Hale, Caspian, President, Florida State Elks Association, 1934-1935

Twenty-Ninth Annual Session
Florida State Elks Association
April 15-17, 1934
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The following Lodges were represented: Jacksonville No. 221, Ocala No. 286, Pensacola No. 497, Key West No. 551, Tampa No. 708, St. Augustine No. 829, Lake City No. 893, Tallahassee No. 937, Miami No. 948, Gainesville No. 990, Orlando No. 1079, Quincy No. 1111, Daytona Beach No. 1141, St. Petersburg No. 1224, Palatka No. 1232, Sanford No. 1241, Fort Myers No. 1288, Lakeland No. 1291, West Palm Beach No. 1352, DeLand No. 1463, Marianna No. 1516, Fort Lauderdale No. 1517, Sarasota No. 1519, Fort Pierce No. 1520, Arcadia No. 1524, Clearwater No. 1525, Sebring No. 1529, Lake Worth No. 1530, Cocoa No. 1532, New Smyrna Beach No. 1557, and Eustis No. 1578.

Distinguished guests present were Hon. David Sholtz, Grand Esteemed Leading Knight; Father Thomas Brennan, State Chaplain of Georgia; I. Ehrlich, District Deputy of Georgia; H. B. Roberts, Vice President of the Georgia Association; L. M. Cohen and Henry Kiebe of Albany, GA.; and Col. W. V. Turley and Major Hobday of Chattanooga, TN.

President Frank E. Thompson reported that upon the visit of GER Walter F. Meier to Florida, he accompanied him on visits to Daytona Beach, New Smyrna, St. Augustine, Palatka, and Jacksonville.

The Endowment Fund of the Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Memorial Home was initiated February 14, 1934, and a Sponsors Committee headed by Governor and Mrs. David Sholtz of 44 prominent Florida visitors and residents was organized (see detail reports of proceedings, 1934).

The Medical Director reported that the Harry-Anna Memorial Home for Crippled Children was informally opened April 24, 1933 and that 69 children were admitted and 39 were discharged, thus leaving 30 at present in the wards.

The Association endorsed Miami as the National Convention city for the 1935-1936 session.

A resolution was adopted expressive of the loss in the transfer of Father P. J. Downey and wishing him success in his new location.

A resolution was adopted that some fitting memorial be erected at the Harry-Anna Home in Umatilla in appropriate recognition of the foundation and maintenance of same.

The Association adopted a recommendation that all Lodges of the state send in not less than $1 per member per year for the use and benefit of the Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Home and that each Lodge raise the money in any manner it sees fit.

Tampa Lodge No. 708 was awarded the attendance cup and Tallahassee Lodge No. 937 won the ritualistic cup.
The following officers were elected to serve for the 1934-1935 term:

President Caspian Hale, New Smyrna 1557
First Vice President W. P. Mooty, Miami 948
Second Vice President J. J. Fernandez, Tampa 708
Third Vice President Al Dooley, Pensacola 497
Fourth Vice President M. E. Welborn, Ocala 286
Fifth Vice President G. W. Spencer, Sanford 1241
Secretary-Treasurer Harold Colee, St. Augustine 829
Tiler C. L. Johnson, Tallahassee 937
Sergeant at Arms Peter Gessner, DeLand 1463
Chaplain Rev. Frank Gee, Daytona 1141
Historian Walter H. Donovan, St. Petersburg 1224
Executive Committee 3 Year, J. Edwin Baker, West Palm Beach 1352
Caspian Hale, New Smyrna Beach 1557
Frank E. Thompson, Lake City 893
W. P. Mooty, Miami 948
Harold Colee, St. Augustine 829
A. C. Altvater, Sebring 1529
L. L. Anderson, Cocoa 1532

Ocala was selected for the 1934-1935 annual session.

Hands Across the Border Red Ribbon Celebration

This is an annual Drug and Alcohol Awareness program participated in by the Dothan, AL Elks and Marianna, FL Elks and by the St. Augustine Elks Lodge and South Carolina. The celebration involves a contingent of children meeting at the borders of their states in a celebration to promote drug and alcohol dangers.

In one typical program in October of 2002, the Marianna Lodge met in its annual celebration at the border. There were schools from Marianna, Graceville, Dothan, Hope, Cottondale, and Sneads. Law enforcement officers attended from the Jackson County, FL and the Houston County, AL area. Police departments represented were from Marianna and Cottondale, FL and Dothan, AL as well as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Officers and Alabama State Highway Patrol. DDGER Carl Sullivan moderated the celebration. Speakers were Danny Sims, Superintendent of Jackson County Schools, and Sheriff John McDaniel from Jackson County who is an Elk. The Dothan, AL Elks Lodge was also represented. All the kids lined up across the state line with balloons in hand and when the ribbon was cut by the Superintendent of Schools, the kids released the balloons.

The Elks National Foundation from time to time has offered a foundation-funded Elks Drug Awareness program to reimburse expenses of up to $200 for the first 250 Elks Lodges that pledge to hold drug, alcohol, and violence free events for community youths. Examples include but are not limited to after-prom parties, graduation parties, pool parties, youth lock-ins, back to school events, or Red Ribbon celebrations. In order to be eligible for reimbursement, the youth events must be held between April 1 and November 30 of that year.

Harding, Warren G., President of the United States

Brother Warren G. Harding, President of the United States, spoke to the Marion, OH Lodge in 1921 on the occasion of the initiation of the “Harding Class” of 186. He was an Elk and his words rang with a meaning. He was voted an honorary life membership in Marion Lodge No. 32 of which he was a charter member. Among other things at the awarding of honorary life membership, he said,

Brother Elks: This has been a happy surprise. I hardly know what I want to say. It is rather a curious thing in life that when one’s words are little noted he need not be careful what he says and he is usually prepared to speak, but when fortunes so alter our lives that every word is carefully noted, one is little prepared to speak. I pledge you my word that in the last few months I have said more things without thought than I ever did before.

You have some neophytes in your order. You fellows (addressing the new members) got off more easily than I. There have been a great many changes – impressive
changes — yet, after all, I like the old order because the normal human being needs a few things poetical.

I was deeply impressed with the solemn, religious, patriotic, uplifting tone of the work of initiation. It is fine. If I could have a Republic composed of Elks living up to that creed, I would have no more trouble being President of this Republic than in being Exalted Ruler of your Lodge. I liked the Flag exercises more than I can tell you. If we did not have this love of flag and home in the hearts of the people of this Republic it never would amount to much. We were a polyglot people, and it was only in the turmoil of the world that we found our soul, and with God helping us, we are going to be Americans henceforth.

We could not be just if, after the turmoil of the world, we could not put hatred out of our hearts. I want you to know that the incoming President is going to deal justly with everybody in the world and with Americans in particular.

I’ve seen the Flag borne by the old soldiers who saved the Union. I’ve seen it flying from our schoolhouses, and I’ve seen it as you have seen it almost everywhere, but I remember seeing it once when it warmed the cockles of my heart. I have been in Europe and the voyage home had been stormy. I had not seen the Flag for a long while — we don’t see it much on the seas. I had not seen the Flag since I saw it in Genoa, but we had approached within piloting distance of New York, and we were all standing on the deck waiting for the pilot boat to approach, and when the boat came near enough to show the Flag there was an indefinable joy come into the hearts of everyone to see Old Glory near home. I want to promise you, brother Elks that at the end of four years, God helping me, you are going to have the same flag.

I want you to know, my friends, that I am just a little bit more consecrated. I want your help and I promise you that there shall be one executive who believes in charity and who believes that fidelity is of vastly more consequence in government than charity. One who serves in good conscience and fidelity can not go far wrong. I want your help.

I want the help of all the nearly one million Elks who preach and practice patriotism. You can’t do everything by law.

Legislation cannot cure all the ills and thwart all evil. We can’t live in ferment for four years and then become normal in four days. Don’t expect too much, but there will be an honest effort to get on the right track once more after the turmoil in the world.

I am grateful for this life membership in No. 32. Thirty-two began its career in Marion contemporaneously with my newspaper experience. Formerly one had to be either an actor or one who had attained prominence in business or other affairs to become a member of the Order. I am glad that it has widened its scope and has become a great mouth-piece of patriotic devotion.

Harry-Anna Crippled Children’s Hospital

(See Elks Crippled Children’s Hospital)

Harry-Anna Elks Charities, Inc.

This board consists of seven directors who meet four times a year: at the two quarterly meetings, the Mid-year Convention, and the Annual State Convention. Its functions include fundraising. Fundraising methods have included bricks for the Elks Youth Camp walkway, scarves and ties, holiday cards, a Billy Lane chopper motorcycle, and donations from the Ladies organizations. Their projects have included the Florida Elks Charities Major Donor Recognition Wall.
Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.

This corporation is the owner and manager of the Harry-Anna Trust, the Investment Reserve Fund, and other cash assets.

The trustees of the Trust Fund function exactly like they have done prior to the closing of the hospital and as members of the board of directors of the corporation. It makes periodic grants to the corporations for operating expenses on an as needed basis. It will derive its operating funds and the funds to make grants to the other subsidiary corporations from Trust Fund and Investment Reserve Fund earnings and from donations from Elks and others which are transferred to it by Harry-Anna Charities, Inc. It had the same expenses as occurred when they managed the Trust and Investment Reserve Fund.

The board of directors meets at the four regular meetings of the Association plus at two investment seminars each year. At all seminars they invite some of their money managers to present their reports along with the Northern Trust representative who measures the manager performance against industry benchmarks and similar charitable trust funds. The managers and the Northern Trust are monitored by the board’s Financial Advisor, at this writing, Al Pareira of Florida Atlantic Securities. Money managers are added and removed based on their performance.

Investment discipline limits investments to 70% of the funds in equity and 30% in fixed income (cash, bonds, treasury bills, and notes). The major projects are funded only from interest generated from the Trust Fund. However, the board has reviewed results from alternative investments and approved a change in policy to allow up to 20% to be allowed into modestly diversified alternatives.

The board has an appointed Executive Committee in the event that a decision is needed without time for a regular meeting. The Chairman is in contact with the Financial Advisor often.

Even though the Harry-Anna Investment Fund performs well, they have to be vigilant with their efforts to assure that funding is available for the two major projects, the Florida Elks Youth Camp and the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services. Inflation is always a concern along with volatile markets.

Total Assets as of March 31, 2006 amounted to $226,653,346.
Total Assets as of March 31, 2007 amounted to $245,345,287.
Income for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006 was $5,650,954.
Income for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007 was $5,576,752.

Harry-Anna Trust Fund Committee

The Harry-Anna Trust Fund Committee encourages Lodges to promote contributions by members and nonmembers to the trust fund through the certificate plan or other forms of donations and to keep the Lodges informed of the activities of the trust fund and its importance in financing the operation of the State Association’s subsidiary corporations.

In 1964-1965, the trustees of the Harry-Anna Trust Fund instituted a new type of program that it believed would have a long term value to the trust. It had been successfully used by a large number of colleges and charitable organizations. An elderly person desiring to make a gift at death to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund would turn over cash or securities to the State Association, and the Association would enter into a lifetime contract to pay them a specific monthly income which is appropriately calculated on a sound actuarial basis to give them income but will guarantee the trust fund a substantial profit. By this arrangement, the person could be freed of worry and care of investments and give them lifetime satisfaction of contributing to the work funded by the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.

After the closing of the Florida Elks Children’s Hospital, the Trust Fund continues to support the replacement major project, Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, as well as the second major project, the Florida Elks Youth Camp.

Harry-Anna Charities, Inc.

The biggest contributor to Harry-Anna Charities is Wills and Bequests. Quota donations are a requirement of the individual Lodges from dues. Ladies organizations also contribute considerable funds.

The sole purpose of Harry-Anna Charities was to raise funds for the operation of the hospital. It received all donations from wills and bequests, memorial gifts, Lodge quotas, the National Foundation donations, Ladies donations, etc. The corporation then transferred these gift funds to the Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc. on a
periodic basis maintaining only a minimum of cash in its account. Harry-Anna Charities, Inc. had no expenses except legal, auditing, and incidental costs for which it would receive grants from the Harry-Anna Investment Fund, Inc.

Special fundraisers are generally handled by Ben Brown and his staff at the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services (previously the hospital staff) and are in-house programs. Some of the special fundraisers include the Florida/Georgia football all-star game (since discontinued), note cards, holiday cards, ties, and the credit card program. There is also the annual motorcycle raffle through contract with Space Coast Marketing.

Investment Advisory Committee of the Harry-Anna Trust Fund

1986-1987

Chairman Jim Richardson reported that the most significant investment of the previous year had been in the works of art in the portfolio. After careful research, the trustees found that artworks of the great masters hold their value better over a period of time than any other class of assets including gold, silver, commodities, real estate, oil, stocks, corporate bonds, government bonds, and other assets.

Some of the art, 32 prints purchased, are superb pieces by leading 19th and 20th century Norwegian artist, Edvard Munch, Richardson reported. Some of the committee art advisors indicated that the committee holds the finest private collection of Munch’s work outside of a museum in the world. These are stored in an air conditioned vault until needed. The collection has since been sold.

In 2000 as a result of consultations with professionals that the trust utilizes as advisors for the Harry-Anna Trust Fund, a program was adopted to assist the Harry-Anna Trust Fund with their charitable missions, primarily the Youth Camp and Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services, while at the Lodge level supporting the charities which are important to the specific Lodges.

In order to maintain the trust fund’s status as a public charity, every contribution that comes into the Harry-Anna Trust Fund from Lodges around the state is treated by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service as a public contribution even if those contributions are accompanied by a Lodge request for the trust fund to contribute the funds to eligible charitable causes as directed by the contributing Lodge. It is believed that substantially all Lodge contributions should be made to eligible causes.

Therefore each Lodge, rather than making a direct local charitable contribution, should funnel those contributions payable to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund labeled “donor advised funds” and mail to the State Secretary in Umatilla, FL. Accompanying the contribution should be directions where to donate these funds and he will make certain that the contributions are made in the Lodge’s name with a copy of the transmittal sent to each Lodge.

Minimum contributions to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund should be in the amount of $1,000 so as not to overburden the Secretary’s staff with paperwork. To the extent that there may be smaller contributions, it would be preferable to accumulate them into larger amounts of a minimum of $1,000 with instructions to send smaller checks as required to different charities. The name of the charity should be carefully described with the address for transmittal. With every contribution the Lodge makes to a local charity, that charity would benefit in full while the Harry-Anna Trust Fund will receive additional support in its desire to retain the important status of being a public charity. That status allows for the most flexible productive control of the Harry-Anna Trust Fund income while avoiding potential government taxation or other intervention.

Charitable Contribution Pass Through Program

Note: This is not the same program as the Reimbursement Program which became effective April 1, 2001.

The following information and procedures need to be implemented before funds are transmitted to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund.

The purpose of the program is to encourage local Lodges to funnel their contributions for their local charities through the Harry-Anna Trust Fund. When the Harry-Anna Trust Fund under the stipulations noted below receives funds, the trust fund will immediately send the funds to the designated local charity.

1. Contributions must be made only for eligible charitable causes which can be either an IRS Designated 501(c)(3) organization or to be expended for a purpose recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as appropriate for an organization defined as a 501(c)(3) organization.
2. Checks from the Harry-Anna Trust Fund will be made directly to the designated organization.

3. Checks will be either sent directly to the designated organization or back to the local Lodge for presentation to the organization. These funds may not be deposited back into the local Lodge’s operating account – they must go directly to the designated charity.

4. The process may occur at any time during the year and is not limited in the number of times it is used. However, it is requested minimum contributions to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund be in the amount of $1,000. You may designate that these funds be distributed to several different local charities.

5. A transmittal form for your use must be completed and that form with the check should be sent to the State Secretary in Umatilla, FL.

* This practice is no longer used.

**Hayes, Helen**

*(From History of the Elks 1868-1988, pg. 73)*

Ed Sullivan interviewed Helen Hayes on television:

Mr. Sullivan said, “You know; I suppose that you have been asked this question before; Miss Hayes, how did you ever become an actress?”

