current policies and activities of that Committee.

(2) Actively seek and locate potential patients for Florida Elks Children’s Hospital and/or its Clinics, and encourage parents or guardians to communicate with a Clinic or the Hospital concerning the child’s orthopedic problem. As the Hospital expands its program, such information shall be conveyed to the Lodge and to the public. The subcommittee shall utilize every acceptable means of communication at its disposal, i.e., news media, films and filmstrips or speeches before groups or organizations, and/or personal contact of references.

(3) Submit a written report of activities, ten days prior to the published meeting date for the quarter, to the Chairman of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, with a copy to the President of Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc., the District Director and the District Vice President. The report for the Chairman of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee shall be mailed to the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Administrator for compilation. Reporting forms shall be provided by the Hospital Administrator.

(I) The Florida Elks Children’s Hospital Committee shall provide written quarterly reports of the compilation of data from the Lodge subcommittee reports to the Chairman of the Board of Directors and to the President of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc. for their edification.

**Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, Inc.**

The actual functions of the board are to oversee the daily operations of the hospital and hire an Administrator who carries out these functions at the direction of the board. The board develops a budget and then works within that budget. The board is composed of one member from each district and a member at large.

In 1931 Harry P. Miller of Eustis offered the Elks the one hundred room Rowebbuilt Hotel in Umatilla. R. E. Baldwin made an informal report stating that it was well adapted for an Elks home or hospital.

David Sholtz, Past Grand Exalted Ruler and former Governor of Florida, headed up the Social and Community Welfare Committee which worked closely with the State of Florida Crippled Children’s Commission. He conducted a survey to locate all the crippled children in Florida. As a result the Florida Elks adopted as its major objective the welfare of the state’s crippled children.

At the 28th annual session held in Daytona Beach in 1933, Harold Colee stated, “We have an apology to make regarding the non-printing of the Ft. Pierce convention. We had a very fine court reporter present on that occasion. I am very sorry to report that the brother either lost the minutes or was unable to read his notes - a very unfortunate circumstance.”

Although records of the 17th annual session held in Fort Pierce in 1932 could not be located, it is assumed that suitable resolutions were adopted thanking the Millers for their generous donation and creating a commission for the proper operating of the home.

At the Daytona meeting in 1933, W. H. Donovan, Executive Secretary, made a very lengthy report in which he stated:

It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure to report to you the progress made in our major objective, the Harry-Anna Home for Crippled Children. A dream has come true, an air castle has materialized into a living vital force in the lives of a helpless lot; it was a beautiful dream envisioned by two great men, our friends and Brothers, Dave Sholtz and Harry Miller. The Harry-Anna Home is a glorious achievement, made possible by the determination of these leaders to give to the Elks of Florida an opportunity to serve in a great cause. Today the Crippled Children’s Home, sponsored by us is in operation, caring for the first contingent of unfortunate children unable to help themselves, handicapped by the perversity of nature to face the strenuous battle of life. We owe these men a great debt
of gratitude. The dream and determination for its fulfillment had given to the Elks of Florida an objective worthy of the traditions and true spirit of Elkdom in all that it implies. It is for us to carry on. The responsibility is great; the burden rests heavy upon our shoulders. We must not fail; neither must we treat the task lightly. In the spirit of all fairness and true American sportsmanship, in justice to our individual self-respect, honoring the sacredness of a commitment made we must individually and collectively assume the responsibility for the continuance of the Home and apply ourselves to that end.

Donovan also reported that through the sympathy and cooperation of the various racetracks of Florida, there has been donated $32,937, thus making it possible for the opening of the home. Suitable resolutions were adopted thanking Joseph E. Widener, President of the Miami Jockey Club; Miami Beach Kennel Club; Tropical Park St. Petersburg Kennel Club; Biscayne Kennel Club; Florida Federation of Women’s Clubs; Mrs. W. P. Slaton; Garden Club of Eustis; City Council of Umatilla; Hon. J. Alex Morrell; Rubin Hatcher; Board of County Commissioners of Lake County; and Carl Rose for their various contributions.

On April 14, 1933 the hospital officially opened. J. Edwin Baker of West Palm Beach Lodge #1352 and Past President became the hospital’s first administrator.

In 1934, Governor Sholtz promoted one day per year in the state of Florida as “Crippled Children Foundation Day.” Anna Miller Circles were organized in Tampa, St. Petersburg, DeLand, Pensacola, and St. Augustine. Unfortunately, Mrs. Anna W. Miller was not spared long enough to see and realize her dream in the glorious achievement of the Harry-Anna Home, one of the most outstanding institutions in the United States devoted to the care of crippled children.

At the regular session of the Florida State Elks Association in annual convention assembled in Ocala on April 23, 1935, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, on the 14th day of June 1934, the Great Architect of the Universe in His infinite wisdom called to heaven our dear friend and our inspiration, Mrs. Anna W. Miller and
WHEREAS, Although Mrs. Miller for many years was an invalid, she was a constant visitor at the Harry-Anna Home, the institution, the creation of which was made possible by her most generous gift, and
WHEREAS, Whenever she was at the Home, very frequently in pain, she communed with the unfortunate crippled children, comforting them only as a real mother could, and her presence together with her cheery voice and every smiling countenance and her words of encouragement, it is said, was a valuable tonic to the children and did much to aid and improve their conditions, and
WHEREAS, Our friend, besides being a real mother, was also a lover of nature, and did much to landscape and beautify the grounds surrounding the Home, and
WHEREAS, Our heads and hearts are so bowed down with grief that we cannot express in words what the death of Mrs. Miller means to us,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That in the death of Anna W. Miller, our Association, the Harry-Anna Home, the State of Florida, and the unfortunate crippled children have suffered an irreparable loss which will become keener and more acute as times passes on;
FURTHER RESOLVED, That we likewise extend to the children of our dear departed, our sincerest expression of consolation and encouragement;
FURTHER RESOLVED, That these resolutions be suitably engrossed and presented to the family of our departed;
FURTHER RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread in full upon the permanent records of our Association.

Mr. Miller, until his death, continued his interest in the progress, development and expansion of the Home.
In 1940 the hospital added a wing for the treatment of patients suffering from spastic paralysis. By 1944 the hospital was having difficulty meeting the financial needs to operate the hospital. There had been some discussion of possibly closing the hospital. Hence, the President of the Florida State Elks Association appointed a committee for the task of determining whether or not the Lodges would give sufficient financial support to maintain continued operation.

Lodges around the state rose to meet the crisis by guaranteeing continued operation. The following year, James Fernandez, a member of Tampa Lodge No. 708, became the new Administrator of the hospital.

In 1949 the old drying room next to the laundry room was converted to a modern school for the children. The hospital received damage to the home from wind and rain on both the north and south sides and on the second and third floors. Repairs included new metal window sashes. A seven station speaking station radio service was installed at a cost of $305 by Brother Charley Pride from Daytona Beach. The swimming pool was enclosed, scraped, and repainted. Wiring in the building was overhauled.

By 1951 there were sixty-five to seventy youngsters being cared for per year and over 1,700 had been cared for since the hospital had opened. In that year the school board of Lake County assigned three teachers to the hospital and had an average of 35 children attending.

In 1953 an Easter Seal Campaign was conducted for the hospital. Individual Lodges mailed out the letters. In 1955 the Elks Hospital Foundation Fund was at $1,000,000. Interest only from the fund would be used to operate the hospital.

In 1958 George Carver of Live Oak Lodge 1165 became the third Hospital Administrator.

In 1960 the board of directors requested the Operating Committee to make a survey of the feasibility, costs, etc. of an expansion program for the major project. In 1963 the hospital had seven mobile units operating and serving 88 children each week. Dr. Robert S. Klar of the Eustis Lodge was operating an eye clinic and Miami Lodge 948 sponsored a Dental Clinic.

In 1989 Ben Brown said they had a staff of 92 professionals, 47 inpatients, and more than 3,000 outpatients. The cost of acute care (surgery) was increasing, pushing the cost per surgery to record levels, causing the board to increase that portion of the hospital budget at Mid-year. Because the hospital’s income was flat or about the same, it was forced to limit the number of surgical cases and even defer about 56 cases for several months until April 1 when the new budget would be activated. By delaying surgeries, fewer patients were admitted and there were fewer patient days. With fewer patient days and lower patient census, the per diem costs increased over the previous year. Clinics were located in Miami, Jacksonville, Fort Myers, Pompano Beach, and Umatilla.

**Hospital Administrators**

1935-1944      J. Edwin Baker, West Palm Beach 1352
1945-1946      ?

The 1946 convention proceedings (page 62) specifically state along with a photograph that Mrs. Othella C. Green, RN is the Superintendent of the Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Home.
In 1995, Larry Henley, PSP, Chairman of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, reported that in a one hundred bed facility, they had a daily census of only 35 to 37 patients. There was a critical need to double the census. He appealed for a concentrated effort to seek and locate potential patients for the hospital and its clinics. He also said they needed to contact persons for children in need of the orthopedic or head injury service available. He stated that the Elks had to stop keeping their charitable causes underneath a basket.

The hospital staff in 1995 was at 82 professionals. There were about 3,500 outpatients. The Florida Ladies of the Elks replaced the X-ray machine. However, Ben S. Brown, Jr., Administrator, stated that a sinking fund had been established for several years for the purpose of replacing a major piece of equipment or a major repair.

Ben S. Brown, Jr. reporting at the Annual Convention in Kissimmee in 1995 said that “healthcare across the nation continues to rise, and as a result President Clinton has made a national healthcare program one of his priorities....Congress is still in the midst of trying to come up with a program that will be acceptable to both Houses of Congress....We at the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital certainly are concerned...as we have a lot to gain as well as to lose.”

Brown said that in “the best case scenario, our patients would have access to all the acute care services through a national health plan and this would relieve us of the costly burden of providing that acute care which now is required of approximately 75% of our inpatient admissions. This would leave us with the full responsibility of providing only the rehabilitative care, which is what we desire to do anyway.”

In addition, he stated that “over the years the cost of providing acute care has been one budgetary item which has been impossible to control and one which has been the primary budget buster. It may also be very possible that if all citizens have access to acute care, many who are not now able to find those resources may be potential rehab patients after the acute care has been rendered.”

Brown went on to say that “in the worst case scenario, a comprehensive national health program may include all the services that we now provide and therefore it would not be necessary for charity hospitals to offer their services.”

Another factor which impacts the hospital census, he said, “has been the pressure placed upon physicians by insurance companies and other providers to shorten the stays of the physician’s patients. Insurance companies’ Peer Review Committees are constantly harassing the physicians and questioning why patients are admitted and if they are admitted, why it was necessary to be hospitalized for a certain number of days.”

The ten bed Head Injury Unit was progressing well with a total of fourteen admissions since it was initiated nine months previously. It was initiated as strictly a rehabilitation program.

State Sponsor Robert Grafton, PGER addressed the Florida Elks through the Florida Elks News relative to problems that needed to be addressed. Grafton wrote, “our hospital for children was used originally for rehabilitation primarily for polio patients. With the advent of the Salk vaccine, we were fortunate that polio began to disappear. We then began to treat other types of orthopedic problems, which led us into paying significant amounts for surgeries. We have also treated head injury patients and find this is a highly specialized and expensive pursuit, if we are to fully and completely help these patients.”

The one hundred bed hospital regularly carried a census of less than forty patients and frequently around thirty patients. Medical progress in the last twenty years had completely changed the rehabilitation procedures for which the staff, under the fine leadership of Ben Brown, had been able to provide to those in need.

The situation was being addressed with a calm and reasoned approach. For many years the Florida Elks had dedicated themselves to helping children and so long as they could maintain the objective of helping children, the Elks of Florida would continue to respond with their complete support. By the Mid-year Convention in 1998, it had become undeniably clear that changes in the practice of medicine, especially the practice of outpatient services, had made it impossible for the hospital to continue successfully in its existing format. As a result, the board of directors made the painful decision to close the hospital not to stop providing the services but to change the way the services were provided.

On February 26, 1999, the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital officially closed with the discharge of the last patient and the lock of the front door for the first time since the building had opened on July 30, 1977. For 66 years through the generosity and commitment of Florida Elks, the hospital had provided treatment and loving care to tens

ENCyclopedia Of Florida Elkdom

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1957-1957 James Fernandez, Tampa 708
1957-1972 William Lieberman, Acting Administrator
1958-1972 George Carver, Live Oak 1165
1972-1983 James Oliver
1984-Date Ben Brown, PSP, Eustis 1578
of thousands of children to correct twisted bones, club feet, curvatures of the spine, fractures, diseased or dislocated hips, and many other orthopedic diseases and conditions.