Miss Hayes replied, “Well, possibly I never would have been an actress if my father hadn’t been an Elk; certainly, if he hadn’t been indirectly connected with the theater as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee of his lodge in Washington.

“Certainly, I doubt, if my mother ever could have talked him into giving us round trip tickets to New York and $50.00 for a week there. Gee, $50.00 was an awful lot of money in those days, but my mother was convinced that if her eight year old daughter could make audiences laugh in Washington, she could make them laugh in old Broadway.”

**Head Injury Unit**

*(See Elks Children’s Hospital)*

*(Also see Spadafora, Frank J., President, Florida State Elks Association, 1986-1987)*

**Hello Bill – Origin**

*(Excerpt from An Authentic History of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks by Charles Ellis, 1910)*

William Goddard of Minneapolis Lodge No. 44, B.P.O. Elks, is the original “Hello Bill” of Elkdom, and this cheerful salutation, which has found its way around the world, originated in Minneapolis during the Elks National Reunion in that city in 1897. Brother Goddard was the junior partner of the Minneapolis firm of Barnaby & Company. He has been for a great many years the treasurer of Minneapolis Lodge, No. 44, B.P.O. Elks, and was Chairman of the Finance Committee, and a member of a great many other committees that had been in charge of the arrangements for the Elks Reunion of that year, and he spent a great deal of his time at the Committee headquarters. When visiting Elks came to the headquarters to inquire about matters they wanted to know about, if they happened to meet anybody who was not fully posted, they were usually told to “Go over there and ask Billy Goddard,” and it was a constant strain of “Billy can tell you,” “See Billy, he knows,” etc. etc. This repeated so incessantly that the stranger Elks when they approached Brother Goddard, greeted him with the expression, “Hello Bill! I was told to see you,” etc., and so the custom started of greeting each other “Hello Bill.” In a day or two the custom spread to the streets, with Elks from all parts of the country, and passing each other they sang out cheerfully, “Hello Bill!” and they carried the greeting back to their home lodges, and so it has spread the end of the earth.
Helmbold’s Drug Store

Helmbold’s Drug Store was located at 596 Broadway in New York City. The early Elks had moved from Clarendon Hall to Helmbold’s Drug Store. While at Helmbold’s, a fire broke out in the Lodge rooms destroying the immediately subsequent records to those of Carleton who had been recording these early meetings. This covered a period from February 23, 1868 to February 14, 1869 inclusive, so no earlier records exist of the Order today other than February 21, 1869 to October 29, 1871, inclusive, all in one volume and now preserved in the vaults of New York #1.

Henderson, P. M., President, Florida State Elks Association, 1925-1926

Twentieth Annual Session
Florida State Elks Association
April 28-29, 1925
LAKELAND, FLORIDA

The following Lodges were represented: Jacksonville No. 221, Ocala No. 286, Key West No. 551, Tampa No. 708, Fernandina No. 795, Tallahassee No. 937, Miami No. 948, Gainesville No. 990, Orlando No. 1079, Daytona No. 1141, St. Petersburg No. 1224, Sanford No. 1241, Fort Myers No. 1288, Lakeland No. 1291, West Palm Beach No. 1352, and DeLand No. 1463.

President David Sholtz stated in his report that the greatest work accomplished by the Association in the past year was the visit of the Grand Exalted Ruler, John Price, to Florida, who was in Florida for only a few days. During this time he visited Jacksonville No. 221, St. Augustine No. 829, Daytona No. 1141, Orlando No. 1079, DeLand No. 1463, Key West No. 551, Miami No. 948, West Palm Beach No. 1352, Tampa No. 708, St. Petersburg No. 1224, and Lakeland No. 1291.

A memorial Service was conducted. Mr. E. E. Callaway delivered a very eloquent address. St. Augustine No. 829 again was awarded the cup for best percentage of officers present. West Palm Beach No. 1352 was awarded the cup for the best ritualistic work. Bands from West Palm Beach, Daytona, and DeLand were in attendance.
The following officers were elected to serve for the 1925-1926 term:

- President: Paul M. Henderson, Lakeland 1291
- First Vice President: John W. DuBoise, Jacksonville 221
- Second Vice President: Justin Van Buskirk, Orlando 1079
- Third Vice President: G. J. Callahan, Miami 948
- Secretary: L. F. McCready, Miami 948
- Treasurer: Henry G. Politz, Daytona 1141
- Chaplain: F. W. Ramm, St. Petersburg 1224
- Sergeant at Arms: J. B. Stewart, Fernandina 795
- Tiler: Curtis Lindstrom, DeLand 1463
- Executive Committee:
  - H. A. Bennett, West Palm Beach 1352
  - A. M. Taylor, St. Augustine 829
  - J. S. Shallcross, St. Petersburg 1224
  - David Sholtz, Daytona 1141
  - Dr. C. J. Marshall, Sanford 1241

Fort Myers was selected for the 21st annual session.

** Henley, William Larry, President, Florida State Elks Association, 1989-1990 **

“This is a Brotherhood, a great Fraternity, and unless we are together working for a cause, which is a good cause, then we lose the fiber that holds us together and we lose the virtues that we all believe in.”

*Larry Henley*

William Larry Henley was born in Fulton, KY on September 18, 1941. He graduated from high school in Port St. Joe, FL. He attended Chipola Junior College in Marianna, FL and Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL. In professional life, he is a licensed real estate broker. He has owned and operated Meridian Management Realty, Inc. since April 1969.

He was initiated into the Order in September 1969. He served in every chair of his Lodge and was elected Exalted Ruler in 1977. He was honored as Elk of the Year in 1978. He served on the board of trustees for five years, was Chairman on two occasions, and was elected Treasurer of his Lodge in 1986 and again in 1987. As of April 1, 1988, the district was only seven years old. In this interim, Larry served as District Chairman for Interlodge Visitation (two years), Ladies Organizations, Officers Training, Publicity and Public Relations, Ritual (two years), Harry-Anna Trust Fund, and National Foundation Certificates.

For the Florida State Elks Association, he was State Chairman of Lodge Activities in 1979 and 1980 and was elected Vice President of the North District in 1981 and 1982. He was State Chairman of National Foundation Certificates in 1982 and 1983. He was State Coordinator of the first annual Florida/Georgia High School All-Star Football Game in 1983-1984 and was elected District Director on the board of directors in 1987.
For the Grand Lodge, he served as Regional Director of the National Hoop School Contest for two years in 1978 and 1979 and again in 1979 and 1980. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Florida North District of the Florida Elks in 1983-1984.

He served as Vice President at Large in 1988-1989 and President of the Florida State Elks Association in 1989-1990. His motto was “Inspiration and Leadership.”

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1989-1990 term:

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<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>Joseph E. Schirmer</td>
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<td>Organist</td>
<td>Alex Kecso</td>
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<td>Vice President, Northwest District</td>
<td>Tom Sanson</td>
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<td>Vice President, North District</td>
<td>Roy D. Markham</td>
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<td>Vice President, Northeast District</td>
<td>Wyly T. Doty, III</td>
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<td>Vice President, East Central District</td>
<td>Charles L. Cooper</td>
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<td>Vice President, North Central District</td>
<td>J. K. Sutherland</td>
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<td>Vice President, Central District</td>
<td>Harley Grace</td>
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<td>Vice President, West Central District</td>
<td>Douglas J. Hendricks</td>
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<td>Vice President, Southwest Central District</td>
<td>Claude Howerton</td>
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<td>Vice President, Southwest District</td>
<td>John W. Hammer</td>
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<td>Vice President, Southeast District</td>
<td>James P. Southard</td>
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<td>Vice President, South Southeast District</td>
<td>Patrick M. Rizzi</td>
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<td>Vice President, South District</td>
<td>Richard E. Arnette</td>
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Harry-Anna Hospital:

“Our Harry-Anna Hospital is facing some budgetary problems. We are having to restrict our operative procedures because the hospital board, in their responsibility, are trying to keep it within budget, within the funds that we can project receiving over the next 12 months; to not over extend ourselves and find ourselves in a negative position trying to operate the hospital and tend to those children. For that reason we need, the hospital needs, that board needs, those children need the support of 93,000 Elks in Florida.”

Larry Henley

The hospital is the beneficiary under the wills of John U. Aull and Lena A. Aull. The estate has an estimated inventory in excess of $500,000.

Membership:

“Our membership in Florida this year is going to grow at about 1,600 members. Now if I would happen to be in about 45 or 46 other states making this presentation there would probably be a great uproar out there and a great celebration and great clapping because we are going to experience positive growth, but in Florida that’s not positive, it is below last year and it is below the year before. We need to work on our membership. We need to continue to attract people to the causes that we work for and that’s what they’re coming there for.”

Larry Henley

“We are a social organization and we should be, because if brothers don’t enjoy the Brotherhood and fellowship among themselves and their families and the Lodges, of course their attendance would be way off and probably their support of the hospital would be off more than that. We need to attract these people to our work, we must have the Drug Awareness Program, we must have our activities involving raising funds for our Major Project and we must tell people what that Major Project is. We must reach the community through our type programs like Hoop Shoot and Drug Awareness to show those people that Elks are charitable, community-interested people. Then we will have members and they will find ways to work...If not, we are going to be back sliding and we are fortunate in Florida because we have a large influx of members transferring in from Lodges outside Florida, primarily from Lodges in the north into some of our retirement communities.”

Larry Henley
Lapsation:

“Our lapsation program in most instances is very lax or nonexistent. We just do not have an organized program to contact those Brothers one on one and get them interested in the Order. Your job should not be just to get him to pay his dues because if it is you’re going to be calling on the same guy again next year. Our object ought to be to get him out to enjoy the fellowship, to get him involved in some of the lodge and community work so that he will have a reason not to lapse his membership. If we were to reduce our lapsation down close to zero we wouldn’t have to have membership drives.”

Larry Henley

New Lodges:

Bonita Springs Lodge was instituted.
Hialeah Lodge #2352 gave up its charter and was absorbed into North Miami #1835.

On Merging of Lodges:

“The merging of Lodges is really a brand new idea and it’s very new because it’s the first time it’s happened in all these many years. Sometimes it’s necessary because of what happens to communities and the change in the environment of those communities. It is a very viable option and my next comment, I don’t want you to misunderstand me to think that it is not, but it’s my feeling that my Lodge and your Lodge is something that I want to fight to maintain. I want to fight to keep that Lodge. When it gets to be against all odds and the cards are against you, you have to take other intelligent measures....fight to keep your Lodge alive, fight to keep the work - that’s what we are all about.”

Larry Henley

Judiciary Committee and Bylaw Changes:

A bylaw change designed to increase the per-capita tax was effective May 1991. The purpose of the bylaw change was to streamline procedures and eliminate requests for additional funds throughout the Lodge year for support of the newspaper, Government Relations Committee, and the Elks Rose Bowl float, among others.

The change was an amendment under Article XVI, Section 1 of the Bylaws of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. substituting for Article III, Section 4 the following:

Section 4. PER CAPITA TAX. To obtain the revenue necessary for defraying the expenses of the Associations (except as provided in Section 5, below) each Subordinate Lodge, shall annually pay an amount equal to Two Dollars and Twenty-five Cents ($2.25) for each member thereof, based on the number certified to the Grand Lodge on March 31st of the current year. All funds so collected shall be placed in one general account. The Per Capita Tax as outlined in this section must be paid by each Subordinate Lodge not later than May 1st of each year, commencing May 1, 1991.

Heritage Corner

Our basic freedoms are given in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. An impressive arrangement of these and other documents will permit your members and others to review these important provisions and to re dedicate themselves to the full performance of their duties as American citizens.

Elks are proud of this heritage. Each Lodge should set apart a small area as the Heritage Corner in permanent tribute to the principles expounded by the responsible trust passed to us through the years. Historic documents, all suitably framed and mounted, together with items of local interest should be on display.

The following documents are included in a Heritage Corner kit:

The Bill of Rights
The Declaration of Independence
The Elks Resolution on Law and Order
The Elks Declaration of American Principles

(See Declaration of American Principles)
Hialeah Lodge 2352

Hialeah lies in Dade County, south Florida. Its name is of Seminole-Creek origin meaning “pretty.” A Missouri ranchman, James H. Bright, moved into the area in 1910 and established a small community and developed 1,000 of his 14,000 acres into grazing land. His cattle endeavor took somewhat of a backseat when aviation pioneer, Glenn Curtis, collaborated with Bright and built a town on the shores of the Miami Canal. Hialeah is well known for the Hialeah Racetrack.

The Hialeah Elks Lodge received its charter in 1950. It was called Miami Springs-Hialeah Elks Lodge #1775 and was located on Okeechobee Road in Hialeah. It was Florida’s 84th Lodge.

Institution services took place at Miami Lodge #948. A dinner dance was given at the Miami Elks Lodge. Miami Lodge also installed Hialeah officers on January 19, 1967.

Charter Officers of Hialeah:

- Exalted Ruler: Thomas A. Testa
- Leading Knight: James White
- Loyal Knight: Frank Hatfield
- Lecturing Knight: Arthur E. Frenson
- Secretary: Russell Carnevale
- Treasurer: David Soldberg
- Esquire: John Richard Longo
- Tiler: George William DeHay
- Chaplain: Mark Joseph Sabia
- Inner Guard: Harry D. Evans
- Trustees:
  - 5 Year: F. G. MacDaniels
  - 4 Year: David L. Maynard
  - 3 Year: Michael Gallarmo
  - 2 Year: Edward P. Golombeski
  - 1 Year: Jack Steinberg

When Okeechobee Road was widened, the Lodge lost about 20% of its property. In 1963, Hialeah Lodge lost its charter due to many problems. Three years later, they received their charter on East 29th Street in Hialeah. Judge Tom Testa was the first Exalted Ruler and was followed by James White. On March 5, 1990, Hialeah Lodge #2352 merged with North Miami Lodge #1835.

PERs of Hialeah Lodge #2352

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1966-67</td>
<td>Thomas Testa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-68</td>
<td>James A. White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-69</td>
<td>James A. White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969-70</td>
<td>Armando Ramos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td>Richard Walsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-72</td>
<td>Les Paulen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972-73</td>
<td>Tony Gispert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>Charles Milu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>William Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-76</td>
<td>Douglas Durham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-77</td>
<td>David Goldberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-78</td>
<td>James Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-79</td>
<td>William Lux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>Frank Holden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Armando Ramos was South District Vice President in 1974-1975 and District Deputy in 1976-1977. David Goldberg was South District Vice President in 1984-1985.

**Historian, Florida State Elks Association**

The office of Historian is an elective office of the Florida State Elks Association. The duty of the Historian is to collect and preserve in written and/or photographic form all interesting data affecting the Lodges in Florida and the Association. Data so collected and preserved will be such as to constitute an accurate and concise history of the Order of Elks in Florida, insofar as it may be possible.

**Florida’s Historians:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Historian</th>
<th>Lodge Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1929-1930</td>
<td>W. B. Delaporte</td>
<td>Orlando 1079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931-1933</td>
<td>E. L. Thompson</td>
<td>Daytona Beach 1141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Walter H. Donovan</td>
<td>St. Petersburg 1224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935-1940</td>
<td>A. M. Taylor</td>
<td>St. Augustine 829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>A. M. Taylor</td>
<td>St. Augustine 829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Elected Historian Emeritus)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>John “Red” Davis</td>
<td>Tallahassee 937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943-1945</td>
<td>Harold Colee</td>
<td>St. Augustine 829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946-1956</td>
<td>Howell A. Davis</td>
<td>Palatka 1232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957-1962</td>
<td>William A. Partain</td>
<td>Palatka 1232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wrote and edited first History of Florida Association 1904-1961</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>George R. Clegg</td>
<td>Tallahassee 937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964-1973</td>
<td>L. M. Strickland, Jr.</td>
<td>Tallahassee 937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-1975</td>
<td>George McConnell</td>
<td>Lake Worth 1530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>William W. Spaulding</td>
<td>Clearwater 1525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Albert Rothacker</td>
<td>Brandon 2383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>David C. Riley</td>
<td>Fort Pierce 1520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Eugene E. Davis</td>
<td>Daytona Beach 1141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Eugene Boggs</td>
<td>Delray Beach 1770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Patrick R. Schmitt</td>
<td>Merritt Island 2650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>David B. Luke</td>
<td>Fort Myers 1288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>William R. Stephens</td>
<td>Pensacola 497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988-1994</td>
<td>Joseph E. Schirmer</td>
<td>Charlotte County 2153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wrote &amp; edited second History of Florida Association 1904-1992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Died in Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-present</td>
<td>Lowell P. Tyler</td>
<td>West Palm Beach 1352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wrote <em>Encyclopedia of Florida Elkdom</em> as a reference tool</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(earlier Lantana/Boynton 2676)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It has been said that “no man can hold the office of State Historian without being changed by the vast panorama of Elkdom’s activities.”

In the early formative years of the Florida State Elks Association, progress was slow but steady, and accordingly, the elected officers, committees, programs, charitable workers, etc. followed along at the same basic pace. During this development stage, various areas of Elkdom were incorporated into the Association, and strange as it may seem, there was no mention of preserving anything of a historical nature or assigning a member to this most necessary and important work.

From available records, it is apparent that between 1904 and 1929, the Association procrastinated as far as establishing any procedures for preserving anything of a historical nature. It appears that the Association reasoned that the associated Lodges would keep their own histories, and perhaps at some future date, these histories would be combined into a history of the Florida State Elks Association.

It was not until 1924 that a short history of the Association was presented at the 19th convention by the then current State Secretary, P. M. Henderson, of Lakeland Lodge (he became State President in 1925). Henderson died sometime prior to March 31, 1952 (probably 1951) and exhaustive research has failed to locate this mentioned history.

As one can realize from this event, for some unexplainable reason, the history of the Association was just not placed on anyone’s agenda at the various conventions and other Association meetings. This negative type of thinking and procrastination regarding the Association history did create problems and unnecessary delays.

Finally in 1929, the Association bylaws were amended to include the office of State Historian. Accordingly, W. B. Delaporte of Orlando Lodge No. 1079 was elected as State Historian. The light of history was finally beginning to break through in the thinking of the Association.

At the 1930 convention, the following was said concerning Delaporte’s work: “Our Historian - Brother W. B. Delaporte, of Orlando, has made a great and successful effort to secure and prepare an accurate history of the lodges in this State. I consider this a very valuable piece of work and recommend that the effort be continued with the installation of new lodges in the future” (from the convention proceedings, page 19).

In 1935 and 1937, Association bylaw amendments established the office of State Historian as an elected officer. In 1947, State Historian Howell A. Davis of Palatka Lodge No. 1232 presented the first Historian’s report on the convention floor. Because of the importance and historical significance of this event, the following quote is provided from this lengthy report:

Mr. President and My Brothers:

Upon assuming the office of Historian, and being unaware of the requirements of said office, I conferred with Bro. Harold Colee, former Historian, and with his help prepared a questionnaire which was mailed to the Secretary of each lodge and the various State Association Officers, including all Past Presidents, and have received replies from about one-third. Realizing I was not getting the results desired, wrote to the Grand Secretary, Bro. J. E. Masters, who gave me the name, the number of each lodge, when installed, list of officers, etc. I am compiling separate information pertaining to each lodge and as soon as certain information can be obtained from the Grand Secretary, which he promises will be supplied after the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Portland, same will be added and then submitted to each lodge for additional data….

…..Without the information furnished by Grand Secretary Masters regarding each Lodge, it would be almost impossible to compile anything like a correct history of the Florida State Elks Association, Inc. Some time after the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Portland, Oregon, he has promised to supply me with the name, Lodge number and year of each Floridian who has served as a Grand Lodge Officer. This will entail a lot of work on behalf of this office force, and I believe a suitable resolution passed by this
These same problems continued over the years. It was not until about 1984 that the Association and its State Historians started to eliminate these problems. It is now evident that the Association has finally begun to realize the importance and necessity of the work of a State Historian and proceeded to reward State Historian Howell A. Davis. The below quote is from the 1947 convention proceedings (page 89):

Brother Campbell, Mr. President and my Brothers, for the first time in many years the State Association has had a State Historian who has actually functioned and accomplished a most worthwhile job for the Association as was noted here yesterday in his report of his activities for the past year, and I refer to Brother Davis, or Past President and State Historian. On behalf of the Elks of Florida and in token of our appreciation for his fine work, it is my happy privilege to present to Brother Davis this engraved gold card for meritorious service as State Historian."

Brother Davis (Palatka): (Emotionally overcame) Mr. President and my Brothers, I am at a loss for words to express my appreciation for this lovely expression of brotherly love. I have only done my duty as State Historian and I hope that the good Lord will make it possible for me to finish the job during the coming year. (Applause)

By 1948, another problem surfaced; the convention report on page 80 notes State Historian Howell Davis’ problem: “I have devoted hours upon hours reading and re-reading the Proceedings of the various meetings, and am of the opinion that there are a great many errors, and omissions. However, I must be guided by the records as they are, and other information, wherever I may obtain same.”

Prior to 1962 this problem with inaccurate records did exist, but it was being systemically corrected. In 1960 available records indicate that a start was made to write the history of the Association, and by 1962 the first History of the Florida State Elks Association 1904-1961 was edited by Brother William A. Partain of Palatka Lodge No. 1232 and was published. There are no available records as to publication costs, number of histories printed, number of copies sold, etc.

The State Treasurer’s reports for 1962 and 1963 did give the following cryptic notes concerning the published History:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>(Under receipts) Sale of History</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>(Under receipts) Sale of History</td>
<td>$278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$338.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As vague as these figures are, it did show that some copies of the history did sell. It should be realized by those who were fortunate enough to have read a copy of this 1961 history that this was a one man project (research, writing, and publishing) and is a classic example of the loss of important and necessary historical records because apparently no one person in the Association thought them important enough to maintain.

Recent research has revealed that apparently two editions of the first history were published, one in hard cover and the other in soft cover. The soft cover is in a 6" x 9" format with black lettering on the cover. The hard cover is in a 6" x 9 1/2" format with gold lettering on the cover.

During the 1962 convention, the State Historian, William A. Partain of Palatka Lodge No. 1232, gave a short report in which he indicated that he had placed the Association history he had written on sale, and this was further substantiated by the State Treasurer’s reports of 1962 and 1963. Because this is another important part of the Association’s history, another quote from the convention report is given (from page 125):

President Nichols: Brother Bill Partain, will you come forward please? My Brothers, for the information of those who do not know him, this is Brother Bill Partain, our State Historian. This is the man who for so many years has worked hard trying to get information together so that we could publish a History of the Florida State Elks Association. Brother Bill would like to say something to you now.

Brother Bill Partain: Grand Exalted Ruler, Mr. President, distinguished Elks and my Brothers. First I want to apologize for any omissions and errors in the History. You
must realize the monumental task of even reducing fifty-seven copies of the annual proceedings to one volume, not counting all the other stuff that has to go into 310 pages. This History is not perfect; if we had it to do over again we would probably do different, but the History of this Association is not a history of one man or one group of men; it is the history of you, the members, who without you the Association would not exist. The past presidents and other officers and men I am sure feel that the privilege of serving is reward sufficient without having a lot of titles, etc. mentioned in this History. When I was made Historian several years ago I went to the board of directors and asked how and what should I do. They said, Brother Bill, we have had this started since the beginning of time; not one of them has ever accomplished anything as far as we know. Do the best you know how and we are sure it will be all right. Fellows, that’s what I have done. Over the years I have tried to meet with the board but I failed to get an audience – “You’re doing all right, Bill, just keep it up.” So the History is ready and I hope you receive it well, but in this connection I will say this, if I may paraphrase Ralph Waldo Emerson – “The man who serves humanity best is the man who cares not who receives the credit.” Fellows, that can apply to Elks as well as mankind. We have a few copies of the History left in the room. Some of you are going to bid for the Convention next year; if you want my vote come by and buy a bunch of them to take home with you. Thank you very much. (Applause)

During the 1977 convention, the Association bylaws were again amended to further clarify the duties of the State Historian.

During the 72nd convention of the Association, the State Historian, Brother William Spaulding of Clearwater Lodge No. 1525, was asked to submit a report. Although the report was very lengthy, its contents contain sly humor along with an honest and frank discussion of current problems coupled with a few well-placed innuendoes plus some good suggestions.

Today is a red letter day for me because twice in the history of the Florida State Elks has a historian addressed an annual convention. The first time was approximately fifteen years ago on May 24, 1962, when Historian Bill Partain was called to the rostrum by President Nichols to give a report of his progress as Historian of this grand and glorious association. I would like to say, State President Bob Fluck - I don’t notice our Past Grand Exalted Rulers, but I will address them in absentia - Bill Wall and Willis McDonald, past and present Grand Lodge Officers and Committeemen, distinguished platform guests, and my brothers all, if there’s a possibility that somewhere in the crowd there’s someone I’ve overlooked that should be called by their rightful title in this fraternal body of men, and as I am not aware of who or what you might be, the only title I can bestow upon you at this time and all of you is the greatest title that surpasses any I have previously given my citizens and fellow Americans of the greatest country that this world has ever produced.

Similarly, today’s Elks history is revealing very little to the would-be examiner. Sociologists, historians, and journalists can find a great challenge in trying to figure out just what took place and just what was happening. If one were to examine what little has been recorded of our past, examination would be sure to bring forth sharply differing conclusions. The recorded condition of our history defies precise analysis. Effort at examination must nonetheless continue if we are to be used as brothers to improve the image of our Order. The difficulty of the task should not keep us from it, and the full history, should, when it is published, provide every brother with an appropriate occasion to reflect upon his history and his heritage as an Elk.

We are still not taking our history seriously enough. The whole problem boils down to our failing to be obedient to our heritage and being too preoccupied to give any thought or consideration to having things recorded and preserved for the future. When this happens the result is a woefully inadequate understanding by the public of just who and what we are. We have a tremendous moral and ethical responsibility to see that every piece of information reaches the historian’s hands whether it is just your Lodge bulletin or every announcement printed by the Lodges.

Again, after sixteen years had elapsed, the Association did see fit to consider a report from the current State Historian. Available records do not indicate any reasoning for this line of thinking. In keeping with the research and
writing of this history that must be kept as factual and accurate as possible, your Historian is taking the liberty to correct Brother Spaulding’s comments from line 3 of his speech which should read, “this is the 4th time in 16 years,” etc. Brother Spaulding’s report contained some good suggestions that hold well even today, and the Association and Historian are working to this end.

Another eleven years passed before the Association again saw fit to ask the State Historian for a report, and at the 1989 convention, State Historian Joseph E. Schirmer was asked to report on his progress in revising and rewriting the History of the Association (see page 71 of the convention report for 1989).

It is quite evident now that the Association has changed its thinking on the necessity of having a State Historian, and each year since, State Historian Joseph E. Schirmer gave a report at the convention. It is now apparent that the brothers who have served as State Historians over the years have proven the continual need for this office and the need for always maintaining accurate and current records.

At time of publication, the Historian knows of State Historians for the following State Associations: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin. It is evident that the value of a State Historian to his Association can only be measured by his preservation of complete and accurate State Association records.

The Historian is working with PDD Mike Kelly who is the Grand Lodge Director of Publishing with the basic and overall idea of attempting to interest all State Associations in having a State Historian. It is believed that this is a complete and accurate method to preserve the history of Elkdom.

In 1989 the Association amended the bylaws establishing the office of Museum Curator who is working with the State Historian and will set up for exhibit and/or preservation various items of Elks memorabilia.

State Historian Joseph Schirmer died in office in 1994 after completing an update of the History of the Florida State Elks Association. Lowell P. Tyler of Lantana/Boynton Elks Lodge #2676 and later West Palm Beach Lodge #1352 was appointed by President David E. Vergason to complete the unexpired term of Schirmer. The following year, Tyler was elected to the position. Tyler changed the approach to the history of the Association by creating an alphabetical reference source of all Florida history as well as the inclusion of much of the Grand Lodge history. This approach was taken for several reasons:

1. It seemed that the greatest value of previous State Association histories was as a reference source.
2. Individual Lodge histories might not in themselves contribute directly to the history of the Association as a whole but would deserve to be recorded for their contributions to their districts, community, and society as a whole. A reference source could record an individual Lodge history with the thought of finding some contributing influence on Association history as a whole.
3. All Lodges would have their place in the reference source.
4. The reference source would be valuable for those filling the position of Lodge bulletin editors and state newsletter editors and to speakers. Committee chairpersons could reference it to obtain a better understanding of their committees, their history, the reason for their existence, what it has accomplished over the years, and the duties of their position.
5. It can be more easily updated.
6. It lends itself to more complete information because events need not be woven into a history text that flows smoothly over the years.
7. Every Lodge, State President, committee, and commission can be recorded.
8. Complete biographies of State Presidents, Grand Exalted Rulers, and other dignitaries can be more completely recorded. This would be impossible in a written narrative style of history.

With changing times, the computer became a valuable tool for research, cataloging, and word processing. With this, for the first time, Tyler placed the Encyclopedia of Florida Elkdom in computer form. Also for the first time, and in cooperation with Florida’s web master, Jerold A. Mills, a narrative history of Florida Elkdom from 1891 was published as well as a biography of Charles Vivian. Tyler placed the encyclopedia on Florida’s web site. The computer lends itself to almost constant easy updating of a history that continues far into the future.
Holiday Isles Lodge No. 1912

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District:</th>
<th>West Central</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instituted:</td>
<td>July 28, 1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered:</td>
<td>July 7, 1954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Exalted Ruler:</td>
<td>Charles W. Shuman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Charter Members:</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Organization:</td>
<td>Holiday Isles Ladies of Elks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2004 Membership:</td>
<td>862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2005 Membership:</td>
<td>784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2006 Membership:</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets:</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>14111 E. Parsley Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>727-392-4176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An application was sent to Grand Lodge on July 28, 1953 and was submitted by Charles V. Shumann; L. D. Trice, Sr.; John G. Wagner; and 84 others. A dispensation for a new Lodge to be called Holiday Isles was granted. Sessions were to be held in Madeira Beach. In July 1954 a charter was issued to Holiday Isles Lodge 1912.

The following were charter officers:

- **Exalted Ruler**: Charles W. Shuman
- **Leading Knight**: Emil J. Groshen
- **Lecturing Knight**: L. D. Trice, Sr.
- **Secretary**: Glenn R. Smedley
- **Treasurer**: Thomas D. Connelly
- **Esquire**: J. R. Andrews
- **Tiler**: Thomas F. Waugh
- **Chaplain**: Jack K. Lindgren
- **Inner Guard**: John G. Wagner
- **Trustees**: John K. Dawson, James A. Roesler, Edger G. Olis, Jr.