The new program, the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc., was started on March 1, 1999, to provide free in-home physical and occupational therapy by licensed therapists in mobile therapy vans in each of the fourteen districts in Florida. By the end of September 1999, twelve of the fourteen districts had licensed therapists. In the first three months of operation they were handling a caseload of more than seventy patients. Each therapist should be able to handle a caseload of twenty patients.

Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc.

MISSION STATEMENT:
The goal of Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services is to provide Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy to Florida children who do not have easy access to these services. These services shall be provided in the patient’s home without regard to ability to pay for such services. This program shall strive to render the highest quality services possible to this special population.

On February 26, 1999, the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital officially closed with the discharge of the last patient and the locking of the front door for the first time since the building had opened on July 30, 1977. For 66 years through the generosity and commitment of Florida Elks, the hospital had provided treatment and loving care to tens of thousands of children to correct twisted bones, club feet, curvatures of the spine, fractures, diseased or dislocated hips, and many other orthopedic diseases and conditions.

By the Mid-year Convention in 1998, it had become undeniably clear that changes in the practice of medicine, especially the practice of outpatient services, had made it impossible for the hospital to continue successfully in its existing format. As a result, the board of directors made the painful decision to close the hospital. They would not stop providing the services but would change the way the services were provided.

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Therapy Program

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The therapists who render services are employed by the Florida Elks and are either OTs or PTs licensed to practice by the state of Florida. Upon receiving the patient application or referral, the therapist will arrange a home visit for evaluation purposes. If the patient is accepted into the program, a regular weekly home visitation schedule is established. Parents are required to be present so they can carry out treatments between visits by the therapist.

Admission Process

The first step in being considered for admission to the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services program is to complete the application and return it to the therapist serving the area where the patient lives. To obtain an application, a contact should be made to the Elks Lodge in their community or by calling the program administrator at 1-800-523-1673 ext. 240 and requesting an application.

As soon as the application is received, it is reviewed in order to determine if the therapy program is appropriate for the patient’s needs. The patient’s family will be advised whether or not the patient is accepted into the program.
Physical Therapy

Physical therapy is the profession concerned with the prevention of disability, alleviation of pain, and restoration of function and mobility. Pediatric physical therapists work to facilitate or restore sensory-motor function, minimize postural deviations, and maximize independence in children.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is the profession concerned with assisting children to be more functional and independent in their play, schoolwork, and daily living skills. This is accomplished through developmentally sequenced activities for coordination and balance, upper extremity strengthening, functional abilities, self-help skills, and sensory integration.

Services Provided

Evaluation
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Neurodevelopment Treatment
Sensory Training

Therapy services are provided for children to:
- Facilitate normal development and stimulate learning
- Decrease the effects of pathology through neurodevelopment
- Improve motor development
- Promote independence

Length of Service

Patients are seen until the therapy goals have been met and/or the child’s needs can best be met in another way. Much time and effort are necessary on the part of the therapist to make this process a smooth transition for the child and family.

Administrator Ben S. Brown announced that by the summer of 2002 there were twenty full-time employed therapists treating more than 300 children per week. In addition, six speech therapists were treating twenty children on a weekly basis.

2003

Administrator Ben Brown said, “Florida Elks Children’s Therapy continues to expand. We now have twenty full time employed therapists (7 PTs and 13 OTs) treating 300 children per week. In addition, we have contracted with twelve speech therapists who are treating twenty children on a weekly basis.”

A grant was received from the Dan Marino Foundation specifically designated for the speech program.

2007

There are nineteen full time therapists treating 313 children per week with free physical or occupational therapy. A total of 3,648 children have received this free therapy since the program began.

Vans Purchased/Donated:

- Florida Ladies of the Elks 3
- 365 Club of FLOE 3
- Live Oak Anna Miller Circle 2
- Sarasota South #2495 2
- Aripeka #2520 & Ladies of Elks #2520 2
- Brandon #2383 1
For the third year, Mrs. Georgene Slepin of Miami Lodge #948 donated a timeshare at Walt Disney World to be used by a deserving family whose child is being treated by the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services. The Therapy Services provides a three day park hopper pass for the whole family which allows them unlimited visits to all the Disney parks for three days.

**Florida Elks News**

(See Publications Committee)

**Florida Elks Properties, Inc.**

Florida Elks Properties, Inc. has been established to hold, develop, maintain, and manage all real property of the Association or any of its affiliates. The board of directors of this corporation has general charge of its property and the direction of its affairs.

They are charged with the responsibility of paying all of the bills of the Youth Camp and for any other expenses that are incurred on the properties. They are charged with the responsibility of keeping the buildings and grounds up and for receiving and disposing of properties that are left to them.

The Florida Elks Properties Board of Directors consists of five directors as voting members and a Legal Advisor, State Secretary, and Treasurer as nonvoting members. The board shall be appointed by the President of the Florida State Elks Association and shall operate according to the bylaws of Florida Elks Properties, Inc. The number of such directors shall initially be seven until the 1988 Annual State Convention of the Florida Elks Association, Inc. Thereafter the board shall consist of five directors. On the last day of the 1988 Annual Convention, the President of the Association shall nominate and with the consent of the convention appoint one member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks as a director for one year, one for two years, and one for five years. Each year thereafter, at each Annual State Convention the President of the Association shall nominate and with the consent of the convention appoint one member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks to serve as a director for a term of five years. Vacancies which occur as a result of death, resignation, and otherwise shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term as provided in the bylaws of Florida Elks Properties, Inc.

**1993-1994**

The hospital was having termite problems. Three bids for extermination were received ranging from $23,000 to $32,000.

A decision was made to sell the house that Ben Brown had lived in for years in Umatilla, the house and lot it was on only, not the vacant lots. The house was deteriorating at a very rapid pace and the association no longer had a need for it. Proceeds from the sale would go to the Youth Camp. The house was sold the following year for $55,000 and the proceeds went to the Youth Camp. The two lots that did not have road access were also sold.

A small lot in Florida Trails Resort was deeded to the Association.

**2006-2007**

The board approved the sale of a small parcel of property known as River Ranch located in Polk County. They approved the sale of four acres of property in Umatilla that was finalized in 2006.

They approved the construction of the outside warehouse after appropriate bids for labor only.
Florida Elks Youth Camp

(See Youth Camp)

Florida/Georgia High School All-Star Game

In June 1984, Hospital Administrator, Ben S. Brown, Jr., and Chairman of the board of directors, Alvin A. Ehrlich, PSP, met with the Florida Citrus Sports Association Executive Director, Chuck Rome, to discuss the feasibility of holding an interstate high school football game between schools of Florida and Georgia with the purpose of benefiting the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital. It was agreed that the first Citrus Bowl Game would be played in June 1985 at the Florida Citrus Bowl in Orlando, FL. It was further agreed that the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital would be the game’s beneficiary, and the Florida State Elks Association would promote the sale of tickets to all Elks statewide.

The original contract and agreement was approved by the Florida State Elks Association Board of Directors during the Mid-year Convention in Clearwater Beach, FL on November 16, 1984.

Ben Brown devised a plan to mail two tickets to each Elks member, and he was also instrumental in the publicizing and promotion of the game throughout the Elks network in Florida. Volunteers from Elks Lodges stuffed envelopes with the tickets, brochure, and cover letter which were mailed to every Elk in Florida. The task was enormous and took weeks to accomplish, but it saved thousands of dollars in fees if professional help had done it.

The inaugural game was played June 15, 1985 with the Florida team winning by a score of 23 to 7 before an attendance of 15,826. The Elks had purchased nearly 13,000 tickets for the game and received a commission for each ticket sold plus a contribution from the Florida Citrus Sports Association. The net profit for the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital exceeded $40,000. A similar amount was produced for each of the succeeding games throughout the years.

The inaugural game was televised in many Florida and Georgia markets with an estimated viewer audience of about three million. Additionally, the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital received much publicity not only in the news media but also through a two minute halftime commercial shown in the homes of these approximately three million viewers.

Again the Florida team won in 1986 by a score of 16 to 7 with 17,231 in attendance, but the Georgia team won its first game in 1987 by a score of 27 to 3 with 17,400 watching from the stands. With an attendance of 17,562 the Florida team tied the series in 1988 winning by a score of 38 to 32.

In 1991, Florida won by a score of 6 to 3 with 11,412 fans attending.

Interestingly, many of these Florida/Georgia high school football stars later started in the National Football League with some being first round draft choice which indicated the caliber of play these games generated.

Orlando Elks Lodge #1079 founded the Tangerine Bowl Games and it was their project from its founding in 1946. However, in 1972, a group of businessmen and sports enthusiasts took over operation of the Tangerine Bowl and formed the Florida Citrus Bowl Association.

In 1957, Leesburg Lodge #1703 sponsored an Elks Bowl football game which was played December 6 between Groveland and Wildwood with the receipts going to the hospital, then known as the Harry-Anna Hospital. No score was indicated and records for any other games, if held, were not available. The Annual Florida/Georgia High School All Star Game was but one of the various events that the Florida Citrus Sports Association and Florida Elks sponsored together and worked as a team to benefit the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital. It was but another cog in the wheel of Elkdom’s working for the youth of America.

The program was discontinued in the late 1990s but over the period of time that the Florida/Georgia All Stars competed, the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital realized several hundred thousand dollars. The competition benefited many young high school students in preparing them for the competitive world they would sometime enter and gave the children at the hospital many exciting days when they were able to attend the games and meet many of their heroes, the players, who visited the hospital and met with the patients personally.

(See also Tangerine Bowl Football Games)

Ben S. Brown, Jr. contributed to this history of the Florida/Georgia All Star Game.

Taken from History of the Florida State Elks Association
Florida Keys Lodge 1872

Florida’s 60th Lodge

<table>
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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dispensation</td>
<td>December 19, 1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instituted</td>
<td>January 17, 1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered</td>
<td>July 1954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formally Opened By:</td>
<td>Frank J. Holt, DDGER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Exalted Ruler:</td>
<td>J. Elmer Keefer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Members:</td>
<td>184</td>
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<td>Year 2001 Membership:</td>
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<td>Year 2007 Membership:</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2008 Membership:</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets:</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>92600 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, FL 33070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>305-852-5133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Organization:</td>
<td>Benevolent &amp; Patriotic Order of Does</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following officiated:

- Grand Exalted Ruler: Frank J. Holt
- Grand Esteemed Leading Knight: James A. Dunn
- Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight: Peter J. Ross
- Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight: Andrew T. Healy
- Grand Secretary: James P. Wendler
- Grand Treasurer: James J. Fernandez
- Grand Tiler: Victor Kuhl
- Grand Chaplain: Victor O. Wehle
- Grand Organist: Joe Donmick
- Grand Esquire: Edward Poland
- Grand Inner Guard: Claude A. Campbell

The following officers were elected and installed:

- Exalted Ruler: J. Elmer Keefer
- Esteemed Leading Knight: Herbert J. Hall
- Esteemed Loyal Knight: William J. Klys
- Esteemed Lecturing Knight: William M. Pinder
- Secretary: Evert L. Perkins
- Treasurer: S. F. Dean
- Tiler: Byron Baird
- Trustees:
  - 1 Year, Paul Bridgham
  - 2 Year, Jay Pohlman
  - 3 Year, Alonzo Cothron
  - 4 Year, Jack B. Higgins
  - 5 Year, Harry L. Harris

The following are charter members: Charles C. Albury; Charles Anderson; Andrew J. Ardolino; Manual Arsua; William L. Bader; Edward J. Bahn; Victor L. Barothy; Joseph K. Barry; Joseph R. Bernier; Henry Bogaard; Paul Booth; John Brantner; L. W. Broomfield; George H. Brown; Ray O. Bushea; Charles E. Butters; Homer H. Byrum; Ralph U. Camacho; John Franklin Carey; Edward D. Carter; John W. Castell, Jr.; Fred H. Center; Paul D. Chesley; John D. Clarke; J. Reese Clawson; Harold J. Conklin; Billy Conner; Alonzo Cothron; George A. Cribbs; A. M. Cunningham; Fred J. Dahleiden; John D. Day; S. F. Dean; E. S. Dendy; J. C. Donaldson; Feliz J. Duffy; Harry H. Eager; Ayres F. Eagan; Patrick Ellis; H. B. Ferris; Anton H. Forst; Ed Fowler; Donald H. Fox; Richard T. Gaskin; J. Ellis Gibson, Sr.; James E. Gillespie; Ralph Gillespie; John P. Goggin; Fred C. Gordon; George H. Grayson; John R. Grellman; Buck Grundy; Jodie J. Hall; Torsten A. Harleman; Jack N. Hart; L. W. Hart; Henry A. Herbert; J. R. Higgins; William Russell Hill; A. Rolland Hollenbeck; Paul M. Hungate; Ludwig Jensen; Earl Johannsen; Nick Johnson; Robert C. Johnston; N. C. Jones; John M. Keiser; William J. Klys; Mathew Konopka; E. B. Linnett, Jr.; Earl L. Ford; Herbert A. Love; Claude F. Lowe; Eugene L. Lowe; Verdan J. Martelle; H. Leonard
Homestead No. 1754 is the Mother Lodge. Florida Keys Lodge was the first Lodge in Florida instituted in a tent and not named for a city or town. It is located at Windley Key in Tavernier, FL. There was a mortgage burning in 1953 and they renovated the building in December 1980.