The following are charter members: Charles W. Schumann; L. D. Trice, Sr.; John G. Wagner; Herman Schmidt, Jr.; Glenn R. Smedley; Leo Smitz; Thomas F. Waugh; George B. Cooper; Lawrence W. Crowley; Emil J. Groshen; Harold A. McLaughlin; Charles C. Rice; Henry A. Renes; James A. Roesler; Everett L. Siedenburg; John W. Smedley; John V. Timko, Jr.; Benny Vacchiano; Benjamin V. Vacchiano; Grover Lutz; Arch Simmons; John O. Barkley; Victor C. Curry; Victor F. Curry; Eugene R. Donaldson; William M. DeTilly; Harold D. Gosham; Lester L. Krause; Sidney S. Parry; Hal E. Reading; John Schaeffer; Fred H. Schultz; Charles W. Alton; Boyd T. Aydelott; Carl A. Bachman; Jesse C. Cochran; Joseph Coris; Thomas D. Connelly; C. Claude Cleghorn; Joseph Carbone; John C. Clapp; Donald J. Curley; John F. Curley; P. D. Cobb; Howard Demarest; Quentin W. Derr; John Davis; Edgar G. Deis, Jr.; Samuel Evans; Al E. Fellner; Wesley G. Thime; Mark E. Vater; Gideon Fox; Albert A. Gricco; Ted B. Hanchey; Russell O. Hatch; Winfred Morse Headly; Morris A. Hamilton; Dan Iacullo; Richard E. Keating; William H. Keating; Thomas J. DeLuc; William Lacker; William B. Lyons; Daniel Lyons; Preston Roy Morrison; Francis P. Willcutt; Ross F. Welhoff; Earl D. Martin; Frank O. Muse; Richard Maduro; Vernon W. Maurer; Roger Hugh Muirhead; Roland W. Nash; John M. Rooks; William G. Renard; Earl D. Streeter; William D. Stambaugh; E. W. Clem Schulte; Charles Henry Sterling; J. Charles Sullivan; Emmett Smith; John A. Wilcox; Frank Zurm; and John K. Dawson.

The Lodge first met in various rented quarters until 1961 when they started their permanent quarters and enlarged them in 1965.

PSP Robert Cameron (1970-1971) was a member of the Lodge.

Early meetings were held at La Playa Hotel in Redington Beach and then at a rented store in Treasure Island. The next move was to the Masonic Lodge in Madeira Beach. The final move was to what had been known as the Madeira Beach Yacht Club. This property was rented with an option to buy. The original Lodge room was the area later occupied by the kitchen, service, and storage areas in addition to a portion of the Lodge meeting room. In 1961 this was enlarged to give additional space in the Lodge and dining sections.
May of 1961 marked the end of public admission into the Lodge. A new club license was issued and all facilities became open to Lodge members only. A new addition was dedicated on November 6, 1965; the exterior was kept essentially the same.

In 1972, Hurricane Agnes moved through and raised havoc with the Lodge building, leaving two to three feet of water inside the facility. Buzz Wasson with the help of others moved in with equipment, pumped out the water, and subsequently returned the Lodge to full operation.

In the Lodge year 1973-1974 with a membership in excess of nine hundred, the Lodge received first place in the state bulletin contest for Lodge bulletins.

It was a cold, blustery afternoon on Thursday, February 22 of 1973 when the Lodge officers gathered in the patio for the dedication ceremonies of the recently acquired docks under the leadership of Exalted Ruler Harry Urich. The docks were presented to the Lodge by Marie Lou Cameron as a memorial to their late State President. After a short eulogy by the officers, Past Grand Exalted Ruler William Wall recalled Bob Cameron’s activities as a coworker and also as a true friend and then cut the ribbon for the dedication of the docks. Due to inclement weather, these ceremonies were held to the minimum. Among the dignitaries present were Past Grand Exalted Ruler Bill Wall; PGER Lee, State President; Ralph and Audrey Clements, Grand Lodge Judiciary member; Robert and Pat Grafton; and Past State President Victor and Irma Wehle. Also present were Mayor Ray Hayn and three City Commissioners.

Additional renovations were completed in October 1983 giving additional dining area with a water view plus added dancing space.

**Past Exalted Rulers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td>Louis Scheiffle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-72</td>
<td>Vincent McCormick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972-73</td>
<td>James Cowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>Paul Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>Hy Katchke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-76</td>
<td>Ralph Nelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-77</td>
<td>Bill Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-78</td>
<td>Jack Bass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-79</td>
<td>Clete Knight</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>Bill Trowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>Arnie Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981-82</td>
<td>Jim Putland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982-83</td>
<td>Sam Tancredi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>Art Wyckoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>Daryl Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987-88</td>
<td>Jesse Ingersoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988-89</td>
<td>James W. Singewald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>Harold Pullis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>Charles W. Beard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>Harry C. Stark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>Nicholas Virgilio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>Richard Koontz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>Clifford Koonz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>Roy Dickens, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>Raymond R. Pitney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Past District Vice Presidents:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>Clifford L. Dunaway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Past District Deputies:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>Clifford L. Dunaway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following anecdotes are of the Lodge’s past.

They had a Sunday morning work crew with a tailgate party which was supervised by their greatest con artist.

The building that survived hurricanes could not withstand the onslaught of a Corvette after a roast for a member. They lost a corner with the concrete blocks ending up in the laps of the occupants of the Corvette.

A member had one foot on the dock and the other on a boat. The boat moved...SPLASH. The member lost glasses and all.

One of their most avid football fans was watching a game in the mirror and discovered that both items had left-handed quarterbacks.

There was a wife who posted a classified ad on the bulletin board giving job specifications and work to be done. She understood that there was a person engaged in some work activity that she thought could qualify: “Her Husband.”

What about the two gentlemen who went for dinner and couldn’t find their car in the restaurant parking lot, and called police? When the officer got the description of the car, he discovered that they were leaning on it! He sent them home in a cab.

**Holiday Isles Ladies of Elks**

The Holiday Isles Ladies of the Elks were chartered February 14, 1957. They had 23 charter members.

In 1957, Exalted Ruler Dan Iacullo and the members of the Lodge gave permission for the ladies to organize. At their first meeting with Marie Lou Cameron as Chairlady, 23 members gathered and became charter members. They called themselves HILOE (Holiday Isles Ladies of Elks).

They had chicken barbecues, rummage sales, and frequent dinners. A great deal of work was done resulting in a great amount of money made. It was estimated that in their first year and a half of operation, they made approximately $6,000. At this time, membership totaled about 75.

As time passed and their endeavors continued, a vinyl floor was laid, a new refrigerator was purchased, and many charitable and other donations were made to the Lodge. They sold toys, ran the kitchen, catered dinners to outside groups, conducted rummage sales, and held gala dances and numerous other activities.

In 1965 the Ladies donated much needed flatware and pots and pans along with twelve long tables with a truck to carry them. A silver candelabra was also donated.

From 1956 to 1966 there was talk of adding a new addition to the Lodge. In anticipation of this, a large tent was erected on vacant ground where the Lodge would be located. Hamburgers and hot dogs were served and activities were held; this proved to be a huge money-raising success. A swimming pool was erected for the pleasure of its members.

In 1977-1978 they published their cookbook which went into several printings.

Over the years they have made numerous and substantial contributions to both Lodge 1912 and the Elks Children’s Hospital. Some contributions included patio covers over both the lounge and the Lodge room, a new sound system, a new organ, and renovation of the ladies’ restrooms.

They furnished two four-bed wards at the Children’s Hospital in addition to yearly cash contributions.

**Ladies Charter Members:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee Andrews</td>
<td>Evelyn Iacullo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberta Aydelott</td>
<td>Anne Crowley Owens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millie Seydel Benoit</td>
<td>Ellen Kane Riggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally Storr Brown</td>
<td>Julie Coover Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Lou Cameron</td>
<td>Celeste Roesler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Collins</td>
<td>Mary Segal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances Curry</td>
<td>Mary Smedley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Duncan</td>
<td>Marion Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Skampo Gaw</td>
<td>Tessie Trapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Hammerle</td>
<td>Mary Waugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Headley</td>
<td>Margaret Woods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ladies Past Presidents:

1957-1958  Marie Lou Cameron
1959      Anne Cocerton
1960      Lee Beck
1961      Martha Cord
1962-1963 June Gaw
1964      Dorothy Crosser
1965      Ruth Plummer
1966      Kathleen Maroncelli
1967      Margaret Fisher
1968      Elinor Rath
1969      Selma Nevejans
1970      Helen Thompson
1971      Henrietta Sally
1972-1973 Gladys Read
1974      Blanche Otto
1975      Adele Blecke
1976      Ruby LeRoy
1977      Catherine Chrisman
1978      Ganie Bass
1979      Elizabeth Ryan
1980      Louis Chess
1981      Veryln Greenough
1982      Terry Brown
1983      Wilma Dill
1984      Nada Knight

Holley-Navarre Lodge 2787

District:  Northwest
Dispensation:  September 26, 1994
Instituted:  January 14, 1995
Mother Lodge:  Pensacola Beach #2256
Year 2004 Membership:  108
Year 2005 Membership:  107
Year 2006 Membership:  104
Meets:  2nd & 4th Tuesday; July, August, & December: 2nd Tuesday
Location:  2002 Elks Way, Navarre, FL 32566
Holley is located in Santa Rosa County and was named for Rev. W. D. Holley, a Baptist minister. The town was settled in 1893. Navarre was named when a French wife of an army colonel arrived in the 1900s. There was an ancient kingdom of Navarre which was a buffer zone between the countries of France and Spain. A 2,640 foot bridge spans Santa Rosa Sound linking the island to the mainland.

DDGER Designate, J. C. Yates, of Pensacola Beach Lodge was the moving force behind Holley-Navarre’s institution. DDGER Grover Wood presided at the ceremony of institution held at Fort Walton Lodge #1795. Present were PGER Robert Grafton, PSP Aubrey Callaham, and PSP C. W. Hicks of Mississippi. One hundred candidates were initiated and there were 42 transfer demits.

**Grand Lodge Officers Installing:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Exalted Ruler</td>
<td>Grover Eugene Wood, DDGER Northwest District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Leading Knight</td>
<td>Robert Lawrence, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Loyal Knight</td>
<td>George Ruzich, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>Joseph L. Walsh, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Secretary</td>
<td>Richard W. Zelius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Treasurer</td>
<td>Fred Gresham, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Trustees</td>
<td>Kenneth E. Landowski, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dudley E. Rogers, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jay C. Love, PDD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Francis Lixie, PER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edward C. Solley, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Tiler</td>
<td>Charles A. Nell, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Chaplain</td>
<td>Arthur G. Platts, PDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Organist</td>
<td>Timmy L. Burger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Esquire</td>
<td>Gerald Hambrick, PDD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Charter Officers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exalted Ruler</td>
<td>Herbert Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Knight</td>
<td>Stephen N. Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyal Knight</td>
<td>William J. Robson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>Leslie R. Archer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Hans P. Offenborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lawrence J. Poulin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Guard</td>
<td>Lawrence J. Poulin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>Carl G. Rockstad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organist</td>
<td>Charles A. Lloyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esquire</td>
<td>Leo C. Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiler</td>
<td>Dale C. Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>5 Year, Clayton J. Ponkratz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Year, William C. Dudley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Year, Edward J. Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Year, Donald G. Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Year, Richard L. Morrison</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following officers from Pensacola Beach Lodge 2256 initiated the new members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exalted Ruler</td>
<td>Ronald Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Knight</td>
<td>Michael W. Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyal Knight</td>
<td>Stephen R. Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturing Knight</td>
<td>Lockwood Wernet, PER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esquire</td>
<td>Robert H. Blomefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>James O. Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Guard</td>
<td>Alan G. Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiler</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organist</td>
<td>Timmy L. Burger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Charter Members by Initiation:

Louis Albino   James H. Alger
Bruce J. Bell   Warren D. Bell
Dan M. Bowker   Jerry Brown
Ron C. Bruce   Billy G. Bryant
Pierre A. Callens   B. L. Cantrell
Clifford J. Cloman   Dewey E. Cobb
John E. Cobb   Daniel Colby
Michael Coleman   Charles M. Conlon
Donald G. Cox   Harry G. Dischar
Sam Druggish, Jr.   William C. Dudley
David U. Farrington   Warren E. Fisler
James A. Fix   Robert F. Forsell
James L. Frazier   Curtis Ray Goodrich
Toby A. Griner   Eric J. Grover
Claude Harbin, Jr.   Tom Hartke
Robert A. Heath   George A. Herriman
Doug Herzog   Kenneth R. Hollinhead
Lester R. House   Charles E. Jackson
Dale C. Jackson   Jack Jacobs
John Kastan   Larry B. Keener
Sebron S. Kelly   Stephen N. Kennedy
Robert E. Key   Martin H. King
Orin H. Knowlton   Charles E. Koehler
Nicholas M. Kostopoulos   Hartwell M. Laubsch
Walter J. Lewicki, Jr.   Charles A. Lloyd
Johnnie E. Lucassen, Jr.   Randy L. Martin
Armand J. Mastandrea   Gerald R. Matter
Michael T. McClellan   Donald E. Meade
Timothy L. Meade   Arthur J. Morell
Edward J. Morris   James Muir
William S. Muir   Cecil G. Nall
Lee Neubert   Vernon E. Patton
Hans P. Offenborn   Marvin E. Pittman
John J. Pinkley   Kenneth E. Poulter
Billy Joe Ratliff   Herbert L. Roberson
Douglas J. Roberts   Carl G. Rockstad
Gene R. Rogers   Michael C. Rogers
Lawrence W. Shaw   Duane B. Siedschlag
Richard Staude   Donald Stuart
Robert M. Szarek   Kevin W. Thomas
Thomas H. Vatter   Billy Rex Weeks
Terry Weeks   William H. West
James L. White   Clifford A. Wilhelm
John R. Wimble   John R. Yates

Charter Members by Certificate of Release:

Leslie R. Archer   Edward M. Campbell
Raymond Dzioba   Gordon Johannesen
Manfred G. Kick   Joe J. Kirby
James F. McGuire   David O. Nerger
Lee R. NeSmith   James O. Pinion
William A. Pullum   Benjamin F. Strickland
Charter Members by Demit:

Leo C. Allen, Sr.  Neil A. Bennett
W. D. Blackmon, II  Gary E. Boutwell
John W. Brooks, III  Harry R. Buchanan
Clen H. Cochran  William C. Cook, Jr.
Patrick J. Coreless  Frank DeMarco
Michael S. Fulton  Larry J. Glonek
Bernard Johnson  Gerald W. Knebel
Gary D. Latham  Walter J. Lewicki, Sr.
Daniel A. Lynch  Dean E. Martin
Allen Wayne McEleny  Richard L. Morrison
Harry H. Morton  John W. Murry
Herbert A. Phillips  Clayton C. Ponkratz
Lawrence J. Poulin  William J. Robson
Joseph J. Thomas  George L. Trimmer
Thomas E. Viche  Russell J. Wilby
Barry D. Wood  Pearce H. Young

Continuing happenings at Holly-Navarre:

October 2003  They officially moved back into their club room following renovations. They were still seeking donations to purchase new tables and chairs for the club room. To date, $3,883.40 had been donated with total expenses at $4,188.94. New tile floors had been laid in the club room and foyer. There was talk at this time of installing a new bar. It would be done professionally and fabricated from wood with a food rail. Cost of this was about $4,000.

Feb. 2, 2008  Holly-Navarre Elks Lodge took third place in the Community/Group Float category at the Krewke of Jester’s Mardi Gras Parade. They created a pirate ship with Peter Pan as their theme. All characters were on board including Peter Pan by Powell Bedgood; Tinkerbell by Lynn Feehan; Wendy by Mary VanDyk; Captain Hook by Allen VanDyk; the crocodile by Bill White; Tiger Lily by Pam Weeks; pirates by Rex Weeks, Dan Hargraves, Beryle Farmer, Brian Feehan, Al and Ninna Swagart, and Malinda Powell; and the lost boys by Sue Hargraves, Irene English, and Jody Buck. The trailer was provided by 87 Garage. Powell and Melinda Bedgood provided the sound system. Dan and Sue Hargraves made the sail and the pegs for hanging beads on. Donations were made by Paul and Kathy Harrington. Bill and Christina Clarkson pulled the float.

2009  They approved getting up to $5,000 from the Lodge Home Equity Loan to build a covered porch for the smoking area. This will include the cost of moving the electric underground.

They donated $500 to Harbor House Youth Camp.

Hollywood Lodge 1732

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District:</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instituted:</td>
<td>May 31, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered:</td>
<td>July 15, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Exalted Ruler:</td>
<td>John S. Fenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Members:</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Organization:</td>
<td>B. P. O. Does #145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Organized:</td>
<td>March 24, 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Installed:</td>
<td>May 5, 1957</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hollywood was established in 1921. Joseph W. Young is credited as the founder. Young came to the area with the vision of establishing a great port city. Like many others, the collapse of the 1920s boom destroyed that vision. Much later, too late for Young to see, it is the water port of Port Everglades. This was designed by George Washington Goethals who had gained fame as an engineer for the Panama Canal.