The Ladies organization is the Does Drove No. 117.

Tavernier is located in Monroe County in the Florida Keys. Its name is said to be a corruption of the Spanish words, Cayo Tabonia, or Horsefly Key, which was given to a small island on the seaside of Tavernier harbor. For many years it attracted mariners because of its protected anchorage. One theory said that a local saloonkeeper placed a sign saying “tavern near” to attract mariners, thus the name, Tavernier. Many early Tavernier mariners were wreckers who would wreck sailing vessels as they went by and then rescue the shipwrecked crews and passengers and salvaged the cargoes.

Florida Keys Elks Lodge #1872 was originally instituted to include the Florida Upper Keys from Marathon through North Key Largo. Its early formation was the result of four Elks, Elmer Keefer, Slim Pinder, Everett Perkins, and Jack Higgins, who set about to organize a Lodge in the Keys. Their persistence or perseverance gained them a charter, a rental building, and a tent. The rental building, a dining room, bar, and lounge with a patio and tent, was the first home of the Lodge and was located on Windley Key. The tent was required at the same time of the institution and initiation due to the fact that it was the largest class ever assembled in Florida which consisted of 135 new Elks and 48 demits from other Lodges.

After receiving their charter early in 1954, they purchased their present site and erected a small aluminum prefabricated building. As years passed by, increased membership necessitated expansion into larger facilities.

The Benevolent & Patriotic Order of Does Drove No. 117

The Florida Keys Does Drove #117 was instituted on June 16, 1955 by Betty Funderburk Boisclaire, the Supreme President; Roxie Simpson; and Ellen Erickson, Supreme Secretary. Joanne Byrum Shuler was the first President. She recalls that when Elks Lodge #1872 was new they went to Orlando for a meeting and were so impressed with the Does Drove that they returned home determined to have a drove in their Lodge.
Florida Ladies of the Elks

Betty Dawkins, First Chairlady of the Florida Ladies of the Elks

1999-2000   Flo Knorr, President
2000-2001   Betty Irwin, President
            Theme: “The Womanless Wedding”
2002-2003   Jo Ann Copperman, President
            Theme: “United Service Organizations” (Red, White, & Blue)
2008       Ladies organizations donated over $112,000 to state major projects
2009       Bylaws changed stating that FLOE Ladies who are Elks can now belong to the Ladies organizations of FLOE. The only limitation on their membership is they cannot vote on FLOE matters at state level.

There are an estimated 38 Lodges in the state that have Ladies organizations.
All spouses/ladies of Elks members who are not Elks members themselves are automatically Florida Ladies of Elks. Even if their Lodge does not have an active Ladies organization, non-Elks ladies are Florida Ladies of Elks. Some ladies are simply never going to become Elks members.

In 2007 approximately forty Ladies organizations in Florida donated over $131,000 to Florida’s major projects. The majority of the money was counted toward the respective Elks Lodges as per-capita for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.

(See also Ladies Organize to Further Elkdom)

Florida State Elks Association

On November 16, 1904, Tampa Lodge No. 708 published a call to assemble a convention for the purpose of forming a State Association. The convention was held November 16-17. Six of nine Lodges in the state attended; Pensacola, St. Augustine, and Tallahassee did not send representatives.

In accordance with the published call for a convention of Elks Lodges for the purpose of organizing a State Association for the state of Florida, the following Lodges were represented:
    Jacksonville No. 221
    Key West No. 551
    Tampa No. 708
    Fernandina No. 795
    Ocala No. 851
    Lake City No. 893

The meeting was called to order by W. G. Mason of Tampa No. 708, District Deputy for Florida, South. M. B. MacFarlane of Tampa No. 708 was elected the temporary Chairman and G. D. Ackerly of Jacksonville No. 221 was elected the temporary Secretary. The following resolution was adopted: We the authorized representatives of the various lodges of the State of Florida of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of
America, in convention assembled in the city of Tampa, recognizing and respecting the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge, and disclaiming any authority to govern or legislate for the Order of this state but solely for the purpose of discussing ways and means for the extension of the Order, the strengthening of the fraternal tie, and the encouragement of sociability and good fellowship among the brotherhood, and the general welfare of the Order in Florida do organize ourselves into a State Association.

Laws of the Florida Elks’ Association were unanimously adopted as follows:

Name

This organization shall be known as “The Florida Elks’ Association.”

Object

The strengthening of the fraternal tie, the encouragement of sociability and good fellowship among the brotherhood, and the promotion of the general welfare of the Order in Florida.

Membership

Any Lodge in good standing in the state of Florida shall be eligible to membership upon payment of the required fee of ten dollars.

Officers

The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, and an Executive Committee consisting of one member from each lodge belonging to the association, and the President of the association, who shall act as Chairman of the Committee, but shall have no vote on any question, excepting in case of a tie.

Election

The officers of the Association shall be elected at each annual meeting, the one receiving the highest vote for any office, shall be declared elected to office.

Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held annually. The time and place for such meeting shall be fixed by a vote of the Association; but may be changed by the Executive Committee with the approval of a majority of the lodges of the association.

Representation

Each lodge shall be entitled to five votes in the association, and a majority of lodges, members, of the association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Lodges may be represented by one or more delegates, the five votes allowed, to be cast as may be determined by the lodge appointing such delegates, or in the absence of such instructions, by the delegates themselves. Delegates to present certificate of appointment from the lodge electing them.

Annual Dues

Each lodge member of this association shall pay annually to the Association, the sum of ten dollars as annual dues and any lodge in arrears for dues for a period of six months, may be stricken from the roll of membership, by a majority vote of the Association, but may upon payment of all dues be reinstated by majority vote of the members.
Duties Of Officers

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee; appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, and perform all other duties consistent with the office.

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the president in his absence, or during his inability to act.

The Secretary shall collect the dues and pay the same over to the Treasurer; keep records of all meetings, and make a report annually in writing. He shall have the power to purchase books, stationary, etc., needful to the officers, the bills to be paid by the Treasurer. For the faithful performance of his duties he shall receive the sum of fifty dollars payable annually.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys from the secretary or other sources and pay all bills when properly approved by the President and Secretary; he shall make a report annually in writing.

The Sergeant-at-arms shall guard the door and admit only Elks in good standing in the Order, and perform such other duties as may be necessary.

The Executive Committee shall perform such duties as may be necessary to protect the interests, and promote the objects of the organization; and may be called together at any time by the President of the Association.

Amendments

Those laws may be changed or amended by a two-thirds vote of the association of any regular meeting, upon report of the executive committee, to whom all proposed amendments must first be referred in writing.

All parliamentary practice in conducting the business of the association, not herein specially provided for, shall follow the result of “Cushing’s Manual.”

Order Of Business

Reading Records of previous meeting; Secretary’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Reports of Committees; Unfinished Business; New Business; Election of Officers; Good of the Association.

------------------------

Florida became the sixteenth state to organize an Elks State Association. Ohio, the mother of State Associations, wrote, “welcoming you into the fold; accept our congratulations.”

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1904-1905 term:

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>M. B. MacFarlane, Tampa 708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Henry William Little, Ocala 851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>G. D. Ackerly, Jacksonville 221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>G. L. Baltzell, Fernandina 795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant-at-Arms</td>
<td>G. O. Palmer, Lake City 893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>W. A. Jones, Jacksonville 221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Secretary was empowered to enroll the names of such Lodges of the state as may elect to join the Association before the first annual meeting.

Ocala was selected for the first annual meeting.

Number of members present at the formation of the Association:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonville No. 221</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key West No. 551</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa No. 708</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
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</table>
A total of 86 members were present. These are the founding Lodges of the Florida State Elks Association and Jacksonville #221 would be known as the Mother Lodge of all Florida Lodges.

The following Lodges were invited to the first meeting of the Association but were not represented: Pensacola #497, St. Augustine #829, and Tallahassee #937. Tallahassee #937 was enrolled December 1, St. Augustine #829 was enrolled December 11, and Pensacola #497 was enrolled on December 17, 1904.

The original Executive committee was:

M. B. MacFarlane, Chairman, Tampa 708
L. M. Lively, Tallahassee 937
Ganes Worley, St. Augustine 829
Max L. Bear, Pensacola 497

There was great opposition in the Grand Lodge at this time to the establishment of State Associations. Past State President Harold Colee felt that Brother A. M. "Pop" Taylor of St. Augustine was founder of the Florida State Elks Association. He said Taylor was offered a District Deputyship by Grand Exalted Ruler Melvin who was opposed to any state organizations. Taylor was questioned as to which he would prefer, District Deputy of the Grand Lodge or President of the Florida State Elks Association. Taylor pointed out to the Grand Exalted Ruler that Florida was far removed from the Grand Lodge’s annual sessions and that many of the small Lodges needed the inspiration and enthusiasm of some sort of an Association because of their inability to attend annual meetings of the Grand Lodge. He flatly told the Grand Exalted Ruler that if it were a case of making a decision between either the appointment as District Deputy or supporting the establishment of a State Association, he would gladly decline the appointment from the Grand Lodge.

It was very evident that the Grand Lodge was more or less jealous of State Associations because at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia in 1907, a statute was adopted as follows:

Section 215: No Elk shall organize or become a member of any society or organization limiting its membership to Elks, which is not expressly authorized by the constitution or statutes of the Order. Any Elk organizing or becoming a member of such organization shall upon conviction thereof be expelled from the Order.

Amended - Nothing herein contained, however, shall prevent the members of lodges in the various states from holding reunions, which shall be open to all Elks in good standing, provided, however, that they shall not, in any manner assume any of the functions or powers of government; or in any manner attempt to influence or control by endorsement or otherwise, the legislation of the Grand Lodge or the election of its officers or any other matter involving the policy of the Order.

At the third Annual Session of the Florida State Elks Association held in Miami on April 15, 1907, Secretary G. C. Ackerly made the following report:

It may be that the question will arise in the minds of some, ‘Does it pay to keep up this Association?’ And if such a question is undecided in the mind of any, I beg leave to suggest that we make it the subject of debate during this session, taking for our text the reasons given at Tampa for its formation that we may ascertain if possible how we may best attain the ends for which we have been striving. Surely the object is a noble one, and if we have been working along wrong lines, there is time enough to get right.

Since the Grand Lodge of the Order has placed itself on record as unwilling to give State Associations a place in the new constitution, it is my belief that we might perhaps be of more benefit to the Order in Florida by turning our attention more strongly to the bringing together of Elks in a purely social way, lessening, if practicable, the expenses of the Association and making it easy for individual memberships; looking more to the social feature and less to the making of laws or the logrolling with reference to offices in the Grand Lodge as some Associations have been in the habit of doing. The expenses of the Association might be lightened by directing the Secretary to furnish local lodges with duplicate copies of the changes in the laws of this organization and such other matters as might be deemed interesting to them, and cut down on the printing bills.

At the time of the organization of this Association at Tampa in 1904 there were 900 Elks members of State lodges; at the Ocala session in 1905 about 1,300 and at
Jacksonville last year there were reported 1,760 in good standing at the beginning of the lodge year.

There are eleven lodges in the state, and ten of them are members. It will be recalled that at the last session of this Association Pensacola Lodge presented their resignation as a member, and the matter after debate, was tabled; nothing more being done in relation to it excepting the promise given by the acting chairman to take it up with the lodge and attempt to have them remain in the Association, recalling their letter of resignation. Although I called his attention to the promise, I have heard nothing more as to the matter. When I mailed Pensacola Lodge a printed call for this meeting, their Secretary wrote asking if that lodge was a member, and I replied advising that I did not consider them a member, but sent the notice as information and with the hope that they might conclude to be represented here; my reply being based on the ground that although we had not formally accepted their resignation, we could not force them to remain against their own wishes.