The formation of an Elks Lodge in Hollywood with the Fort Lauderdale Lodge as sponsor was in the talking stage before World War II. Thus it was natural for such action to be resumed soon after the close of the war. Brother Art (Arthur) O’Dea, PER of Fort Lauderdale Lodge and PDD, was authorized by the Grand Lodge to institute a new Lodge in Hollywood. Ceremonies were held at the Hollywood Beach Hotel which at that time was one of the most noted hotels between Miami and Jacksonville. Naturally, dignitaries of Elkdom from all over Florida and elsewhere attended. There were several members of the Order residing in the jurisdictional area of the new Lodge who assisted O’Hea in his work and so naturally became members of the new Lodge. Most of the first set of officers formed among these men.

Hollywood Lodge #1732 was instituted on May 31, 1947 and chartered on July 15, 1947. The environment of the institution was luxurious and the banquet was fit for a king and queen. Honored guests were William A. Wall, PGER; Lee Donaldson, PGER; Wade Kepner, PGER; Chelsie Senerchia, Grand Treasurer; and William Neese, Grand Lodge New Lodges Committee. The guest speaker was William A. Wall, PGER.

The Advisory Committee was made up of Karl Kalger, DDGER; Clyde Brown, Vice President of the Florida State Elks Association; Herbert Payne, PDD; and Bill Getto, honorary life member of Lodge #1517.

**Grand Lodge Installing Officers:**

- Grand Exalted Ruler: Karl Klarger, DDGER
- Grand Leading Knight: Chelsie Senerchia, Grand Treasurer
- Grand Loyal Knight: J. Alex Arnette, PSP
- Grand Lecturing Knight: William J. Neese
- Grand Esquire: James V. Vann, State President
- Grand Chaplain: Herbert Payne, PDD
- Grand Inner Guard: Fuller Richardson, PDD
- Grand Secretary: William Lieberman, State Secretary
- Grand Treasurer: Howard Ripper, PDD
- Grand Tiler: Frank Dooley, PDD
- Grand Organist: Howard Sullivan, DDGER
- Grand Trustees: John Finn, PDD; Jack Carver, PDD; Marvin Kimmel, PDD

**Officers for original initiation ritual, Riviera Beach Lodge No. 2069:**

- Exalted Ruler: Dr. Harlen Anderson
- Leading Knight: James Shirey
- Loyal Knight: Carl Vaughn
- Lecturing Knight: Charles Churchill
- Esquire: Richard Gamache
- Chaplain: Dr. Richard Cooper
- Inner Guard: Richard Hendrickson

**Charter Officers:**

- Exalted Ruler: Bernard Dolan
- Leading Knight: James Flannery
- Loyal Knight: John Conklin
- Lecturing Knight: Russell Leonard
- Tiler: Arthur Wagner
- Secretary: Forrest J. Miller
The following are charter members: John S. Fenn; Robert L. Haymaker; Ralph V. Acker; Hugh F. Palmer, Jr.; Charles J. Zirkle; Bruce A. Hood; Edgar B. Henry; Sylvester J. Savery; Michael Fogarty; Joseph J. Towey; W. K. Reese; Charles G. Sylvestre; Walter Eichlin; O. Owra; A. J. Ryan; Donald Curci; T. L. Egan; Carl Rasmussen; Edward W. Langley; Jack Lansky; J. Elmer Keefer; Harold G. Appel; Harry M. Moore; James D. Moore; Fritz E. Neumann; A. R. Enos; Earl M. Reed; Jose Rodriguez; A. E. Schmitt; N. N. Kaplan; Jack J. Shear; John W. Ribbert; Ed Tyler; Pat Biggs; James P. Cook; J. W. Rice; Radar W. Golay, Jr.; Foster H. Ingalls; Frank H. Marks; Harry W. Flagge; F. L. Schweitzer; C. B. Smith; Elmer J. Sterling; Paul E. Nelson; George A. Rist; Guy Weaver; E. W. Botting; Frank J. Berdel; Henry Reisinger; and William B. Hoffheimes.

Fort Lauderdale No. 1517 is their Mother Lodge.

The Ladies organization is the Does Drove No. 145.

Several of the Hollywood Lodge members were also members of the American Legion and so meetings were held in the Legion hall for a time. Arrangements were then made to rent a restaurant and a nightclub on U. S. Highway #1 and Harding Street until they could move into their own home. A building of their own was of primary priority above all other projects from the beginning. The accumulation of funds became its first order of business. A nonprofit corporation was formed to raise money so that a building could be built. A program of selling bonds of the Lodge in almost any amount bearing interest at 6.5% for the building fund was adopted. The initial funds that were raised to build a new home for the Lodge were about $125,000. Many purchasers of the bonds considered their purchases as contributions. A suitable area was found on U. S. #1 and was deemed to be an excellent area since it would be readily visible to visiting Elks who were visiting Florida. In January 1948, Grand Exalted Ruler L. A. Lewis dedicated the groundbreaking with a beautiful ceremony. Actual construction commenced on June 14, 1949. The new home was dedicated by Grand Exalted Ruler Emmet T. Anderson with a beautiful ceremony and dinner followed by dancing at the Hollywood Beach Hotel.

When construction of the building was about to begin, a larger sum was authorized and a more formal instrument in the form of a bond was used. These were substituted or used to redeem the first and issued to new purchasers.

Brother James Young, an engineer, was recruited and retained to prepare the plans and specifications and to supervise the construction. The building was sufficiently completed in September 1949 to hold its first meeting. Heavy rains had fallen in the afternoon and fell on the building that was not even close to being watertight. Umbrellas were needed to protect them from the dripping water, but their lease was up at the night club so they had to get out and had no other place.

Most of the credit and much of the work for the creation of Hollywood Lodge goes to Arthur C. O’Hea who is called the father of Hollywood Lodge #1732. O’Hea was considered by some to be one of the truly great Elks. He received all of the honors Florida Elks could bestow. Although he never held any formal office in the Grand Lodge higher than District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, he did serve for many years in an unofficial capacity covering an area particularly in southeast Florida doing all sorts of jobs during the term of several Grand Exalted Rulers.

In the early years of the Lodge after a big Saturday night, many of the brothers would stop by on Sunday at noon for a quickie or two and called themselves “the doghouse gang.” This had a short existence because the wives complained that this gang came home too late for Sunday dinner. During its rather short existence a picture was taken as a group with a doghouse up front which appeared in one of the issues of “Hello Bill.”

Hollywood’s Benevolent and Patriotic Order of Does of the United States was chartered April 5, 1957 and instituted May 5, 1957. They had 99 charter members.
Past Exalted Rulers:

1947-1948  John S. Fenn
1948-1949  Robert Haymaller
1949-1950  Bruce A. Hood
1950-1951  Al G. Rylu
1951-1952  Edward A. Moser
1952-1953  Sylvester Savery
1953-1954  Ian T. Patterson
1954-1955  Felix L. Williams
1955-1956  Francis D. O’Mears
1956-1957  Dr. E. B. Elkins
1957-1958  Jack E. Frost
1959-1960  Joseph R. Mankowich
1960-1961  John G. Fisher
1961-1962  John G. Fisher
1962-1963  Francis C. Daggett
1963-1964  Leonard W. Nagel
1964-1965  Harold B. Carter, Sr.
1965-1966  Bernard F. Dolan
1966-1967  John Breslin
1967-1968  James R. Rhoades
1968-1969  Norman Harwood
1969-1970  Thomas Harrington
1970-1971  Oscar Snyder
1971-1972  Fred Tatro
1972-1973  William P. McCully
1973-1974  Joseph H. Kiegel
1974-1975  Mangor Knutsen
1975-1976  Mario LaPlaca
1976-1977  Edward B. Dimter
1978-1979  Edward Stamfel
1979-1980  Al Forman
1981-1982  Henry A. Souza
1982-1983  Henry E. Allmen
1983-1984  Anthony Radosta
1984-1985  Mario LaPlaca
1985-1986  Albert R. Bushey
1986-1987  Sam Frank
1987-1988  Vernon W. Rigsbee
1988-1989  Roger Santa Maria
1989-1990  Charles E. Bennett, Sr.
1990-1991  Paul Kubilakis
1992-1993  Anthony Radosta
1993-1994  Jack Cahill
1997-1998  Emile E. Munier

Past District Deputies:

1953-1954  John S. Fenn
1969-1970  John F. Breslin
1974-1975  Oscar Snyder
1984-1985  Mangor Knutsen
Hollywood West Lodge 2365

It all began in September of 1966 when Al Ryll, State Chairman of the New Lodges Committee, held organizational meetings in the cafeteria of McArthur High School. The interest was high and the seed was planted for the creation of a new Elks Lodge in the western area of Hollywood.

By November 1966, regular meetings were being held and the location changed from the high school to the fire station on 72nd Avenue in Pembroke Pines. The fellowship was great and plans progressed, but it was evident that a move was imminent as the meetings were dry.

On January 23, 1967, the Grand Lodge, under Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Dobson, granted a dispensation for the creation of a new Elks Lodge to be known as Hollywood West Elks Lodge #2365. It also signaled the move to the Miramar Fire Hall where meetings and social affairs were held on a regular basis. The noticeable improvement was the addition of libations under the stewardship of Brother Joe Goldstein. Their first bar was his Ballentine in a tub and cigar box cash register.

Dignitaries present at the institution of Hollywood West were William A. Wall, PGER; Lee A. Donaldson, PGER; Chelsie J. Senerchia, Grand Treasurer; and Glenn L. Miller, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee. State President Jimmy Vann welcomed the officers and members into the State Association and Bill Wall, PGER was the principal speaker expressing best wishes on behalf of the Grand Lodge.

The official charter was granted on March 31, 1967.

Charter Officers:

- Exalted Ruler: Bernard Dolan
- Leading Knight: Jim Flannery
- Loyal Knight: Jim Conklin
- Lecturing Knight: Russ Leonard
- Secretary: Forrest Miller
- Treasurer: Ken Vathauer
- Esquire: William DeFeo, Jr.
In the fall of 1967 it was time to find fulltime quarters and they moved to Dawson Street. The building was originally a small house which needed more modifications. The men in the Lodge did the work. Men like Lew Cote, Buck Cote, and Jim Flannery built the bar using only the light from a car’s headlights parked outside.

Under the guidance of Exalted Ruler Dolan, they moved into their new quarters and operated a bottle club until they were able to obtain a liquor license.

Their second Exalted Ruler, Jim Flannery, was instrumental in creating the “Western Good Guy” image of white cowboy hats when he was Leading Knight. As Leading Knight, Flannery even attended some events on horseback.

The convention was in Daytona Beach and a bus belonging to Lacy Pratt was used to get the gang there. It was during this year that negotiations were conducted to obtain a liquor license, and they soon grew out of the bottle club stage.

The national convention was held in New York City in 1968.

During Frank Boffi’s year as Exalted Ruler, many firsts were begun, including the organization of their bowling team and entry into the district ritual contest. This year the Lodge sponsored a circus and found it a profitable venture. Ed Bailey donated an eleventh hour clock. Russ Leonard was named Elk of the Year. The state convention was held in Miami and the national convention was held in Dallas, TX.

In Lewis Cote’s year as their fourth Exalted Ruler, they purchased the Davie property. During his year their ritual team won their first district title. This was also the year they started their Caribbean cruises under the direction of Frank Boffi. Dick McCarty was honored for his daily concerns for the hospitalized and crippled children he took to the clinic.

In Charlie Deshler’s year, their ritual team entered the state ritual contest for the first time. This was the year they got their first District Vice President, Bernie Dolan. That year they also started attending Dolphins football games. The bus ride was always fun. The state convention was held in Palm Beach. Labor Day 1971 was an unforgettable event. The annual picnic was held at their Davie property. It all started beautifully and then the rains came. They were all parked on the muck and it didn’t take long to realize that they had problems. Finally a farmer
and his tractor pulled them out. The national convention was in New Orleans and the Elk of the Year was Rudy Gersch.

David Hogg was Exalted Ruler in 1972-1973. Bernie Dolan became their first District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and was accorded an honorary life membership by the Lodge. In its sixth year, their blood bank was growing and the Lodge adopted a resolution to name it after their founder, Joe Goldstein. The officers took on a new look as gray Lodge jackets displaying the Elks emblem and office were worn for the first time. PGER Bill Wall visited the Lodge this year which was his first visit to Hollywood West. The state convention was in Orlando and the Hollywood West hospitality room jumped with live organ music hauled all the way from Hollywood. Brother Dick Gardner joined the Orlando City Works Department as he reinstalled a sign which a police officer watched him remove. The national convention was held in Atlantic City and Angelo Balardini was named Elk of the Year.

Their seventh Exalted Ruler was Fred Beauregard. During this year they won a first place award for the Flag Day ceremony under the direction of Harold Young. The big event of 1972-1973 was the creation of the Westettes. Reba Retter served as their first President from November 1973 through April 1975. The annual convention was held in Miami and the national convention was held in Chicago, IL. Lou Harriman was recognized as Elk of the Year.

Bob Thomas was their eighth Exalted Ruler. Crews continued working on the Davie property. Fill was added, the pump house was built, and a well was drilled. Many good times were held there such as picnics (both planned and impromptu) and Thanksgiving dinners. He attended the state convention in St. Petersburg and the Grand Lodge convention in Miami.

Tragedy struck in the fall of 1974 when a fire hit the Lodge. Everyone pulled together and the bar was cleaned and redecorated. True to the spirit of Hollywood West, they never lost a day of business. During that year the Westettes presented new officers’ jewels to the Lodge.

In 1975-1976, Gene Wallace was Exalted Ruler. This year the state convention came to Hollywood and they made many new friends with four days of fun. In preparation for the convention, they carpeted the Lodge room, purchased new chairs, and painted the building. It also gave fame to their pancake brunch which thrived ever after.

They marched in the City of Hollywood’s Bicentennial Parade carrying a huge thirteen star flag. The Lodge room was also remodeled and a new bar was built. Helen Gardner was President of the Westettes and the Ladies presented the Lodge with an electronic organ and new tables and bar stools.

Their tenth Exalted Ruler was Fred Beauregard, and Lodge modifications continued as the kitchen was expanded. A pool table and shuffleboard were added in the lounge. The fall was highlighted by the third annual golf tournament. Sophie Rennie was President of the Westettes and the Ladies continued to support the Lodge.

Dick Ferguson was their eleventh Exalted Ruler in 1978-1979. It was the beginning of regular steak dinners. Brunches continued to be a huge success and they roasted a pig all night before the Super Bowl and raffled off a live turkey. Monday night football was watched on a big screen TV in the lounge. Ric Ricciardelli made his first Friday night appearance and they began to enjoy interlodge softball games and picnics on Sunday afternoons. Dolores Burns served as fourth President of the Westettes. The Ladies began their afternoon card parties and as was their custom, they continued to support the Lodge.

Ken Gilstrap was their twelfth Exalted Ruler. He instituted the theme, “’79 is Building Time,” and launched a bond drive with permission from Grand Lodge. This was the year their “Rat Pack” was born. Members of the “Rat Pack” wore appropriately adorned orange-yellow tee shirts as they encouraged all members to become involved in Lodge activities. Sue Ferguson was Westettes President and they kicked off the building fund campaign with a $1,000 donation. The state convention was held in Daytona Beach and the national convention was held in San Diego, CA. Elk of the Year was Jim Weed.

Frank Bayne was Exalted Ruler in 1979-1980. This Lodge year, PER Lewis Cote became District Vice President. The men of Hollywood West took on a new look in 1979 as the orange Lodge jackets replaced the gray. Soon their colors became the official color for all of the state officers. Genny Beauregard was President of the Westettes and the Ladies presented $2,000 to the building fund. The state convention was held in Kissimmee and the national convention was held in Dallas, TX. Elk of the Year was Russell Ramey.

Chuck Kelley was their fourteenth Exalted Ruler, and Brother Lewis Cote was installed as their second District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler. Membership night was a new program instituted by Kelley to improve membership and these efforts paid off as they were recognized by Grand Lodge with an award for net growth. Rae Dombrowski was President of the Westettes. This year the Ladies presented the Lodge with two checks of $1,000 each and had the organ repaired. The state convention was held in Miami Beach and the Grand Lodge convention was held in New Orleans, LA. Elk of the Year was Georges Machy.
Their fifteenth Exalted Ruler was Charles “Scotty” Lovell. Youth Activities and the building fund drew major emphasis during Scotty’s year. This year they hosted the District Hoop Shoot contest and sent several youngsters on to receive state awards. Marnie Bayne served as President of the Westettes and the Ladies presented Exalted Ruler Scotty $2,500 for the building fund. The state convention was held in Orlando and the Grand Lodge convention was held in Las Vegas, NV. The Elk of the Year was Lou Susi.

In 1982 Vincent Lombardo became the sixteenth Exalted Ruler. It was during Vinnie’s year that they purchased property, and on Sunday, March 6, 1983, the official groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site of their new Lodge. Officially presiding over the ceremonies was Past State President George Nichols. Before all this took place, however, it was during Chuck Kelley’s year that the Davie property was sold, thus providing seed money for the new land. Marge Saredy was President of the Westettes in 1982-1983. The Ladies continued to hold numerous functions which were designed to raise money as the prospect of a new building became a reality. The state convention was held in Daytona Beach and the Grand Lodge convention was held in Chicago, IL. Elk of the Year was Andy Masiello.

George Audette became their seventeenth Exalted Ruler in 1983. While Audette’s year was filled with many accomplishments, he also faced adversity. The new building had reached a standstill while the old facility had been sold and they were forced out. The final three months of the Lodge year were spent with meetings being held at Hollywood Lodge #1732 and the installation for 1984-1985 took place at Plantation Lodge. This was to be the year that the “Lodge without a home” took “All District” honors for every officer at the ritual contest. The traveling bowling team won the state championship and the Hollywood West Clown Arounds were formed. Trudy Gomez was Westettes President and the Ladies continued to work diligently in support of the Lodge. The best kept secret of this year was at the last function in the old Lodge. The Ladies presented the Lodge with a check for $5,000 to purchase a bond. The state convention was in Tampa and the Grand Lodge convention was held in Hawaii.

Their eighteenth Exalted Ruler was David Felt. The Lodge year began homeless, but that was not to last for long. On May 11, 1984 Hollywood West opened its doors at 7190 Davie Road Extension. On June 16, 1984 the Grand Opening of their new Lodge was held and on October 7, 1984 the official dedication took place with the ribbon cutting being done by PGER Robert Grafton. This ceremony marked the culmination of the efforts of hundreds of men and women of Hollywood West #2365. Westettes President in 1984 was Carolyn Audette. The Ladies, as always, were a great help as they moved into their new home. In addition to all their help they also presented the Lodge with a new three-tap beer cooler, a commercial fry-o-lator, and a $500 donation to the ritual team. The state convention was held in Daytona Beach and the national convention was held in Houston, TX.

Frank Gomez became the first Exalted Ruler to be installed in the new Lodge in 1985. Their new facility and location brought a membership gain that had not been seen in the previous nineteen years, and the Lodge was honored by the Grand Lodge for its membership gain. The ritual team won again at this year’s contest. Sandi Smith became the twelfth president of the Westettes and the Ladies continued to provide much needed equipment for the Lodge. Smoke eaters, a TV door monitoring and locking system, a P. A. system, and a KitchenAid machine were just a few of their significant gifts. The state convention was held in Tampa and the Grand Lodge convention was held in Seattle, WA.

Charles Curtin was their twentieth Exalted Ruler. It was 1986 and Hollywood West was prospering in its new home which already had received a new addition of a game room to test the members’ sporting talents. The Dinty Moore Christmas was the largest held and in excess of 200 children were delighted with a visit from Santa who was assisted by the Clown Arounds. Maggie Craig assumed the presidency of the Westettes in 1986 and along with Exalted Ruler Curtin continued to work for the progress of Hollywood West.

B. J. Smith was Exalted Ruler in 1987-1988. Hollywood West was again honored when Charles Kelley became their third District Vice President. The ritual team once again brought home honors to the Lodge from the district ritual contest. Their blood bank continued to grow as did the steak dinners and Sunday brunch. They continued their ever popular Children’s Easter Egg Hunt and family Thanksgiving dinner. Their pig roast was changed from Super Bowl Sunday to the Fourth of July picnic. Ginny McLoughlin was Westettes President and the Ladies continued their support of the Lodge with their time and gifts. One of these gifts was a new set of officers’ jewels which were worn for the first time when they participated in the ritual contest. A fund to help with repairs to the building was started, and the first repairs were done to the outside of the building. This fund is still in existence today.

Wendell Hibdon became their twenty-second Exalted Ruler in 1988, and Chuck Kelley was installed as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler. Courtney Warrenfeltz became Drug Awareness Chairman and invited the Ladies to join the committee. This year they held the Elks’ first annual benefit with the grand prize of $18,000 cash plus many other prizes. Colonel Newman hosted a “Womanless Wedding.” Their Super Bowl Sunday party and Drug Awareness spaghetti dinner/essay contest awards program were most successful as was the rousing Irish feast.
for Saint Patrick’s Day. Marygrace Felt was president of the Westettes. The Ladies added to the fund for repairs and improvements plus donated another $1,500 to the Lodge.

Kenny Caldwell was installed as the twenty-third Exalted Ruler in 1989. The year started off with a birthday party for a special little neighborhood boy who was battling cancer. The Lodge held a raffle and along with the Westettes donated money toward his medical expenses. They were saddened to hear that on November 12, 1989 his battle was lost. Under Caldwell’s leadership they continued with past functions, added some new ones, and ended up with a most successful year. Eileen Leroy was Westettes President in 1989-1990. Contributions from the Ladies this year included a beer cooler, tile for the back porch, a coffee pot, ceiling tiles for the entire Lodge, and money contributions of $3,000.

John Fink was the twenty-fourth Exalted Ruler in 1990-1991. He too held many successful functions, a few of which were the first drug awareness walk-a-thon to help the “Starting Place” and the first stray Elk program. The new Lodge was starting to need repairs and with the installation of the new ceiling tiles, they decided that it was time to replace the carpet in the lounge. New wallpaper was hung in the Lodge room, the back bar was renovated, and new equipment was added to the kitchen. Gloria DeVita was the Westettes President and continued in the way they had done in the past with contributions of their time, talents, and money. The draperies in the Lodge room were donated by the ladies in 1990-1991.

Courtney Warrenfeltz was their twenty-fifth Exalted Ruler. He too carried on the programs of past years. Adversity again touched the Lodge and hearts in October when the Westettes lost both their President, Sandi Smith, and their Vice President, Eleanore Klyberg, to cancer within four days of each other. Trudy Gomez took over as President and Dolores Monahan became Vice President to finish out the year.

Past Exalted Rulers:

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<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Exalted Ruler</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1967-1968</td>
<td>Bernard F. Dolan, Charter Exalted Ruler</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District Vice President, 1971-1972</td>
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<td>District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, 1972-1973</td>
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<td>1968-1969</td>
<td>James Flannery</td>
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<td>1969-1970</td>
<td>Frank Boffi</td>
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<td>1970-1971</td>
<td>Lewis Cote</td>
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<td>District Vice President, 1979-1980</td>
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<td>District Deputy, 1980-1981</td>
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<td>1971-1972</td>
<td>Charles Deshler</td>
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<td>1972-1973</td>
<td>David Hogg</td>
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<td>1973-1974</td>
<td>Richard Gardner</td>
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<td>1974-1975</td>
<td>Robert Thomas, Sr.</td>
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<td>1975-1976</td>
<td>Gene Wallace</td>
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<td>1976-1977</td>
<td>Alfred Beauregard</td>
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<td>1977-1978</td>
<td>Richard Ferguson</td>
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<td>1978-1979</td>
<td>Kenneth Gilstrap</td>
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<td>1979-1980</td>
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<td>District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, 1988-1989</td>
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<td>1981-1982</td>
<td>Charles Lovell</td>
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<td>1982-1983</td>
<td>Vincent Lombardo</td>
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<td>1983-1984</td>
<td>George Audette</td>
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<td>Frank Gomez</td>
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<td>Charles Curtin</td>
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<td>1988-1989</td>
<td>Wendell Hibdon</td>
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<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>Ken Caldwell</td>
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<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>John Fink</td>
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<td>1991-1992</td>
<td>Courtney Warrenfeltz</td>
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<td>1992-1993</td>
<td>Theodore Dominick</td>
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<td>1993-1994</td>
<td>Jack Cahill</td>
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Hollywood West Westettes

Reba Retter, who was acting as Chairman, called the organizational meeting of the Westettes to order at 8:00 p.m. on September 12, 1973. Richard Gardner, then Exalted Ruler, gave a short address welcoming the 43 ladies present. He briefly explained the association with the Hollywood West Elks Lodge.

At this first meeting, proposed bylaws were read and approved. Nominations were held for charter officers. They were Reba Retter, President; Dolores Knodler, Vice President; Sophie Rennie, Treasurer; Sue Ferguson, Recording Secretary; and Joann Tagg, Corresponding Secretary.

Acting Chairman, Reba Retter, called their second meeting to order on October 10, 1973. Charles Deshler, Liaison officer from the Elks Lodge, gave a short talk outlining what could and could not be done as an organization within the Lodge. Nominations from the floor were held followed by elections with the ladies nominated at the first meeting elected. Helen Gardner showed the first Christmas card she was preparing for the Elks bulletin.

A potluck buffet for their first installation of officers was planned for November 21, 1973. They made and filled Christmas stockings for the children at the Harry-Anna Hospital, sold two-year calendars, provided and served a buffet for the Elks installation of officers, held a work party to clean the kitchen, and provided new kitchen towels. Purchases this year included a banner for the Elks Lodge, Westettes pins, and gifts for their outgoing Exalted Rulers, Dick Gardner and Bob Thomas. Since their first year began in September, they worked with two Exalted Rulers. They also bought five dozen ash trays and an altar cloth and gave $20 for the golf tournament to the men.

Past Presidents:

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<th>Past Presidents</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reba Retter</td>
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<td>Helen Gardner</td>
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<td>Sophie Rennie</td>
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<td>Dolores Burns</td>
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<td>Sue Ferguson</td>
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<td>Genny Beauregard</td>
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<td>Virginia McLoughlin</td>
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<td>Marnie Bayne</td>
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<td>Marge Saredy</td>
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<td>Trudy Gomez</td>
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<td>Carolyn Audette</td>
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<td>Sandi Smith</td>
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<td>Maggie Craig</td>
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<td>Rae Dombrowski</td>
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<td>Marygrace Felt</td>
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<td>Eileen Leroy</td>
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Dick and Helen Gardner presented the club with their first birthday cake at the November 1974 meeting. Ladies from the Plantation Elkettes presided at their installation. They also initiated 68 charter members that night.

President Reba suggested at the January meeting that one year run from April to April to correspond with the Elks year and that the present officers stay in office until April 1975. They voted on the change that night.

Frank Boffi was their second Liaison officer. In that first year many things began that have become traditions. Among these were the purchase of a Harry-Anna Trust Fund certificate, the 50/50 jackpot after every meeting (Grace Weimann was the first winner, collecting $17.50), and the start of the Westettes’ page in the May issue of the bulletin by the bulletin editor, Dick Gardner. Sue Ferguson was the first reporter.

In June they decided to purchase purple material for vests to be worn with white slacks, a shirt, and cowboy hats. Mary Weed ordered the fabric at $2.88 per yard. They proudly wore this uniform for the first time to the Elks National Convention in July.

Their firsts that year were the thirty-item raffle with 616 tickets sold. They had their first amateur hour and held a Christmas party complete with Santa and gift exchange at the December meeting. They also initiated the custom of providing a special Christmas for a needy child in the community. The first year, $100 was budgeted for this.

Functions held that year were a Bunco party, two Dolphin dances, two rummage sales, and a Christmas craft bazaar.
1975-1976

In their second year, officers were installed by the Exalted Ruler of Hollywood West Elks Lodge #2365. Helen Gardner was installed as President, Sue Ferguson as Vice President, Mary Weed as Recording Secretary, Sophie Rennie as Treasurer, and Mary Payne as Corresponding Secretary. Lewis Cote was their Liaison officer.

It was a busy year. New programs for the year were the appointment of Genny Beauregard as their first Chaplain and Stella Boffi as their first Guard. Gertrude Cullen began the first of many years as chairlady of their craft group.

They changed the club colors to purple and white. Mary Weed and Sue Ferguson attended the Ladies Conference in Homestead as delegates. Sophie Rennie made an altar cloth for use at their meetings and Joe Goldstein presented them with a bible in memory of his wife, Peg.

The men asked for their help with functions and participated with them in the City of Hollywood’s bicentennial parade and helped them with a booth at T-Y Park after the parade. They also participated in their Flag Day ceremony for the first time.

Genny Beauregard, Stella Boffi, and Dolores Burns volunteered as the first nominating committee. The previous year’s officers were all nominated from the floor.

The year was a successful one and kept them all very busy. Fundraising events were bingo, a Kiddie Party Dance, a thirty-item raffle, a rummage sale, a Trick or Treat Dance, Christmas card, the WGMA Radio Community Campaign, jewelry demonstrations, a Christmas bazaar, a charity bazaar, and candy sales. They also saved Stokley labels to purchase a red wagon for the Harry-Anna Hospital.

Gifts to the Lodge that year included a camera to be used for a raffle, the organ, half the proceeds from the Christmas card, and fifteen tables to be used in the newly remodeled lounge.

1976-1977

Newly elected officers were Sophie Rennie, President; Genny Beauregard, Vice President; Mary Weed, Treasurer; Ruth Deshler, Recording Secretary; and Dolores Burns, Corresponding Secretary. Anita Susi was Chaplain and Marnie Bayne was Guard. Dick Ferguson was Liaison officer.

Once again they had a busy year. Fundraising projects were two bazaars and bake sales, a rummage sale, a beach party held in the Lodge backyard, the third anniversary dance and thirty-item raffle, a back to school dance, a Bunco party, a sweetheart dance, the WGMA radio program, and the sale of two-year calendars, candles, Westettes cookbook, and the Christmas card.

They initiated a few more new programs and projects in this year. They included an attendance drawing with Anita Susi as the first winner. They also decided that the Guard and Chaplain should be included in the installation of officers ceremony and they held their first Father’s Day program and dinner in 1976. They bought themselves a file cabinet and put their name on the booster page in the Elks bulletin. Anita Susi and Sue Ferguson were delegates to the Ladies Conference in Stuart. President Sophie Rennie was a speaker at one of the conference workshops. For the first time they voted to give a $100 check to the Harry-Anna Hospital at the conference.

Gifts to the Lodge that year were an electric grill, the eleventh hour clock for the new lounge, a prize for the golf tournament, $350 toward the remodeling of the kitchen, and a new artificial Christmas tree for the lounge. They also presented the Lodge with new stations.

In February they were asked to help the ladies of Margate Lodge to organize a ladies’ group. Several Westettes went to help them by explaining to them their formation and functions within the Lodge.

At the October meeting, past Vice Presidents, Dolores Knodler and Sue Ferguson, were appointed to fill the vacancies of trustees, Reba Retter and Helen Gardner.

President Rennie had back surgery in February and Vice President Genny Beauregard took over to finish out the year.

Average attendance at the meetings in the early years was 35.

1977-1978

Officers this year were Dolores Burns, President; Ruth Deshler, Vice President; Louise Savaiko, Recording Secretary; Sara Altizio, Treasurer; Irene Joppien, Corresponding Secretary; Gertrude Cullen, Chaplain; Rae Dombrowski, Guard; and Russell Ramey was Liaison officer.