The committee appointed at the last session to look into the matter of proposed legislation, will present a report of progress at this meeting, and it is desired that the matter receive earnest consideration, as we may hope that there is still time to bring about the conditions desired in concerted action by all the lodges in the State. The good that may be accomplished by State organizations has been fully demonstrated by the Georgia Association in reference to the prohibition of unauthorized persons making use of our name, titles, emblems, etc.

This Special Committee appointed to address this question as to whether “it pays to keep up this Association” reported back that their answer was “yes,” but inasmuch as the Grand Lodge has placed itself on record as unwilling to give State Associations recognition in the new constitution, this Association should be considered strictly as a social body.

The Special Committee also addressed the matter of Pensacola’s reentering the Association. In that report they stated that although it was gratifying that all Lodges in the state were members with the exception of Pensacola, they would recommend incoming officers of the Association to use every effort to induce Pensacola to again become a member of the organization.

The condition prevailed until 1923 when the Grand Lodge in Los Angeles amended the constitution permitting subordinate Lodges to organize and maintain State Associations.

A question came up as to a better way of adopting the time of annual sessions of the Association because there was some confusion and lack of direction. The Special Committee recommended that April be the month of each annual meeting with the time to be fixed by the President but to be held between the first and fifteenth of April.

In 1907 the Laws of the Association were revised.

Revised Laws
of The Florida Elks Association

Name

1. This organization shall be known as the “Florida Elks Association.”

Object

2. The strengthening of the fraternal tie, the encouragement of sociability and good fellowship among the brotherhood, and the promotion of the general welfare of the Order in Florida.

Membership

3. Any lodge in good standing in the State of Florida shall be eligible to membership upon payment of the required fee of ten dollars.
4. The officers of the Association shall be a President, First Vice President, Second Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms, and an Executive Committee consisting of two members to be elected in annual session, and the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, the President to be Chairman of the Committee, but shall have no vote on any question excepting in case of a tie vote.

Election

5. The officers of the Association shall be elected at each annual meeting, the one receiving the highest vote for any office shall be declared to the office.

Meetings

6. Regular meetings shall be held annually between the first and fifteenth of April, the actual time to be fixed by the President when issuing the call for same.

Representation

7. Each lodge shall be entitled to five votes in the Association, and a majority of lodges, members of the Association, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Lodges may be represented by one or more delegates, the five votes allowed to be cast as may be determined by the lodge appointing such delegates or in the absence of such instructions by the delegates themselves. Delegates to present certificate of appointment from the lodge electing them.

Annual Dues

8. Each Lodge member of this Association shall pay annually to the Association the sum of ten dollars as annual dues, and any lodge in arrears for dues for a period of six months may be stricken from the roll of membership by a majority vote of the members.

Duties of Officers

9. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, and perform all other duties consistent with the office.

The first Vice President, or in his absence, the Second Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in his absence or inability to act.

The Secretary shall collect the dues and pay same over to the Treasurer, keep the accounts of the Association and records of all meetings, and make a report annually in writing. He shall have power to purchase books, stationary, etc., needful to the officers, the bills to be paid by the Treasurer. For the faithful performance of his duties he shall receive the sum of fifty dollars, payable annually.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys from the secretary or other sources and pay all bills when properly approved by the President and Secretary; he shall make a report annually in writing.

The Chaplain shall perform such duties as pertain to the office and required under the good of the Association.

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall guard the door and admit only Elks in good standing in the Order, verifying their right by lodge card, and perform such other duties as may be necessary.

The Executive Committee shall perform such duties as may be necessary to protect the interests, and promote the objects of the organization, and may be called together at any time by the President of the Association.

Amendments

10. These laws may be changed or amended by a two-thirds vote of the Association at any regular meeting, upon the report of the Executive Committee, to whom all proposed amendments first be referring in writing. All parliamentary practice in conducting the business of the Association not herein specifically provided for shall follow the rules of “Cushing’s Manual.”
Call to order: Invocation by the Chaplain; Calling roll of Lodges and response by delegates; Appointment of Committee on Credentials; Reading minutes of last session; Report of Secretary; Report of Treasurer; Report of Executive Committee; Reading communications; Unfinished business; New business; Election of Officers; Good of the Association; Selection of location of next meeting; Induction of officers; Adjournment.

Directory of Florida Lodges 1907

Jacksonville No. 221
Meets every Saturday night except June to September, and then on the first and third Saturdays. Gustav Muller, Exalted Ruler; G. D. Ackerly, Secretary.

Pensacola 497
Meets second and fourth Wednesdays. Henry Jendivine, Exalted Ruler; Vincent J. Vidal, Secretary.

Key West No. 551
Meets Tuesday nights except July to September, on the first and fourth. Jefferson B. Browne, Exalted Ruler; E. M. Semple, Secretary.

Tampa No. 708
Meets Wednesday nights. L. T. Baldrick, Exalted Ruler; H. M. Hunt, Secretary.

Fernandina No. 795
Meets Monday nights. P. C. Kelly, Exalted Ruler; L. F. Milless, Secretary.

St. Augustine No. 829
Meets Thursday nights. A. W. Porter, Exalted Ruler; Secretary, W. F. Brown.

Ocala No. 851
Meets second and fourth Tuesdays. S. A. Rawls, Exalted Ruler; David S. Williams, Secretary.

Lake City No. 893
Meets every Thursday night. E. D. Hayman, Exalted Ruler; W. G. Brown, Secretary.

Tallahassee No. 937
Meets every Wednesday night. F. A. Burch, Exalted Ruler; O. C. Collins, Secretary.

Miami No. 948
Meets second and fourth Thursdays. J. B. Reilly, Exalted Ruler; George C. Bolles, Secretary.

Gainesville No. 990
Meets second and fourth Thursdays. Henry S. Chubb, Exalted Ruler; Dr. J. M. Dell, Jr., Secretary.

In 1908, Florida State Secretary, G. D. Ackerly, called attention to the following statutes of the Grand Lodge as amended at the session held in Philadelphia in July 1907:

Section 215: No Elk shall organize or become a member of any society or organization limiting its membership to Elks, which is not expressly authorized by the constitution or statutes of the Order. Any Elk organizing or becoming a member of any such organization shall upon conviction thereof be expelled from the Order.

Amended: Nothing herein contained, however, shall prevent the members of lodges in the various states from holding reunions, which shall be open to all Elks in good standing; provided, however, that they shall not, in any manner, assume any of the functions or powers of government; or in any manner attempt to influence or control by endorsement or otherwise, the legislation of the Grand Lodge, or the election of its officers, or any other matter involving the policy of the Order.
Pensacola was still reported a nonmember of the Florida State Elks Association.

The Florida bylaws were amended in 1908 to read as follows: Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, First Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

From the time of organizing until 1923, there seemed to be very little justification for the existence of the Association. However, from then on with the Association taking more interest in social and community welfare, especially since the establishing of the Harry-Anna Home for Crippled Children, Elkdom in Florida had gone ahead by leaps and bounds. No one person is responsible for the growth and success of the Florida State Elks Association; this result came from the untiring efforts of the various Lodges, officers, and members. This fine teamwork has built the State Association into one of the finest in the country.

In 1927 the Florida Elks Association had been effective for only about four years. In an effort to strengthen the Association, the 1927 meeting in Daytona Beach established a Tri-State Association which included Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina.

Quincy Lodge No. 1111 was instituted in 1908 and had its charter revoked in 1944.

In 1931 Harry P. Miller of Eustis offered the Elks a hotel in Umatilla. R. E. Baldwin made an informal report stating that it was well adapted for an Elks home or hospital. It appears that no action was taken at this session except that it was referred to the Grand Lodge.

At the 28th annual session held in Daytona Beach in 1933, Harold Colee stated, “We have an apology to make regarding the non-printing of the Ft. Pierce convention. We had a very fine court reporter present on that occasion. I am very sorry to report that the brother either lost the minutes or was unable to read his notes - a very unfortunate circumstance.”

Although records of the 27th annual session held in Fort Pierce in 1932 cannot be located, it is assumed that suitable resolutions were adopted thanking the Millers for their generous donation and creating a commission for the proper operating of the home.

At the Daytona meeting in 1933, W. H. Donovan, Executive Secretary, made a very lengthy report in which he stated:

It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure to report to you the progress made in our major objective, the Harry-Anna Home for Crippled Children. A dream has come true, an air castle has materialized into a living vital force in the lives of a helpless lot; it was a beautiful dream envisioned by two great men, our friends and Brothers, Dave Sholtz and Harry Miller. The Harry-Anna Home is a glorious achievement, made possible by the determination of these leaders to give to the Elks of Florida an opportunity to serve in a great cause. Today the Crippled Children’s Home, sponsored by us is in operation, caring for the first contingent of unfortunate children unable to help themselves, handicapped by the perversity of nature to face the strenuous battle of life. We owe these men a great debt of gratitude. The dream and determination for its fulfillment had given to the Elks of Florida an objective worthy of the traditions and true spirit of Elkdom in all that it implies. It is for us to carry on. The responsibility is great; the burden rests heavy upon our shoulders. We must not fail; neither must we treat the task lightly. In the spirit of all fairness and true American sportsmanship, in justice to our individual self-respect, honoring the sacredness of a commitment made we must individually and collectively assume the responsibility for the continuance of the Home and apply ourselves to that end.

He also reported that through the sympathy and cooperation of the various racetracks of Florida, there had been donated $32,937; this made the opening of the home possible.

Suitable resolutions were adopted thanking Joseph E. Widener, President of Miami Jockey Club; Miami Beach Kennel Club; Tropical Park; St. Petersburg Kennel Club; Biscayne Kennel Club; Florida Federation of Women’s Clubs; Mrs. W. P. Slaton; Garden Club of Eustis; City Council of Umatilla; Hon. J. Alex Morrell; Rubin Hatcher; Board of County Commissioners of Lake County; and Carl Rose for their various contributions.

Anna Miller circles were organized in Tampa, St. Petersburg, DeLand, Pensacola, and St. Augustine. Unfortunately, Mrs. Anna W. Miller was not spared long enough to see and realize her dream in the glorious achievement of the Harry-Anna Home, one of the most outstanding institutions in the United States devoted to the care of crippled children.

At the regular session of the Florida State Elks Association in annual convention assembled in Ocala on April 23, 1935, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, on the 14th day of June 1934, the Great Architect of the Universe in His infinite wisdom called to heaven our dear friend and our inspiration, Mrs. Anna W. Miller and
WHEREAS, Although Mrs. Miller for many years an invalid, she was a constant visitor at the Harry-Anna Home, the institution, the creation of which was made possible by her most generous gift, and

WHEREAS, Whenever she was at the Home, very frequently in pain, she communed with the unfortunate crippled children, comforting them only as a real mother could, and her presence together with her cheery voice and every smiling countenance and her words of encouragement, it is said, was a valuable tonic to the children and did much to aid and improve their conditions, and

WHEREAS, Our friend, besides being a real mother, was also a lover of nature, and did much to landscape and beautify the grounds surrounding the Home, and

WHEREAS, Our heads and hearts are so bowed down with grief that we cannot express in words what the death of Mrs. Miller means to us,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That in the death of Anna W. Miller, our Association, the Harry-Anna Home, the State of Florida, and the unfortunate crippled children have suffered an irreparable loss which will become keener and more acute as times passes on;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That we likewise extend to the children of our dear departed, our sincerest expression of consolation and encouragement;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That these resolutions be suitably engrossed and presented to the family of our departed;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread in full upon the permanent records of our Association.

Mr. Miller, until his death, continued his interest in the progress, development, and expansion of the home. By 1946 the Florida State Elks Association had grown and progressed to the point that it deemed it necessary to consider the incorporation of the Association as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the state of Florida.

During an Executive meeting in DeLand, Past State President Frank Umstot of Tampa Lodge 708 requested a charter be prepared for eventual incorporation. On June 4 the charter for the Florida State Elks Association was issued by Circuit Court Marshall C. Wiseheart of Dade County and filed in the Public Records of Dade and Lake Counties.

Subsequent to the incorporation, the Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Commission transferred all assets to the Florida State Elks Association which meant that the Harry-Anna Home and all assets became the property of the Association of which every Elks Lodge in Florida is a member.

Grand Exalted Ruler Lee Donaldson dedicated the headquarters building of the Florida State Elks Association on March 14, 1963. The headquarters building houses the Association and its records.

Grafton Addresses Membership Problems:

In 1990, Grand Lodge Sponsor, Robert Grafton, laid down some new rules in an effort to address some of the problems affecting the Lodges in Florida. More specifically, two of them included:
1. LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

He stated that there were not as many joiners as there used to be. Joiners in this context referred to those active people in the community who like to help those who need assistance and enjoy the companionship of others in the process.

He said that in his judgment, fewer joiners was not the primary reason for the loss in state membership. Rather, it was contentious atmosphere that existed in some of the Lodges and clubs. When the majority makes a decision, the members should do one of two things: (a) accept the decision and join with the others to see that it realizes a success, or (b) simply stand aside.

The idea of refusing to accept the decision and doing everything possible to make life miserable for the officers and members who are laboring to build a better Elkdom is repugnant to all. The progressive Lodges are those whose members work together and play together. Create a friendly atmosphere and they will come - also they will join.

2. OFFICERS FAILING TO ATTEND THE THREE DISTRICT DEPUTY CLINICS

The Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, Secretary, and Trustee Chairman are required by the Laws of the Order to attend the three District Deputy clinics. Attendance has not been good, Grafton elaborated. Any of the required officers who failed to attend a clinic and did not have an advance excused absence for cause (by the District Deputy) would be recommended by him to the Grand Exalted Ruler for removal from office.

The Florida State Elks Association controls the following corporations through its ability to appoint board members and approve budgets:

1. Florida Elks Major Projects Committee. Umbrella for the two Florida special projects, the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services and the Florida Elks Youth Camp.
2. Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, Inc., formerly Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, formerly Florida Elks Harry-Anna Hospital, a major project of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. Therapy Services formed in 1998 after the closing of the hospital. The hospital opened in 1933 and served Florida children with orthopedic problems. The hospital received and now the Elks Therapy Services project receives a major part of its revenue in the form of grants from the Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.
3. Florida Elks Youth Camp, Inc.
4. Florida Elks Properties, Inc. formed in April 1988 and is a nonprofit corporation that holds title to real estate holdings and operates the Florida Elks Youth Camp. It disburses funds for capital improvements, repair and maintenance, and operation of the Florida Elks Youth Camp. The corporation receives funding from the Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.
5. Florida Elks Charities, Inc. formed in April 1988 and is a fundraising corporation that disburses its funds to the Harry-Anna Investment Fund for investment until such time as they are needed for capital expenses, charity medical care, or youth camp operation.
6. Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc. formed in April 1988 which administers the Harry-Anna Trust and the Reserve Fund. It disburses grants for capital expenses, charity care, and youth camp operation to its affiliated organizations, Florida Elks Properties, Inc. and the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services.

Method of Accounting

The Association prepares its financial statements on a cash basis that includes recording depreciation on capitalized assets. Under this basis, revenues are recognized when collected rather than when earned. Intangible bequests are recorded at fair value upon receipt. Expenditures, except for state pins, are recognized when paid rather than when incurred. State pins are expensed when sold. Consequently, amounts due vendors and suppliers are not included in the financial statements. If an expenditure results in an asset having an estimated useful life that extends substantially beyond the year of acquisition, the expenditure is capitalized and depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. The cash basis method of accounting is not in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles which state that accounting should be on an accrual basis.
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Cash or Cash Equivalents

Investments in highly liquid debt instruments are treated as cash equivalents as are deposits with financial institutions.

Investments

Investments acquired by the corporation are recorded at tax basis. Donated investments are recorded at their fair market value.

Land, Buildings, and Equipment

Land, buildings, and equipment acquired by the corporation are recorded at cost. Donated land and buildings are recorded at their fair market value. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives of the assets:

- Buildings
  - 20 - 50 years
- Equipment and furnishings
  - 3 - 10 years

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are used to differentiate resources, the use of which is restricted by donors, from resources of unrestricted funds on which donors place no restriction.

Employee Leave

Sick leave is credited according to the employee’s length of service. Maximum accumulation allowed is thirty (30) days. Accumulated sick leave is not paid. Vacation also accrues according to length of service. Vacation days are noncumulative and must be taken within twelve months.

Method of Financial Statement Presentation

In 1995 the corporation adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, “Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations.” Under SFAS No. 117, the corporation is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. As permitted by this statement, the corporation discontinued its use of fund accounting and accordingly reclassified its financial statements to present the three classes of net assets required. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Position (SOP) No. 94-3, “Reporting of Related Entities by Not-for-Profit Organizations.”

Income Tax

Florida State Elks Association, Inc. qualifies as a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax as defined in section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.; Florida Elks Properties, Inc.; and Florida Elks Charities, Inc. qualify as nonprofit organizations exempt from federal income tax as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Florida Volunteer Protection Act

ENROLLED 1993 LEGISLATURE CS/HB 0021
PASSED

This is an act relating to civil immunity. The Florida Volunteer Protection Act limits civil liability for certain volunteers providing for application providing an effective date. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1: (1) Any person who volunteers to perform any service for any nonprofit organization, including an officer or director of such organization, without compensation, except reimbursement for actual expenses, shall be considered an agent of such nonprofit organization when acting within the scope of any official duties performed under such volunteer services. Such person shall incur no civil liability for any act or omission by such person which results in personal injury or property damage if: (a) Such person was acting in good faith within the scope of any official duties performed under such volunteer services and such person was acting as an ordinary reasonably prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances; and (b) the injury or damage was not caused by any wanton or willful misconduct on the part of such person in the performance of such duties.

For purposes of this act, the term “nonprofit organization” means any organization which is exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U. S. c. x. 501, or any federal, state or local government entity. (2) Except as otherwise provided by law, if a volunteer is determined to be not liable pursuant to subsection (1), the nonprofit organization for which the volunteer was performing services when the damages were caused shall be liable for such damages to the same extent as the nonprofit organization would have been liable if the liability limitation pursuant to subsection (1) had not been provided. (3) This section may be cited as the “Florida Volunteer Protection Act.”

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law and shall apply to causes of action accruing on or after that date.

Fluck, Robert, President, Florida State Elks Association, 1977-1978

Seventy-First Annual Session
Florida State Elks Association
May 19-21, 1977
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

Motto: Regeneration, Rendition, and Recognition - The Three Rs of Elkdom
State President Charles M. Pride gave his annual report. Guidelines for State Chairmen were established. Bylaws were amended concerning duties of the State Historian.
Okeechobee No. 2558 was instituted May 1, 1977. Their first Exalted Ruler was Thomas Elmore who later served as State President in 1992-1993.
On March 26, 1977, the Harry-Anna Hospital was dedicated by PGER George B. Klein and PGER William Wall. The building was occupied in July 1977.
Tallahassee No. 937 won the state ritual contest.

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1977-1978 term:

President
Robert Fluck, Pensacola
Vice President at Large
R. Edward Royal, Sarasota
Vice President, Northwest District
Aubrey Callaham, Panama City
Vice President, Northeast District
Cecil Blue, St. Augustine
Vice President, East Central District
William H. Howard, Daytona Beach
Vice President, North Central District
Nick Foreso, Winter Park
Vice President, South Central District
Bert Horwitz, Sebring
Vice President, West Central District
William Trowe, Largo
Vice President, Southwest District
Kenneth J. McStravic, Fort Myers
Vice President, Southeast District
Edgar S. Armstrong, West Palm Beach
Vice President, South Southeast District
Oris Townsend, Fort Lauderdale
ENCyclopedia of Florida Elkdom

Vice President, South District  Richard P. Bernard, Coral Gables
Secretary    Ben S. Brown, Jr., Eustis
Treasurer    Frank J. Holt, Miami
Tiler        Earl Richbourg, Pensacola
Historian    William W. Spaulding, New Port Richey
Sergeant at Arms  Thomas J. O’Rourke, Ormond Beach
Chaplain    Rees A. Snedaker, Lake City
Organist    Norman D. Right, DeLand

Daytona Beach was selected as the site for the 1978 convention.

Quotation:

“Fraternal Orders not only inspire brotherhood among their members, but also benefit the community by encouraging civic involvement. I know your lodge is proud of the part it has played in enhancing life in St. Augustine over the past 75 years.”

_Governor Reubin Askew, Congratulating St. Augustine Lodge during their 75th anniversary year_

Ford, Herbert A., President, Florida State Elks Association, 1905-1906

Herbert A. Ford was elected President of the Florida State Elks Association at the Annual Convention held in Ocala, FL May 17-18, 1905.

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1905-1906 term:

President    Herbert A. Ford, Ocala 851
Vice President  J. Clarence Glenn, Tampa 708
Secretary     G. D. Ackerly, Jacksonville 221
Treasurer     J. T. Pacett, St. Augustine 829
Chaplain      William G. Lindsay, Ocala 851
Sergeant at Arms  Dr. Hugh Mosher, Lake City 893
Executive Committee  W. A. Jones, Jacksonville 221
                    V. J. Vidal, Pensacola 497
                    William R. Kerr, Key West 551
                    Frank R. Lewis, Tampa 708
                    L. G. Gheatham, Fernandina 795
                    A. M. Taylor, St. Augustine 829
                    Sam A. Rawls, Ocala 851
                    George O. Adicks, Lake City 893
                    Walter L. McGriff, Tallahassee 937
                    W. M. Brown, Miami 948
Forget-Me-Not

The Order adopted the forget-me-not as its floral emblem.

Fort Lauderdale Lodge 1517

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District:</th>
<th>South Southeast</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Dispensation:</td>
<td>August 9, 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Charter:</td>
<td>July 15, 1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formally Opened By:</td>
<td>R. M. Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Exalted Ruler:</td>
<td>W. A. Hicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Members:</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Met:</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>605 SW 12th Avenue, #1A, 33312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>954-463-1517</td>
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</table>

Fort Lauderdale Lodge was sponsored by West Palm Beach Lodge 1352. Fort Lauderdale was named for Maj. William Lauderdale who in 1837 was commander of five companies of Tennessee volunteers who marched into Florida. On March 2, 1838 they arrived at New River where they established Fort Lauderdale, one of the main bases in the second Seminole War. The town of Fort Lauderdale was established here in 1895, taking its name from the fort. Another version states that it was named for a Scottish ancestral home of Capt. William S. Maitland of the U. S. Army who established a fort here in 1838 during the Seminole Wars.

Fort Lauderdale has often been called the Venice of America because of its many canals. It is a yachter’s dream with a myriad of rivers, bays, and inlets. The boat rivals the automobile as a mode of transportation.

The following officiated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grand Exalted Ruler</th>
<th>R. M. Simpson</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Esteemed Leading Knight</td>
<td>Frank H. Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight</td>
<td>Will A. Otter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>Irwin R. Waite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Chaplain</td>
<td>W. P. Mooty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Esquire</td>
<td>Harry Elton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Inner Guard</td>
<td>John Corbett</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following officers were elected and installed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exalted Ruler</th>
<th>William A. Hicks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Esteemed Leading Knight</td>
<td>H. S. Hinton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esteemed Loyal Knight</td>
<td>C. H. Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esteemed Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>P. N. Schnorr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>G. A. Dagwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>H. W. Clements, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esquire</td>
<td>Frank Averill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>1 Year, Lucian Craig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Year, LaMar Thistlethwaite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Year, U. S. Cayot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past Exalted Rulers:

1925-1926  William Hicks
1926-1927  William Hicks
1927-1928  Arthur O’Hea
1928-1929  Arthur O’Hea
1929-1930  Louis F. Maire
1930-1931  Glenn E. Turner
1931 to October 31  Glenn E. Turner
1931-1932  R. R. Saunders
1932-1933  Frank Averill
1933-1934  J. K. Huey
1934-1935  Joseph Phillips, Sr.
1935-1936  C. C. Adams
1936-1937  G. A. Cunningham
1937-1938  Thomas B. Manuel
1938-1939  H. S. Becker
1939-1940  Thomas B. Manuel
1940-1941  Frank B. Carmichael
1941-1942  Charles Crim
1942-1943  C. R. Heimburger
1943-1944  Al W. Hood
1944-1945  Joseph Hudgins
1945-1946  Fred Whitehead
1946-1947  E. O. Williams
1947-1948  Edward M. Maatis
1948-1949  Stephen C. O’Connell
1949-1950  L. G. Knapp
1950-1951  Harry J. Kimbro
1951-1952  George C. Nichols
1952-1953  Earl Tuffy Sapp
1953-1954  Herbert Sperry
1954-1955  Hubert A. Watt
1955-1956  Walter Griffin
1956-1957  Herbert Sperry
1957-1958  Fuller M. Richardson
1959-1960  Herman E. Quinn
1960-1961  Clyde H. Brown
1961-1962  Emerson Allsworth
1962-1963  Larry Jones
1963-1964  Roger W. Norton
1964-1965  Harold I. Sampson
1965-1966  LeRoy Ludwick
1966-1967  Raymond McNamara
1967-1968  Ben G. Kossuth
1968-1969  George E. Roberts
1969-1970  Raymond L. Anthony
1970-1971  John Ince
1972-1973  Joe Parrish
1973-1974  Bud Clemons
1974-1975  Bill Morris
1976-1977  Robert G. Daubert
1977-1978  Albert Dodder
1978-1979  Joseph Jiram
1978-1979  Tom Clemons
1979-1980  Richard D. Lehtinen
1980-1981  Ken Tvenstrup
1981-1982  William Proe
1982-1983  James D. McClain
1983-1984  Floyd Neely
1984-1985  Patrick Rizzi
1985-1986  Frank Fillwock  
1986-1987  Terry Patton  
1987-1988  Todd Cheaney  
1988-1989  John Azzopardi  
1989-1990  Jan Smith  
1990-1991  Alex Gredra  
1991-1992  Jay Westfall  
1992-1993  Riley E. Holman  
1993-1994  David Flemming  
1997-1998  Kendall Rushing  
1998-1999  Susan Twist

**Secretaries:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>D. A. Bagwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>O. B. Caswell</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>A. C. McMillian</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Herbert Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Samuel Drake</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>R. H. Vandenburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Clearence Stauffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>William Guiatteau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Lester B. Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Jack Prutsman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Steve Larson</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>William Officer</td>
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<tr>
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<td>L. G. Knapp</td>
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<td>Jay S. Westfall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Robert A. Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Jay S. Westfall</td>
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**Past District Vice Presidents:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1929-1930</td>
<td>Arthur O’Heal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947-1948</td>
<td>E. O. Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954-1955</td>
<td>George Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962-1963</td>
<td>Fuller Richardson</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966-1967</td>
<td>Clyde Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972-1973</td>
<td>Earl Sapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-1979</td>
<td>Thomas Coker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>Patrick M. Rizzi</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>W. Todd Cheaney</td>
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**Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers:**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1930-1931</td>
<td>Arthur O’Hea</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948-1949</td>
<td>E. O. Williams</td>
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<td>1955-1956</td>
<td>George Nichols</td>
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<td>1963-1964</td>
<td>Fuller Richardson</td>
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<td>Clyde Brown</td>
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<td>1973-1974</td>
<td>Earl Sapp</td>
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<td>1979-1980</td>
<td>Thomas Coker</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>Pareick M. Rizzi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>W. Todd Cheaney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Past State Presidents:

- 1950 Arthur O’Hea
- 1961 George C. Nichols
- 1985 Thomas M. Coker, Jr.

Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee:

- Thomas Coker, Jr.

Justice of the Grand Forum:

- Thomas Coker, Jr.

West Palm Beach #1352 was the Mother Lodge for Fort Lauderdale #1517. In 1960 they renovated the Lodge quarters and burned the mortgage in 1971. They were national ritual champions in 1948-1949.


Fort Lauderdale Lodge Lounge/Dining Area

Fort Lauderdale Lodge Notes:

1940 Mack Klein, the one man membership committee, has brought in 61 members. Klein established a national record (31) for bringing in applications.

Fort Lauderdale Lodge 1517 voted to appropriate sufficient funds for the purchase of approximately twenty uniforms for the Broward County Home Defense Corps.

The Lodge presented Circuit Court Judge George Tedder with an American flag for use in the circuit courtroom.

The Antlers Degree team of West Palm Beach Elks presented an initiation ceremony. The Antlers formed the junior organization of Elkdom.

Fort Lauderdale and Broward County Elks voted to support the Miami Lodge of Elks No. 948 in an effort to bring the 1941 convention of the Florida State Elks Association to Miami.

When Fort Lauderdale Lodge 1517 installed its new officers in 1940, it was observed that of the five officers installed, four were members of the County Bar Association: Charles H. Crim, Leading Knight; Norman Abbott, Lecturing Knight; E. R. Hiemburger, Loyal Knight; and Hubert C. Smith, Secretary.

In the 1950s the Lodge donated $50,000 to build a youth camp in the Birch Park operated by the state of Florida.
In the mid 1960s they added a ballroom area to their building which gave them the largest banquet space in the area. Their mortgage was burned too.

In the 1960s they donated $5,000 for a group of lights to be erected at the Little League Stadium in Fort Lauderdale.

The following is an editorial appearing in *Fort Lauderdale Daily News* on April 24, 1940:

**ELKS - COMMUNITY LEADERS**

Some half a century or more ago a few men with ideals got together to form a social club which would also serve to benefit the community. Their idea was a good and a sound one, and their ideals spread to surrounding cities, to make what was started as a community club, a national organization of lodges, each independent from the central body but banded together to do the most good, and each an integral working part of the city it served.

Today the order is known as the BPOE - The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and so it has been known since before the turn of the century. Since that time, its lodges have been well known to the communities they served - not through publicity, for the Elks in doing their good work are self effacing - but through the hard hitting manner in which they have stood for the community weal.

So it is in Ft. Lauderdale. Our local Elks Lodge has done much for the city, much for itself in molding better men for public office and private business. Always, it has shown a progressive spirit.

Comes now a new reason for Elksdom, for the Elks have announced that they will build a fine new clubhouse that will be a credit to the city and to the organization. It will find many winter visitors, who are Elks, welcoming it, too, welcoming it as a haven of rest and relaxation, where they can forget their cares on the South Florida shore.

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**John J. Pershing Initiation Class**

In the first week of December 1940, as a part of the Elks National Defense and Public Relations program, the Fort Lauderdale Elks along with 1,500 Elks Lodges nationally initiated a record 62 members in the John J. Pershing Class, named in honor of the World War I military leader.

James Dunn, Past Exalted Ruler of Miami Lodge 948 and Chairman of the Florida State Elks National Defense Commission, delivered a patriotic address. The class consisted of many public officials, members of the medical profession, dentists, and members of civic and patriotic groups including attorneys and members of the press. Dunn’s address was broadcast over station WFTL. Among the dignitaries attending were Harry Haimowitz of Lake Worth, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler of Florida East, and many from West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Miami, and Miami Beach.

A committee to supervise construction of the Elks’ new home was announced in May 1940. The committee was headed by Charles Rhodes, Jr. and assisted by Louis Maire, Tom Haley, H. J. Newsham, Sylvain Roos, Joseph Phillips, G. A. Cunningham, and D. D. Freeman. Groundbreaking was on May 1; the cost of the facility was $30,000 and it was located on SE Fourth Street.

Cayot & Hart were awarded the contract for the building and the architect was John M. Peterman. Reinforced concrete was used in construction and the building was designed to be available as a refuge in time of storms. Two stories high, it housed a grill and recreation and lounge rooms on the first floor with offices, Lodge rooms, and restrooms on the second floor.
Fort Myers Lodge 1288

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Florida’s 19th Lodge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District: South Southwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dispensation: August 7, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instituted: October 10, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Members: 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1916 Membership: 146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1987 Membership: 1,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2001 Membership: 901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2006 Membership: 872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2007 Membership: 840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2008 Membership: 852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets: 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday; July &amp; August: 1st Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: 1900 Park Meadows Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 239-278-1355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1912, Fort Myers, as a city recognized by the state legislature, had celebrated its first anniversary in May. The federal census of 1910 indicated a population in Fort Myers of 2,463, a gain of 161.2% from the population of 943 in 1900. So growth was already a factor to be dealt with locally. On First Street, the only building you would recognize in later years was the Bradford Hotel. The Franklin Arms (Edison Regency) was not there nor was the Federal Building. First Street was a dirt road.

Thomas Edison was wintering here that year, and the local citrus industry was about to make history. The three year old Lee County Packing Plant, which was located just down the street from where the Elks would later be located and near the Caloosahatchee Bridge, shipped 118,000 boxes of fruit.

The land on which the Elks Lodge was later built did not exist at that time. It had to be created from fill in the early 1930s when the Fort Myers Yacht Basin was built as a WPA project during the Depression.

The very first meeting of Lodge #1288 was held October 10, 1912. The District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Walton Detwiler, presided. Originally, the installing officers were to be from Key West, traveling here by boat. Stormy weather prevented their attendance, so the installing officers were from Tampa.

According to the minutes of that meeting, “twenty-nine American Gentlemen were initiated. Six visiting brothers were in attendance including Brother John Durward Lynn, who was the main force in getting the Lodge started.”

The following officers were elected:

| Exalted Ruler | Frank C. Alderman |
| Leading Knight | J. Frank Garner |
| Loyal Knight | A. P. Hunter |
| Lecturing Knight | J. H. L. Thompson |
| Secretary | Guy Reynolds |
| Treasurer | H. B. Hoyer |
| Tiler | Frank McNulty |
| Trustees | 1 Year, H. M. Kreamer |
| | 2 Year, J. E. Foxworthy |
| | 3 Year, Harvie Heitman |

The following are charter members: Francis W. Perry; Samuel P. Bruton; Frank F. McNulty; Gordon F. Henry; Arthur P. Hunter; Morgan A. Ring; Lucius C. Curtright; Guy B. Reynolds; Dewitt F. Farabee; Darvie E. Heitman; Chas. M. Foxworthy; J. H. Leon Thompson; William H. Phillips; Henry B. Hoyer; James F. Garner; William H. McNulty; John Dyler; Harry M. Kreamer; David W. Ireland; Robert W. Gilliam, Jr.; Robert F. Fowler; John VanAndrew; William S. Hanson; Isaac E. Foxworthy; Frank S. Ballentine; Joseph W. Sherrill; Frank C. Alderman; James W. Wilson; and George A. Brummett.

They purchased their first building in 1913. By 1925 they were planning on building new quarters but they became victims of the Depression in the 1930s and lost all of their property.
In 1939 they again purchased property and enjoyed a mortgage burning on March 1, 1944, one year before the end of World War II. They made improvements and additions to this property in the 1950s and 1970s. This mortgage was burned in September 1985.

PSP W. S. “Sam” Compton (1965-1966) was a member of the Lodge.

Their Ladies organization is Ladies of Elks Circle No. 1 with Mrs. Clint Moore as their first President.

The first meeting closed with an invitation to the visiting members to “repair to the Bradford Hotel to partake of a ‘Dutch Lunch’ as guests of this Lodge.”

By October 15, 1912, the Masonic Hall was secured as a meeting place at an annual fee of $50. Brother Lynn (in November he would request transfer demit from Madisonville, KY Lodge #738) received a vote of thanks for his “earnest and untriring effort in organizing this Lodge.”

On November 7, 1912, the Lodge jurisdiction was defined: commencing on the Gulf of Mexico at Venice, extending in a northeasterly direction to Sandy, thence east to Gardner, thence southeast to the mouth of the Kissimmee River and around the eastern shore of Lake Okeechobee, thence to Immokalee, thence to Chokoloskee and north to Venice.

A special meeting was called for December 9, 1912 to initiate candidates; none appeared. Several brothers were sent out on a “still hunt” for the timid “near deers.” They reported that one of them was in Tampa, one in New York, one across the river, one at home in bed thinking that tomorrow evening was the initiation, and one of them wanted “to ride the goat” with his friend who was in New York.

During Christmas of 1912, Lodge #1288 made its first contribution to a Christmas fund for the needy; at that time, it was known as the Empty Stocking Fund.

On January 21, 1913, the Lodge purchased property including a 70 x 120 foot lot on First Street between Royal Palm and Lee Streets for $4,715. The terms were $600 down with the balance at 7% interest. That area which today is about where the C & S Bank’s parking lot is was later sold to Lawrence A. Powell and used as a funeral home.

The Lodge’s first anniversary was marked on October 10, 1913 by a reception and dance. The first charity ball was held November 14, 1913 and was deemed a success. Fifteen dollars was netted.

The ensuing years passed quickly and were filled with growth, fun, and community service. By October 14, 1914, 118 new members had been initiated that year, and in December dues were raised to $15 annually. In April of 1915, a major expenditure was recorded when it was voted to expend $5 a month for new records for the Victrola.

By January 1916, 25 of 146 members were from Arcadia, nine were from Punta Gorda, six were from Boca Grande, and sixteen others were from outside the city of Fort Myers. Indications were that Lodge #1288 was truly the Mother Lodge of the Southwest District.

In June of 1916, U. S. Senator Charles A. Stadler of New York donated antlers to the Lodge. Stadler had built a magnificent home there and as a winter resident was very active in community activities. Other visitors who spent their winters here were Thomas Edison; Henry Ford; Dr. Franklin Miles, of Miles Laboratories fame (Nervine and Alka Seltzer); Ambrose McGregor, a major stockholder and officer in Standard Oil; Zane Grey, Rex Beach, and later, Mary Roberts Rinehart, writers; and Jack Dempsey, sports figure.

In 1916 it was announced that the architect had plans ready for a new clubhouse, and in November, Brother Snow was ordered to hang the charter or be hung. In December a motion was made and passed at a regular meeting that Brother Snow be hung.

For the time being, all the Lodge had was a plan for the new clubhouse. In August of 1922, the finance committee was instructed to negotiate purchase of the Franklin Arms at a price not to exceed $45,000 which was finalized in time for the 1926 State Convention in April. To finance the new building, $100,000 was borrowed.

The first meeting was held in their new home in January with 188 members in attendance, nearly 50% of their total membership of 358. Built by J. D. “Carl” McDonald, a local contractor, the new facility had a large meeting room on the second floor, a lounge, a kitchen, and even a bowling alley.

They say timing is a lot and in this case, the economic picture in Southwest Florida was changing as in other locations. Superficial land prices had been inflated and because of a changing economic picture as well as the killer hurricane of 1926, land values became badly deflated. As in other parts of Florida, it was termed the great land bust following the land boom.

This land bust of 1926 was followed by the Great Depression and stock market crash in October of 1929, a depression that crippled the entire nation that never really recovered until the entry of World War II.

Also a victim of the great land bust and Depression was a large luxury hotel in Umatilla FL. Just three weeks after its grand opening, the hotel closed its doors. A man by the name of Harry Miller holding a mortgage foreclosed. Miller later donated the property to the Florida State Elks Association and it became the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital. The rest is history.
By 1931, the Fort Myers Lodge could no longer hang on and lost their proud Lodge. By necessity, a new committee was appointed with instructions to find a new location. Times were lean for a few years but in April 1939, negotiations were begun to purchase a site from the Heitman family. Negotiations were successful and a contract was executed at a cost of $1,200 plus taxes. In June of the following year, a contract was let out and the groundbreaking was held in a new era in the history of the Fort Myers Elks.

Local contractor, George Hoffman, began the construction, but Walter Edelblut was the contractor who finished the job. Frank Bail was the architect. In May 1941, the members again moved into a new home. This time the Lodge was on a more solid foundation, for the building was paid off by March 1, 1944.

The Elks Lodge played a significant role in the community during World War II. Fort Myers was the site for two army bases, Page Field and Buckingham. At the peak of the war, more than 20,000 soldiers inundated little Fort Myers which had a population of around 2,500. Because the town was so small, the USO used the Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce for enlisted men and the Elks Lodge was used as an Officers’ Club. The pages of the monthly bulletins for the war years are packed with the names and letters from loyal Elks in the service of their country, and the Lodge saw to it that they were kept current on the activities of the Lodge.

The war ended and peace and normalcy returned to Fort Myers. However, many of the servicemen who had been stationed there returned and the Lodge grew. As a result, an addition to the Lodge was built in 1956, again by J. C. McDonald, and for years it housed Smitty’s Restaurant until they moved to a location on West First Street. They then leased to the Victoria Pier Restaurant. Ed Navarro built the addition to the back room. Frenchy LaVoie built the 6 x 6 barbecue pit used for cookouts in 1966.

At the time Lodge #1288 celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1987, they had 1,040 members. The Ladies of the Elks had 247 members. In that year they donated $36,760 to charity including the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, scholarships, Christmas baskets for the needy, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Elks National Foundation, and drug awareness programs.

In September of 1985 Exalted Ruler George Stasek, writing his monthly newsletter message, asked the membership to think seriously about their future in the present Lodge in downtown Fort Myers. Their future in that location was questionable. It was necessary to employ security forces on Friday, Saturday, and Sundays to protect those entering and leaving the building. Vehicles were not safe parked in the area. Their bar was poorly laid out causing very inefficient and slow service. The kitchen was much too small to provide the needs of diners. Above all, the future of downtown was questionable.

However, on March 11, 1994, their Hendry Street Lodge burned. The fire knocked out Sunday afternoon bingo, putting to an end one of the longest running bingos in Fort Myers that was a major source of Lodge charity funds for the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital. The fire started in the snack bar room adjacent to the larger ballroom. At the time there was only speculation as to the probable cause of the fire. One theory centered on the newly refinished floors. A fan being used to ventilate the area may have overheated and started the conflagration. When firefighters arrived, flames were escaping through the windows of the second floor. It spread from the snack bar melting the TV monitors and the aluminum around the windows. Hidden pockets of fire in the ceiling area kept firemen on the job until the next day. Damage was extensive from fire, smoke, and water extending downstairs to the Victoria Pier Restaurant. They took up temporary quarters at 3049 South Cleveland Avenue.

This Lodge along with thirteen others supports the Southwest Florida Elks Clinic in Fort Myers. The clinic was started in 1983 and was housed the first four months of its existence in the Fort Myers Lodge. Since its inception, 335 patients have been cared for and 760 examinations have been performed all free of charge.

Active in veterans’ programs, in 2002-2003 the Lodge alone in just three months served 369 meals to veterans and homeless.

Past Exalted Rulers:

- 1912-1913 Frank C. Alderman
- 1913-1914 Frank C. Alderman
- 1914-1915 J. Durward Lynn
- 1915-1916 J. H. Leon Thompson
- 1916-1917 C. C. Pursley
- 1917-1918 E. W. Ashmead
- 1918-1919 Lincoln Fishback
- 1919-1920 James Hutton
- 1920-1921 H. M. Kreamer
- 1921-1922 G. Hunter Bryant
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1920-1921</td>
<td>A. W. Raymond</td>
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<td>1921-1922</td>
<td>Harry C. Stuckey</td>
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<td>Virgil C. Robb</td>
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<td>E. T. Pepper</td>
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<td>1924-1925</td>
<td>Carl C. McClure</td>
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<td>1925-1926</td>
<td>Rev. Frank A. Shore</td>
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<td>1926-1927</td>
<td>Harry J. Wood</td>
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<td>J. E. Brecht</td>
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<td>R. T. Boswell</td>
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<td>George D. Presson</td>
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<td>Guy M. Strayhorn</td>
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<td>H. W. Grady</td>
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<td>Fred M. Lowdermilk</td>
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<td>Hugh A. Seneff</td>
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<td>Donald Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988-1989</td>
<td>William Meehan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>Jack B. Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>Stanley J. Caylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-1993</td>
<td>Jim Hogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-1994</td>
<td>William Krieger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>John Wilkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>Donald Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>Jack L. Hoagland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>Phil Gersbach</td>
</tr>
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Past District Deputies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1919-1920</td>
<td>J. D. Lynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937-1938</td>
<td>R. Vivian Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946-1947</td>
<td>Fred M. Lowdermilk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952-1953</td>
<td>G. P. LeMoyne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957-1958</td>
<td>G. P. LeMoyne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-1962</td>
<td>W. S. Compton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-1979</td>
<td>Kenneth J. McStavic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988-1989</td>
<td>David Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>Pete Minogue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past State Presidents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961-1962</td>
<td>George Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-1966</td>
<td>W. S. Compton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past Presidents of the Ladies of the Elks Circle #1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1964-1965</td>
<td>Wint Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-1966</td>
<td>Bertha Rachey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-1967</td>
<td>Mary Todd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-1968</td>
<td>Hazel Sanders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-1969</td>
<td>Mary Lib Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969-1970</td>
<td>Billie Compton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-1971</td>
<td>Dorothy Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-1972</td>
<td>Jackie Matthews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972-1973</td>
<td>Betty Noppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973-1974</td>
<td>Karen Doerr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-1975</td>
<td>Diane Richards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-1976</td>
<td>Nancy Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-1977</td>
<td>Camille Weber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-1978</td>
<td>Pat Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-1979</td>
<td>Alice Bender</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fort Pierce Lodge 1520

Florida’s 27th Lodge
District: Southeast Central
Date of Dispensation: December 12, 1925
Date of Installation: February 25, 1926
Formally Opened By: W. I. Irwin, DDGER
Year 2001 Membership: 719
Year 2006 Membership: 1,088
Year 2007 Membership: 1,188
Year 2008 Membership: 1,266

Fort Pierce lies in St. Lucie County along the east coast of Florida. Originally established as a fort from 1838-1842, it was named after Lt. Col. Benjamin Kendrick Pierce, a brother to President Franklin Pierce. The fort headquartered the army of the South under General Jesup during the Civil War.

The following officiated:

- Grand Exalted Ruler: W. I. Irwin
- Grand Esteemed Leading Knight: Brother Bennett
- Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight: Brother Heimes
- Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight: Brother Henderson
- Grand Tiler: Brother Shervey
- Grand Chaplain: Brother Williamson
- Grand Inner Guard: Brother Conley

The following officers were elected and installed:

- Exalted Ruler: Charles E. Getchell
- Esteemed Leading Knight: I. O. Bishop
- Esteemed Lecturing Knight: Alto Adams
- Secretary: C. M. Anderson
- Treasurer: F. D. McGarity
- Inner Guard: Louis Miller
- Chaplain: J. W. Liddon
- Esquire: Sam Holtzberg
- Tiler: H. R. Alford
- Trustees: C. C. Cahow, G. T. Baker, N. Needles

The following officers initiated the new members:

- Exalted Ruler: Whitney B. Heims
- Esteemed Leading Knight: J. E. Baker
- Esteemed Loyal Knight: H. A. Bright
- Esteemed Lecturing Knight: L. R. Baker
- Esquire: J. E. Hardwick
- Chaplain: J. A. Gregoor
- Inner Guard: A. M. Bright
- Tiler: A. H. Chartier

The Ladies organization was called the Elkettes, and Mrs. Alice Peckelis was their first President. PSP Alto Adams (1937-1938) and PSP Charles H. Peckelis (1960-1961) were members of the Lodge.

**Past Exalted Rulers:**

- 1925-1926  G. E. Getchell
- 1926-1927  G. E. Getchell
- 1928-1929  Alto Adams, PDD, PSP
- 1930-1931  W. Liddon
- 1932-1933  J. K. Walker
- 1934-1935  T. H. Carlton
- 1935-1936  E. Willes
- 1936-1937  R. Rubin
- 1937-1938  G. Nottingham
- 1938-1939  E. Sumner
- 1939-1940  E. Willes
- 1940-1941  G. Sullivan
- 1943-1944  J. Riggs
- 1944-1945  C. D. Mustaine
- 1945-1946  J. A. Tucker, Jr.
- 1946-1947  O. F. Kelley
- 1947-1948  J. B. Brewer
- 1948-1949  C. H. Peckelis, PDD, PSP
- 1949-1950  O. R. Parker
- 1950-1951  C. M. Hunt
- 1951-1952  B. Popell
- 1953-1954  C. Wilson
- 1955-1956  J. H. Walker
- 1956-1957  W. J. Falardeau
- 1958-1959  Robert Drumm
- 1959-1960  Harry W. Nelson
- 1960-1961  Joseph H. Coggin
- 1961-1962  Frank J. Salkoski
- 1962-1963  Dr. Charles M. Pharr
- 1963-1964  Allen Walker
- 1964-1965  Robert Robbins
- 1965-1966  Paul F. Graham
- 1968-1969  Albert R. Burdge
- 1969-1970  Bruce Koehler
- 1970-1971  George B. Walters
- 1971-1972  Allen Walker
- 1972-1973  Gilbert M. Pipes
- 1973-1974  Arthur L. Frecka
In December 2002, Lodge Advisor, PDD Paul Testa, passed away at the age of 64. He had been a thirty year member of the Fort Pierce Lodge. At the time, he was serving on the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services Board of Directors.

Their Ladies organization was organized in 1947 as the Anna Miller Circle. They later organized in 1986 as the Fort Pierce Elkettes with 31 charter members.

Charter Members of Anna Miller Circle:

- **President**: Alice Peckelis
- **Vice President**: Louise Bird
- **Recording Secretary**: Kathryn Schneider
- **Treasurer**: Ruth Matheson
- **Corresponding Secretary**: Eulalie Durden
- **Parliamentarian**: Ruby Jackson
- **Historian**: Mrs. J. B. Renner

- Eve Alkire
- Mrs. Edson Arnold
- Mrs. L. Ashburner
- Mrs. Frank Bradley
- Maizie Reynolds Brumby
- Isabel Cheatham
- Mrs. John L. Davis
- Mrs. A. C. Fennell
- Martha Harrison
- Madeline Hunt
- Mrs. F. McMasters
- Betty Padrick
- Betty Lou Jackson
- Mrs. P. L. Perryman
- Mrs. T. B. Russell
- Blanche Schmitt
- Louise Starzzulla
- Evelyn Summerlin
- Mrs. Victor Sutter
- Katherine Tedwell
- Thelma Tidwell
- Alliece Walters
- Julia Willson

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- **Recording Secretary**: Kathryn Schneider
- **Treasurer**: Ruth Matheson
- **Corresponding Secretary**: Eulalie Durden
- **Parliamentarian**: Ruby Jackson
- **Historian**: Mrs. J. B. Renner

- Eve Alkire
- Mrs. Edson Arnold
- Mrs. L. Ashburner
- Mrs. Frank Bradley
- Maizie Reynolds Brumby
- Isabel Cheatham
- Mrs. John L. Davis
- Mrs. A. C. Fennell
- Martha Harrison
- Madeline Hunt
- Mrs. F. McMasters
- Betty Padrick
- Betty Lou Jackson
- Mrs. P. L. Perryman
- Mrs. T. B. Russell
- Blanche Schmitt
- Louise Starzzulla
- Evelyn Summerlin
- Mrs. Victor Sutter
- Katherine Tedwell
- Thelma Tidwell
- Alliece Walters
- Julia Willson
Significant events and contributions:

1996  Completed the expansion of its dining room and dance floor
2007  Contributed $500 to Boy Scout Troop #499 to help scouts cover the cost of earning their aviation merit badges
2009  Mailed approximately 75 Christmas/holiday cards to soldiers in Afghanistan in December
2010  They mailed five boxes to the troops weighing over fifty pounds at a value of $375. The postage for these boxes totaled $62.50. Items they mailed included sunscreen, Chap Stick, body wipes, hand sanitizers, body spray or washes, skin moisturizers, athlete's feet medicine or insoles, socks that repel sweat, green boot socks, razors, shave gel, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, hairbrushes, and air fresheners for barracks and tents. They also sent single drink mixes, energy & granola bars, individually wrapped cookies, crackers, Pop Tarts, Slim Jims, small individual packs of peanuts, M & Ms, wrapped hard candy, packets of ready to eat tuna/chicken, small candy tubs, microwavable lasagna/beef stew/spaghetti/macaroni and cheese/coffee, etc. They included playing cards, pens and paper or small games, puzzle books, etc.

They made trips to the West Palm Beach Hospital. There they delivered used clothing, paperback books, and puzzle books, preferably of larger print.

Veterans were invited to come to Fort Pierce to visit the Seal Museum and have lunch at the Lodge.

Fort Walton Lodge 1795

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Florida’s 51st Lodge</th>
<th>District:</th>
<th>Northwest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dispensation:</td>
<td>February 22, 1950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instituted:</td>
<td>April 11, 1950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered:</td>
<td>July 13, 1950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Exalted Ruler:</td>
<td>John C. Beasley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formally Opened By:</td>
<td>James T. Lowe, DDGER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Charter Members:</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2001 Membership:</td>
<td>931</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2006 Membership:</td>
<td>801</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2007 Membership:</td>
<td>767</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2008 Membership:</td>
<td>687</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets:</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, &amp; 3rd Monday; June, July, &amp; August: 1st &amp; 3rd Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>1335 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>850-244-5632</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fort Walton was named after a fort established there during the Seminole Wars. Col. George Walton was Secretary of West Florida at the time Andrew Jackson was serving as governor (and under whose term Florida was admitted as a state). Walton was the son of George Walton, signer of the Declaration of Independence and Governor of Georgia.

The Lodge placed 2nd in the Florida State Elks ritual contest in 1985.

The following officiated:

- Grand Exalted Ruler: J. T. Lowe
- Grand Esteemed Leading Knight: Alto Adams
- Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight: T. M. Lloyd
- Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight: C. L. Johnson
- Grand Secretary: H. A. Davis
- Grand Treasurer: L. M. Strickland
- Grand Tiler: S. R. Wolfe
- Grand Chaplain: Max L. Bear
- Grand Esquire: M. A. Rosin
- Grand Inner Guard: A. E. Langford
The following officers were elected and installed:

- **Exalted Ruler**: John C. Beasley
- **Esteemed Leading Knight**: Luther Clary
- **Esteemed Loyal Knight**: George Stoeckinger
- **Esteemed Lecturing Knight**: Julius Miller
- **Secretary**: C. E. Branch
- **Treasurer**: E. L. Gill
- **Inner Guard**: A. A. Dukes
- **Esquire**: R. P. McCready
- **Tiler**: E. R. Perry
- **Trustees**: 1 Year, Hilary Stewart; 2 Year, W. B. Bengston; 3 Year, O. M. Early

The following are charter members: John C. Beasley; Edward L. Gill; R. P. McCreary; Frank P. Williams; Frederick H. Shaddick; Carlton T. Hoober; C. J. Moutschka; John A. Giles; Brooks E. Kilgore; John E. Bishop; Hilary T. Stewart; Paul G. Roberts; Nick Maltezo; C. B. Wages; Sam E. Lindsey; John F. Campbell; Frank B. McLain; E. R. Perry; W. B. Barbeson; James A. Ready; Everett C. Meserve; O. L. Bengston; W. Nowling; W. B. Bengston; C. L. Russell; George L. Maples; Victor R. Jamison; T. Frank Williams; B. H. Hill; D. C. Walker; Champ C. White; Finley B. Duncan; Joseph H. Stoner; Julius C. Miller; A. G. Diffenbaugh; Howard F. McGee; E. L. Jenkins; Harry Vandegriff; W. H. Beckham; Alton A. Dukes; George M. Stoeckinger; James E. Miller; O. M. Early; J. L. Drake; Luther Clary; W. B. Williams; Quinn E. Branch; John B. Amos; John M. Sparks, Jr.; George F. Wofford, Jr.; and Comer S. Neal.

The Ladies organization is the Elkettes; Mrs. Billie Salter was their first President.

**Past District Deputies:**

- 1956-1957: Alton Garand
- 1957-1958: Luther Clary
- 1962-1963: Harry R. Beamer
- 1974-1975: J. Dennis Marin
- 1981-1982: Joseph B. Bryant
- 1983-1984: George Ruzick

**Past District Vice Presidents:**

- 1956-1957: Luther Clary
- 1979-1980: Joseph B. Bryant
- 1990-1991: Edward G. Solley
- 1996-1997: Norman Orr

In 1958 they reported that Fort Walton Lodge was still working toward building a Lodge in a beautiful location in the heart of the Miracle Strip. They were working close with the youth of the community, they conducted a kite flying contest, and were giving scholarship awards.

Their Ladies organization is the Elkettes. They organized June 5, 1968 with 25 charter members.

Fort Walton Lodge No. 1795 was instituted on April 11, 1950. The Lodge was chartered on July 13, 1950 with John C. Beasley serving as the first Exalted Ruler. There were 51 charter members. Pensacola Elks Lodge No. 497 conducted the formal installation led by Exalted Ruler T. M. Lloyd and other members of his Lodge.
The following Elks were installed as charter officers to serve Fort Walton Lodge for the first year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exalted Ruler</td>
<td>John C. Beasley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Knight</td>
<td>Luther Clary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyal Knight</td>
<td>George Stocklinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>Julius C. Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Quin E. Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Edward L. Gill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiler</td>
<td>E. R. Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Guard</td>
<td>A. A. Dukes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>E. C. Meserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esquire</td>
<td>R. P. McCreary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Year</td>
<td>Hilary T. Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Year</td>
<td>William B. Bengston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Year</td>
<td>Otis M. Early</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first home for the Lodge was in the Masonic Lodge on Main Street in Fort Walton Beach. The Lodge then moved into the upstairs facilities at the corner of Main Street and Perry Avenue, now occupied by Cash’s Liquor Store. Later the Lodge moved into a building at the corner of South Avenue and Eglin Parkway which housed Perri’s Restaurant in the later years. Their next move was to 1335 East Highway 98 on Okaloosa Island. This was accomplished in 1961. By careful investments, the Lodge was able to pay off the original mortgage on the building in March 1978. A proper mortgage burning ceremony was held with activities conducted by the Exalted Ruler and Past Exalted Rulers.

There have been several remodeling changes to the building over the years. In 1980, the Grand Lodge approved the addition of thirty feet on the north side (waterside) which essentially doubled the size of the lounge area and the ballroom. This was followed by the addition of a covered patio and pier extending into Choctawatchee Bay. The original Lodge meeting room was enlarged to accommodate the growing membership. Other lesser changes have continued to improve the facility over the years.

Lodge 1795 served as the Mother Lodge for new Lodges that were organized to accommodate the Elks in the surrounding communities over the years. These were Crestview #2624, DeFuniak Springs (now disbanded), Destin #2688, and Twin Cities #2747. Holley-Navarre Lodge #2787, sponsored by Pensacola Beach Lodge #2256, was able to use Fort Walton’s large ballroom for the installation of their officers and members. Fort Walton Lodge continues to have good relations with all the Lodges in the community and the Northwest Florida District.

**Founders’ Week**

Traditionally, Founders’ Week was the week prior to the opening of summer camp at the Florida Elks Youth Camp. Elks from Lodges around the state of Florida assembled to prepare the camp for the season and to engage in light construction, maintenance, and landscaping plus many social and recreational activities for Florida Elks. This ended in 2001.

**Free and Easies**

Free and easies were thoroughly respectable institutions that were popular about the time that Charles Vivian arrived in America. They were Bohemian in character and were places where they ate chops and steaks, drank “toties” of ale, and smoked. It was a room adjacent to the barroom or sometimes connected with a hotel, lodging house, chophouse, or restaurant.

One or two evenings a week, entertainment was given to patrons such as singers, musicians, and variety performers. Two or three were paid (small sums, $2.50 per night to singers and other services) but generally many would volunteer. The proprietor of the place generally engaged a chairman to whom he paid a salary to look after things and keep it going with some kind of entertainment.

John Ireland’s Chop House and Star Hotel which was Charles Vivian’s first stop was such a place. It was located in the upper end of the wholesale district. Englishmen ran nearly all of the free and easies in New York City.
Other free and easiest met on different nights so as not to conflict with one another. Some performers would arrange to sing a song or two at one place and then go to another place and do a turn and then get back to the first one in time to go on again near the close of the evening.

**Fritz, Joan C., President, Florida Ladies of Elks, 2008-2009**

Joan Fritz was born in New York City to Marion and Fred Beck. During her early life she grew up in Lyndhurst, NJ. In 1946 the family moved to Norwood, NJ. In 1950 she graduated from Tenafly High School where she was featured as Head Majorette for the marching band.

She had two brothers. Her older brother, Fred Beck, Jr., was killed in 1943 during World War II off New Georgia Island near Guadalcanal. He was a tail gunner on a Marine attack plane. Her younger brother, Roger Beck, married and has since retired.

In 1951 Joan married William Heuslein, also of Norwood, NJ. He has passed away. Her son, William Heuslein, was serving as Esteemed Leading Knight at Port Orange Lodge #2723 when she was serving as President of the Florida Ladies of the Elks. In 1966 she married George Fritz and the two of them settled in River Vale, NJ, residing there for 29 years. She and George had two children. Gregory, a graduate of Lehigh University, became a pitcher in the White Sox minor league system. Her daughter, Jennifer, lives in Miami, FL with her husband, Larry, and three children. She holds a PhD degree in marine biology and is employed at the University of Miami. Her husband has a daughter, Donna, who lives in LeCanto, FL with her husband, Larry, and three children.

Joan retired from First Fidelity Bank in Park Ridge, NJ (now Wachovia Bank) in 1995 where she became Assistant Vice President and a branch manager of several offices. She and George retired to Port Orange, FL. In the Port Orange area she has served as Secretary of Daytona Chapter #1 Does for eleven years and is a Past President of the Port Orange Elkhearts and was also their Treasurer for five years. During 2001 she was introduced to FLOE by Sally Braden of New Smyrna Beach Lodge #1557. She became a Senior Delegate to FLOE representing the East Central District in 2001. In 2004 she was appointed Chaplain and the following year began her journey through the chairs.

As President of FLOE in 2008-2009 her colors were red, white, and blue. Her prime symbol was the American flag and her fun symbol was a lighthouse. Her motto for the year was “Old Glory Will Light Your Way.”
Funerals

The first improvised funeral service by the Elks was performed at the occasion of the funeral of Brother Joseph C. Pinckney. Several other Orders participated and gave their formal service. The Elks assembled at the church. Brother Arthur C. Moreland acted as Exalted Ruler.

The Elks were assigned to the right of line in formation and funeral. When other Orders finished their services, Brother Moreland rapped four times on the back of a pew with the gavel. Every Elk in the church stood up and filed around the casket, being hastily prompted by the acting Exalted Ruler to simply respond, “it is,” when called upon to respond to interrogations. Brother Moreland improvised a biblical reading or scriptural lesson extemporaneously. Frank Girard was there and he was a good singer, so Moreland said to him in a low tone, “the right hand over the left, start it, Frank,” and with linked circle they all sang “Auld Lang Syne” and then filed out of the church.

Up to this time they had no service whatsoever other than casting a white glove into the grave of the cemetery.