At the beginning of their fourth year they continued with past successful functions. They held a craft bazaar at Sears Mall in the spring and a Christmas bazaar in front of Zayre’s, two rummage sales, and a craft table at the
monthly brunch. They handled the Christmas card in the December bulletin. They held their second Father’s Day program, a ’50s dance, and their annual anniversary dance and thirty-item raffle. After their meetings they held a jewelry show, a copper demonstration, and a plant sale. They also sold greeting cards, stationary, and calendars.

Their first card party was held in June with Dolores Knodler as chairman and their “Helpful Hints” booklet went on sale in December.

They continued their Christmas charity and participated in the Ladies of Elks’ Penny-A-Day program for the Harry-Anna Hospital sponsored by the ladies of Stuart-Jensen. They sold Harry-Anna medallions and Christmas cards with pictures drawn by the children at the hospital. Sophie Rennie and Rusty Gilstrap were delegates to the Ladies Conference in Plantation.

Their gifts to the Elks this year were a new public address system, a heavy duty vacuum cleaner, steak knives, and some other kitchen equipment.

1978-1979

President   Sue Ferguson  
Vice President   Rae Dombrowski  
Recording Secretary  Marian Ramey  
Treasurer   Marnie Bayne  
Corresponding Secretary  Betty McHugh  
Chaplain   Eleanor Layton  
Guard   Velma Cote  
Installing Officer   Dick Ferguson, Exalted Ruler  
Liaison Officer   Jack Conklin

Their baby years were now behind them and their workload seemed to slow down a bit, although the treasury continued to grow and they had more members getting involved. Membership continued to grow. They continued their successful ventures such as the craft table at Sunday brunches, card parties, demonstrations after meetings, and Christmas cards while adding new things such as collecting Pantry Pride register tapes to “buy” prizes for use at card parties or raffles.

The Father’s Day program and the “Gong Show” were well attended. Once again their anniversary dance was a sellout and the thirty-item raffle beat the year before in sales.

They continued to support the Harry-Anna Hospital with certificates, penny cans, and a check to them at the Ladies Conference. At Christmas they enjoyed another successful party and helped another needy family. They also had their annual bazaar and bake sale, moving this time to Publix. They again sold two-year calendars.

To help the men this year they gave prizes for their Las Vegas Night and golf tournament. They also gave them a much needed copy machine for the office.

Building fund fever grew during this year and twice during the year they gave the men checks for $1,000. Dolores Burns started a Ladies of Elks Dime-a-Day building fund drive and many members participated. The men held a successful building fund ball and the Westettes volunteered to make the decorations and help them set up the hall at the VFW.

In October, Mary Lou Conway was installed as Chaplain to finish out the year when Eleanor Layton moved away.

Dolores Burns and Rusty Gilstrap went to Cocoa Beach as delegates to the Ladies Conference.

1979-1980

President   Genny Beauregard  
Vice President   Dorothy Murphy  
Recording Secretary  Marian Ramey  
Treasurer   Barbara Talmadge  
Corresponding Secretary  Lillian Newman  
Chaplain   Marjorie Wolf  
Guard   Dolores Knodler  
Liaison Officer   Jack Conklin
While they held their own functions, they were fewer but they cooperated more of their efforts toward helping the men with their brunches, steak dinners, and the blood bank. They also worked on the Las Vegas Night, the July picnic, the salute to committee night, decorating the Lodge at various functions, and helping wrap Christmas presents for their annual children’s Christmas party. This year they donated prizes for the blood bank dinner and golf tournament. They gave them a tape recorder and $1,000 for the building fund at the anniversary dance and another $1,000 at the installation of officers.

Genny and her committees continued their fundraisers of monthly card parties, brunch, craft sales, Christmas cards, and demonstrations after meetings. Capacity crowds attended all the Father’s Day programs, “Gong Shows,” and anniversary dance. The thirty-item raffle continued to be one of the most popular events. They again supported Harry-Anna with their pennies and sale of their Christmas cards.

For the first time this year they raised the amount spent on the Christmas charity to $150. Other firsts this year were an additional donation to the Harry-Anna Hospital made possible through the efforts of Liz Cowles, who made them some lovely ceramic tip cups that they use on the tables at all functions. Members also donated Christmas gifts to the Florida State Hospital patients for the first time.

Ladies Conference delegates, Dorothy Murphy and Sue Ferguson, went to New Smyrna Beach where for the first time the club received a certificate for their donations to the Harry-Anna Hospital. It was during this year that they wore new name badges to conferences and conventions.

1980-1981

President Rae Dombrowski
Vice President Marnie Bayne
Recording Secretary Marygrace Felt
Corresponding Secretary Madeline Balardini
Chaplain Marge Saredy
Guard Claudia Lombardo
Organist (First Time) Grace Prior
Exalted Ruler Frank Bayne
Liaison Officer Jack Conklin


When Grace became their first organist during Genny Beauregard’s year, she added a lot to the meetings. This year she added the singing of “God Bless America” to the opening ceremony and “Let There Be Peace on Earth” to the closing.

As in past years, they continued with proven projects of the past: their brunch crafts, card parties, rummage sale, Christmas card and candle sales, and Harry-Anna tip cups. They held the Father’s Day program in June and continued having demonstrations after the meetings.

They held a Past Presidents Sweetheart Dance in February along with a raffle of a beautiful macramé made and donated by Ed Dombrowski. They held a minstrel show in August produced by Grace Prior and raffle of a salad bowl full of money, an anniversary dance, and thirty-item raffle in November.

To help the Elks they continued with the brunches, steak dinners, blood bank dinner, and the children’s Christmas party.

They gave the Elks $1,000 at the installation of officers and again at their anniversary dance. They had the organ repaired and donated prizes for the blood bank raffle and the golf tournament. At their installation they gave them a new cordless microphone.

During the year they purchased a $1,000 money market certificate.

Lou Cote and Ed Dombrowski made a memorial plaque for their use.

The Ladies Conference was held in Fort Walton Beach and was attended by Rae Dombrowski, Marnie Bayne, Dolores Burns, and Sue Ferguson.

1981-1982

President Marnie Bayne
Vice President Carolyn Audette
Recording Secretary Linda Weppert
Treasurer Marge Saredy
Not since their first year had the Ladies had the attendance at meetings as they had during the year Marnie Bayne was President. Likewise there was a significant increase in membership.

Marnie had many firsts. They set up tables on meeting nights instead of sitting audience style in the middle of the room. She started a lapsed committee which was very successful in getting members who had dropped out of the club to return and by the end of 1981, they had 103 members.

PER Lou Cote produced a nice bulletin board that allowed them to post their notices.

Fundraisers this year included the old tried and true: card parties, rummage sales, brunch craft table, their annual dinner show in August, and the anniversary dance and thirty-item raffle in November. New programs were a book sale, money tree raffle, a homemaker’s basket drawing at their May meeting, a Chinese raffle at the Christmas party, and monthly bake sales on steak dinner nights. At the January steak dinner they had their first roast when they paid tribute to “roastee,” Judy Kelley.

The Past Presidents began having regular meetings and held a Halloween dance as their first function.

In June they held their annual salute to fathers and in January had a ‘50s sock hop complete with a disc jockey. They continued using the tip cups at all functions for additional donations to the Harry-Anna Hospital. This year they were able to purchase their first $1,000 certificate. Other charitable gifts this year included their annual Christmas gifts to a needy family and to the patients at Florida State Hospital. This year they also helped the family of a Lodge member who was very ill.

Their membership grew; so did their participation and treasury. They were fortunate this year to be able to give the men checks for $1,000 for the building fund on three different occasions. They also donated to their blood bank raffle, the Las Vegas Night, and the golf tournament.

The Ladies Conference this year was held in Plantation. Marnie had all of her officers attend with her as delegates; this too was another first. Sue Ferguson was one of the workshop speakers.

1982-1983

President               Marge Saredy
Vice President          Eileen Leroy
Recording Secretary     Diane Carignan
Treasurer               Linda Weppert
Corresponding Secretary Barbara Masiello
Chaplain                Trudy Gomez
Guard                   Linda Curtain
Organist                Grace Prior

In September the Leroy’s moved to Georgia and Linda Curtain became Vice President and Edith Lawton became Guard.

From money raised on special projects and functions, they added almost $3,000 to the Elks Building Fund, purchased and installed the smoke eater, and presented table number stands to the club.

They held their variety show, the anniversary dance and thirty-item raffle, the monthly card parties, and Christmas bazaar. The garage sale, several Bunko parties, a roaring twenties dance, a Halloween dance, and Valentine dance added to the good times. They sold baked goods, tee shirts, and books and raffled a cowboy hat covered with money and a tote bag filled with money. Through the tip cups, some bank interest, and generous donations, they were able to buy a bed for the children at the Harry-Anna Hospital. At Christmastime many of the ladies contributed wrapped gifts for the children and they were able to send a large carton to the hospital. Needy families having children at the “Quest” school had a happier Christmas due to the generosity of the Westettes.

The Westettes supported Flag Day ceremonies, fed many at the groundbreaking, attended commission meetings, worked bingo at the VA hospital, supported the men’s picnic and the Elks indoctrination programs, served drinks and waited tables at many functions, sent greetings and flowers to those who were ill or distressed, sponsored the Christmas card and split proceeds with the Elks, and honored their fathers with a special program and home-cooked dinner.
Meetings were lively and well attended. They saw an aerobics demonstration, discussed IRAs, made candy, learned how to defend themselves and how to detect cancer, and put on a great fashion show.

The Ladies Conference was held in Palm Beach and again all of the officers went as delegates with the President.

Holt, Frank J., President, Florida State Elks Association, 1955-1956

Frank J. Holt was nominated by Chelsie Senerchia at the forty-ninth session held in Miami at the Bayfront Municipal Auditorium. He was a member of Miami Lodge 948 and was an honorary life member of Miami Lodge.

Forty-Ninth Annual Session
Florida State Elks Association
May 21-23, 1955
MIAMI, FLORIDA

The following Lodges were represented: Arcadia No. 1524, Belle Glade No. 1716, Bradenton No. 1511, Clearwater No. 1525, Clermont-Groveland No. 1848, Clewiston No. 1853, Cocoa No. 1532, Coral Gables No. 1676, Daytona Beach No. 1141, DeLand No. 1463, Delray Beach No. 1770, Eustis No. 1578, Florida Keys No. 1872, Fort Lauderdale No. 1517, Fort Myers No. 1288, Fort Pierce No. 1520, Fort Walton No. 1795, Gainesville No. 990, Green Cove Springs No. 1892, Holiday Isles No. 1912, Hollywood No. 1732, Homestead No. 1754, Jacksonville No. 221, Jacksonville Beach No. 1901, Key West No. 551, Kissimmee No. 1873, Lake City No. 893, Lakeland No. 1291, Lake Worth No. 1530, Leesburg No. 1703, Live Oak No. 1165, Marianna No. 1516, Melbourne-Eau Gallie No. 1744, Miami No. 948, Miami Beach No. 1601, Miami Springs-Hialeah No. 1775, North Miami No. 1835, South Miami No. 1888, New Smyrna Beach No. 1557, Ocala No. 286, Orlando No. 1079, Pahokee No. 1638, Palatka No. 1232, Panama City No. 1598, Pensacola No. 497, Perry No. 1851, Plant City No. 1727, Pompano Beach No. 1898, St. Augustine No. 829, St. Petersburg No. 1224, Sanford No. 1241, Sarasota No. 1519, Sebring No. 1529, Starke No. 1802, Stuart-Jensen No. 1870, Tallahassee No. 937, Tampa No. 708, Tarpon Springs No. 1719, Venice-Nokomis No. 1854, Vero Beach No. 1774, Wauchula No. 1700, West Palm Beach No. 1352, Winter Haven No. 1672, and Winter Park No. 1830.

President J. Alex Arnette made his annual report. A net gain in membership of 931 was made or a gain of 3.28 percent. Youth work under the State Youth Activities Committee had continued to progress.
Contributions to the Harry-Anna Home by the individual Lodges again exceeded the quota by 5 percent. The home and its Trust Fund were in excellent shape and plans were being made to care for indigent children’s other diseases. President Arnette also reported that interlodge visitation was at an all-time high.

Results of the state ritualistic contest were as follows: Fort Lauderdale - 91.6775, Clearwater - 91.5729, Stuart-Jensen - 91.3021, Gainesville - 91.2141, and Tallahassee - 91.1706.

The following officers were elected to serve for the 1955-1956 term:

- President: Frank J. Holt, Miami
- Vice President, Northwest Division: Luther Clary, Fort Walton
- Vice President, Northeast Division: George E. Currie, Palatka
- Vice President, East Central Division: John W. Morgan, Orlando
- Vice President, West Central Division: Marion G. Shrode, Bradenton
- Vice President, South Central Division: Parker T. Wilson, Clewiston
- Vice President, South Division: Earl R. Adams, Key West
- Secretary: James J. Fernandez, Tampa
- Treasurer: Claude L. Johnson, Tallahassee
- Historian: Howell A. Davis, Palatka
- Tiler: Thomas B. Lipe, Miami
- Sergeant at Arms: Peter Gessner, DeLand
- Chaplain: Rev. Francis X. Carroll, Jr., Pensacola
- Organist: George W. Hulme, Lake Worth

Fort Myers, Florida was selected as the site for the 1956 convention.

Homestead Lodge #1754

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Florida’s 47th Lodge</th>
<th>South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District:</td>
<td>June 11, 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instituted:</td>
<td>July 8, 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered:</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Members:</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrendered Charter:</td>
<td>William F. Brantley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past Exalted Rulers:

- 1949-1950: Claude A. Campbell, Deceased 1-17-1952
- 1950-1951: D. K. Minor
- 1951-1952: Russell J. Elliott, Deceased 11-8-1974
- 1952-1953: John C. Reed, Deceased 7-4-1986
- 1956-1957: Charles J. Strom
- 1957-1958: James M. Gooding, Deceased 12-10-1989
- 1958-1959: James M. Gooding
- 1959-1960: John B. Rowland
- 1960-1961: Roy G. Runken
- 1962-1963: John B. Rowland
- 1963-1964: Morris Guadagno
- 1965-1966: Morris Guadagno
- 1966-1967: Walter Sumner
- 1968-1969: George E. Wright, Sr., Deceased 4-10-1990
1971-1972  Nick Brames
1972-1973  Nick Brames
1973-1974  Morris Guadagno
1974-1975  S. Bryant Royster
1975-1976  Jesse A. Young
1976-1977  James M. Gooding
1977-1978  Lynn Monroe
1978-1979  Harry Spisiak
1979-1980  Terry W. Harris
1980-1981  James R. Eddy
1981-1982  Chessie Hudgens
1982-1983  Chessie Hudgens
1983-1984  Howard VanSchaick
1984-1985  Richard H. Rutzke
1985-1986  Monroe L. DuBois
1986-1987  S. Bryant Royster
1987-1988  George C. Kretschman
1988-1989  Sam J. Hamilton
1989-1990  James A. Smith

Past District Vice Presidents from Homestead:

1952-1953  Claude A. Campbell, Deceased 1-31-1986
1957-1958  O. Ralph Matousek, Deceased 12-13-1975
1965-1966  James M. Gooding
1987-1988  Chessie Hudgens

Past District Deputies from Homestead:

1953-1954  Claude A. Campbell, Deceased 1-31-1986
1967-1968  James M. Gooding, Deceased 12-10-1989
1974-1975  Royal A. Webber, Jr., Dropped for nonpayment of dues on 3-31-1989
1988-1989  Chessie Hudgens
1988-1989  Chessie Hudgens, Dropped for nonpayment of dues 3-31-1989

Grand Lodge Institution Officers:

Grand Exalted Ruler  Peter J. Ross
Grand Leading Knight  Arthur C. O’Hea
Grand Loyal Knight  James A. Dunn
Grand Lecturing Knight  Chelsie J. Senerchia
Grand Secretary  R. E. Norcross
Grand Treasurer  Edward Williams
Grand Tiler  Walter E. Wigman
Grand Chaplain  L. F. McCready
Grand Esquire  William A. Wall
Grand Inner Guard  John Boyer
Charter Lodge Officers Installed:

- Exalted Ruler: W. F. Brantley
- Leading Knight: R. D. Calcluff
- Loyal Knight: D. K. Minor
- Lecturing Knight: D. E. Flynn
- Secretary: E. W. Burton
- Treasurer: T. E. Kirby
- Inner Guard: H. A. Henn
- Chaplain: G. S. Skall
- Esquire: F. R. Linke
- Tiler: R. L. Somers
- Trustees: A. Terberg, J. R. Graves, C. A. Campbell, W. R. Horne, G. H. Gann

Charter Members:

- W. F. Brantley
- Hugh N. Arthur
- Donald E. Flynn
- D. K. Minor
- C. G. Calderwood
- Dr. J. A. Smith
- James Accursio
- A. E. Arthur
- John J. Balfe, Sr.
- Charles W. Barnes
- Ansel B. Barrow
- W. Y. Bush
- C. A. Campbell
- Landon Carney
- Charles H. Connor
- Donald S. Cooper
- George I. Crim
- Leroy F. Donahue
- Everett Douberly
- Norman S. Eenst
- David A. Fisher
- Richard W. Fuchs
- John T. Godwin
- John R. Graves
- W. Hammock
- J. M. Harrell
- H. L. Haynes
- Arthur I. Hemmings
- Russell W. Home
- Harry S. Jenner
- George H. Keffer
- Howard R. Lamb
- James K. Lee
- Fred R. Linke
- C. A. Lounsbury
- J. E. McClung
- Edward W. Burton
- Robert D. Calehuff
- Charles Grace
- Bruce E. Neubin
- Adrian Jacobs
- Roy G. Wood
- Earl A. Ames
- Johnnie W. Bailes
- Harold O. Barber
- J. David Barnes
- Frank H. Bernecker
- Earl E. Byrd
- H. M. Campbell
- Samuel H. Cohen
- Lonnie W. Cooke
- George H. Cooper
- Dr. Robert P. Crow
- Ralph H. Done
- Dr. R. J. Elliott
- L. W. Ernst
- Walter G. Graezer, Sr.
- George H. Gann
- George W. Goode
- T. Paul Haley
- Harry Hannan, Jr.
- W. L. Harris
- Herman C. Heinlein
- William A. Henn
- Richard G. Huff
- Joseph C. Johnson
- Thomas E. Kirby
- Robert I. Lance
- Fred C. Lehrre
- Paul Losner
- Harold C. Lumpkin
- E. B. McCarrah
After Hurricane Andrew, the Lodge purchased the site on U. S. #1 that had once been a skating rink before its destruction. In June 1994, the Grand Lodge approved the Lodge to borrow funds for the construction, outfitting, and furnishing of a new Lodge facility. By the middle of 1996, the new Lodge was open for business with a lounge open to the public, banquet facilities, bingo hall, restaurant, and meeting rooms. There had been a considerable amount of redesigning and construction before it became open for business.

It was a 21,000 square foot multipurpose building that allowed them to be able to accommodate Friday night bingo as well as other smaller dining rooms and meeting rooms for the booking of corporate events, award banquets, wedding receptions, anniversary parties, bridal showers, reunions, office parties and meetings, etc. with a seating capacity of over 700 for conference or lecture type gatherings.

The great room provided a stage, sound system, dance floor, and bar well adapted for the various functions. The adjacent room, appropriately named the antler room, was operated by a gourmet professional. The staff offered fantastic meals with a soup and salad bar, a variable menu of culinary delights from the à la carte selection list, and a buffet that was sure to please even the most discriminate of diners.

However, just a few months later, on October 4, 1996, the Exalted Ruler of Homestead Lodge #1754 received a certified letter from Grand Exalted Ruler Gerald L. Coates informing him that they were placed on probation for violations of Grand Lodge statutes. The primary violation that caused the Grand Lodge to take action was due to the Lodge borrowing funds to complete construction and outfitting and furnishing the new facility beyond the figure that was approved in June 1994.

Under the terms of the probation, they had to show proof that procedures were in accordance with state and federal laws, that their current debt was being retired, that they requested counsel with the Elks Business Practices Committee, that they had a full complement of elected and appointed officers and committeemen, and that they submitted a monthly progress report to their state sponsor (Robert Grafton, PGER). If the Grand Lodge did not sanction the belated application for Building/Financial Transaction, they could be required to surrender their charter and property necessary to conduct the ceremonies prescribed by the ritual. The Grand Exalted Ruler could appoint trustees to manage or sell the Lodge, retaining the proceeds until such time as they were reinstated or a new charter was granted (reference: Grand Lodge Statutes Section 9.170).

In January 1997, officers of Homestead Lodge met with representatives of the Grand Lodge concerning the difficulty of meeting their financial obligations. An appraisal of the situation was to be made by Grand Lodge representatives on the course of action to be taken. Income of the Lodge did not approach the debt service assumed
by the current administration, making it impossible to continue their present course. Many members seemed to be indifferent to the plight.

In February, the Grand Lodge concurred with officers of the Lodge in the assessment that the feasibility of continuing to attempt to conquer the massive and recurring debts inherent in the operation of a facility as large and demanding as this structure would be most difficult. The decision was reached by the members to continue to operate as best they could while at the same time being open to purchase offers that could remove them from the burden and permit them to relocate.

In April, the trustees wrote to William Losner, Chairman and CEO of the First National Bank. In the letter, they proposed that to help resolve their financial obligations, five acres of land owned by the Lodge at 296th Street in Homestead would be sold and that the bank should apply part of the sales proceeds as interest on their loan for a period of at least one year. This might permit them to place themselves in a more favorable financial position.

The Lodge received a letter back from the First National Bank of Homestead stating that they were sympathetic to the Homestead Elks’ financial circumstances and granted them a one-year extension of interest only payments on the note. The bank also stated that they needed an update on the marketing program on their two properties, i.e. asking price, listing broker, details on offers received, expected selling price, etc.

The Lodge members came up with another proposal in an attempt to save the Lodge. They at this time had a debt of about $800,000. They calculated a replacement value of the property at $70/square foot to amount to about $1,460,000. That would leave them equity of about $640,000 (replacement value minus $820,000 mortgage).

So, they proposed to form a for-profit corporation with 820 shares of stock at $1,000 per share. The mortgage could then be paid off and the Elks would own it free and clear. The new corporation was called the “Elks to the Rescue, Inc.” The corporation owned the building and they would then lease it back to the Elks on a 99-year lease. The lease was a triple net lease, that is taxes, insurance, and maintenance, and the Elks would pay utilities. The Elks would not have to worry about losing their building anymore and the members who bought shares would actually own the property free and clear and enjoy a nice income. This stock would be passed on to heirs. However, if they wanted to sell their stocks at some future date, it must first be offered to the other shareholders. If no one offered to buy it, the shares could then be sold to anyone.

As time passed on, there were questionable activities concerning financial matters that may have occurred in the past. These matters were addressed and after an audit, it appeared that the activities had been plugged.

On July 22, 1997, the Lodge received a letter from the Grand Lodge advising them that Homestead’s probation as imposed by Executive Order No. 96-280 dated June 25, 1997 was terminated.

In March 1998, they were negotiating the sale of the Lodge at full price. Exalted Ruler Monroe DuBois in his final message to the Lodge stated that they had been going through a very difficult era. He said it was not a time or place for any disillusion, but they would survive and prosper. Homestead Elks would remain as long as members were willing to support their efforts and volunteer a little time for the good of the Order. He appealed for some to fill an office. He said there must be firm management in place and working and that qualified leadership was now installed. He said they should never again let a few get so many in this situation.

At this same time, Jo Ann Hamilton, President of the Anna Miller Circle of ladies, stated that it was with heavy heart and much sorrow that she must announce that there would no longer be an Anna Miller Circle affiliated with Homestead Elks Lodge. On February 28, the circle had voted to dissolve. Their last meeting was held on March 28, 1998. They were informed at this time that they would be eligible to join the Elks Lodge at the expense of Anna Miller Circle as long as applications were received by March 1, 1998. Hamilton had been President of the Anna Miller Circle five times. It followed that 23 ladies were initiated and two of them had been elected officers: Joan Beyer, Secretary, and Syble Hayes, Treasurer. However, the Lodge was still in need of officers.

By May, the contract for sale of the building to the Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, which was supposed to close on May 15, 1998, had run into difficulty. The City Council had denied that location for a church. June found them still trying to resolve the problem with the city.

In May 1999, the following was published in the Homestead bulletin:

Lodge Consolidation

The following terms and conditions of consolidation were approved by the Trustees of both Homestead and South Miami/Coral Gables Lodges.

1. The name of the merged lodge will be South Miami/Coral Gables Lodge.
2. The merged lodge will maintain South Miami/Coral Gables Lodge’s Charter No. 1676. Homestead Lodge will surrender its charter.
3. The membership number of each lodge will be retained by each member. In the event of duplication, the member of Homestead Lodge will have his or her number raised to the next available number.

4. New membership numbers in the merged lodge will begin with the next available number.

5. The merged lodge shall be governed by the existing bylaws of South Miami/Coral Gables Lodge as of the effective date of the merger.

6. The assets of both lodges shall be combined in accordance with Grand Lodge Statutes, and the officers and trustees of each lodge and/or the merged lodge are hereby authorized and directed to take such action as necessary to amend all articles of incorporation and change the name and signatories of all accounts and title to all real and personal property. The merged lodge shall not assume the liabilities of Homestead Lodge, except as specifically set forth in the final Joint Resolution of Merger and Consolidation, and in no event shall be liable for any claims against or obligations of Homestead Lodge to the extent such claims or obligations exceed the value of the assets transferred by Homestead Lodge to the merged lodge.

7. Pursuant to Grand Lodge Statute Section 11.060, each member’s length of service and the status of all Past Exalted Rulers, Charter Members, Life Members, Honorary Life Members, etc., shall remain the same in the merged lodge.

8. The officers of the merged lodge shall be the elected and appointed officers of South Miami/Coral Gables Lodge No. 1676 as of the effective date of the merger.

9. Regular meetings of the merged lodge shall be held pursuant to the bylaws of South Miami/Coral Gables as of the effective date of the merger, i.e. 2nd & 4th Thursday monthly.

10. All other matters not specifically set forth herein, or governed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Order of the governing bylaws of the merged lodge, shall be determined by majority vote of the members of the merged lodge.

The vote to merge was approved by the trustees and members of South Miami/Coral Gables Lodge, but when they came to vote before the members of the Homestead Lodge, it was defeated. Consequently, the Lodge charter was surrendered.

On June 19, 1999, efforts were under way to reorganize. A letter from Jerry W. Hull and John Spisiak requested support from the former members of Homestead to reorganize. The letter read:

My fellow Brothers and Sisters:

We are currently exploring the possibility of asking for permission to recharter a new Elks lodge here in Homestead. As everyone is aware, after approximately 55 years of devoted service to the principles of Elksdom, we were placed in an unfortunate position of having to surrender our Charter #1754, due to bad management after Hurricane Andrew.

If you my Brothers and Sisters still believe in the city of Homestead’s ability to support the principles of Elksdom and wish to become involved in that great undertaking, we respectfully request that you sign the below form and return this letter as soon as possible. Time is of essence. We need a minimum of 425 signatures to go forth with this noble cause.

We will keep you updated as to the outcome of this inquiry and further information as it unfolds.

Hoop Shoot

PGER Frank Hise is credited with founding the Elks Hoop Shoot Program on the local level. More than three million youngsters participate each year in the Elks National Hoop Shoot free throw contest for boys and girls ages 8-13.

A series of eliminations is held as competitors start at the local level and advance through district, state, and regional contests. Seventy-two regional champions vie for national honors.

National champions are crowned in the boys’ and girls’ divisions for each age bracket: 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13. Two of the national champions, each with the best scores in their respective divisions, will be introduced to delegates of the Elks Grand Lodge at the national convention at an open session. The champions become guests of the Elks at the convention hotel. A Getty Powell Award, emblematic of excellence in free throw shooting, is presented. They also have their names inscribed on a commemorative plaque at the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA.
The Hoop Shoot was started by Frank Hise around 1945 in Corvallis, OR. In 1970 it became a national Elks program. Hise is a Past Grand Exalted Ruler and was inspired by seeing grade school kids playing basketball with smaller youngsters on the sidelines. In an attempt to involve all children, he devised a free throw contest equalizing the opportunity of competition.

The first national director was Gerald “Getty” Powell of Peru, IN. He retired from the position in 1979. Succeeding Powell was Emile Brady of Danville, PA.

The obvious reason for the growth of the program is that “the kids have fun and their parents view it as a worthwhile activity. They not only hone their athletic skills, they learn self-reliance, how to cope with winning and losing, and their social skills are developed too,” Brady said.

The Elks National Hoop Shoot free throw contest and Elks drug awareness program are funded by the Elks National Foundation.

(See Elks National Foundation)

Hoop Shoot Committee, Florida State Elks Association

This committee guides, promotes, and encourages a Hoop Shoot Contest by each Lodge. The committee also conducts a state contest as well as assisting in every way possible with the National Hoop Shoot effort.

Florida is divided into three regions, each sending six winners to the state finals. The eighteen finalists then travel to the Florida Elks Youth Camp where they compete in the state finals.

Six winners are selected at the state finals and are sent to Valdosta, GA for the Southeast Regional Competition. The national competition is in Springfield, MA.

1993-1994 Jennifer Jenkins won Getty Powell Award at nationals with 24 out of 25 free throws
Represented Clearwater Lodge #1525

2008 Winners of Florida Hoop Shoot Contest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Diaz</td>
<td>Mycah Daniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Broward #2273</td>
<td>Holley/Navarre #2787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 13</td>
<td>8 to 9</td>
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Other Winners:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alsha Edwards</td>
<td>Otavious Worthen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boca Raton #2166</td>
<td>Miami #948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nina Fernandez</td>
<td>Miami #948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>12-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys:</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Burgos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocala #286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Huhn, Homer, Jr., Past Grand Exalted Ruler

Born in Uniontown, PA on June 3, 1918, Huhn received his early education in the Mount Pleasant Township public schools, eventually moving to Mount Pleasant in 1931. Upon graduating from high school in 1937, Huhn attended Pennsylvania State University and later furthered his education at the University of Pittsburgh.

With school behind him, the native Pennsylvanian embarked on his career by purchasing a cleaning and tailoring business which he operated for several years. In 1942, Huhn married Josephine M. Hydock, who proved to be a source of great inspiration and to whom he was grateful for her “tolerant understanding, gentle disposition, and devotion.”
As the tax clerk of Westmoreland County, he established in 1955 the county’s first mechanized tax writing system. In 1964 Huhn became the chief clerk and secretary to the board of county commissioners and, four years later, was the board’s administrative assistant. A proven leader, a far-thinking visionary, and a talented businessman, Huhn later served as Vice Chairman of the Westmoreland County Municipal Water Authority and as President of the Westmoreland County Tax Collectors Association. He also held various positions with the State Association of Chief Clerks and County Commissioners, the State Association of Secretaries, the Frick Community Hospital, the Mount Pleasant Savings and Loan Association, and the Standard Savings and Loan of Wilkinsburg, PA.

Huhn’s devotion to his career and family was matched only by his commitment to civic affairs. He was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge No. 562, Odd Fellows Lodge No. 350, Moose Lodge No. 27, and Eagles Lodge No. 1007. Significantly, Huhn was initiated into Mount Pleasant, PA Elks Lodge No. 868 in 1941 and was the Lodge’s Exalted Ruler in 1952-1953. As an active member in the Lodge, Huhn was Secretary for eleven years, served on the board of trustees and the Lodge building committee, and also instituted the Lodge’s long running student aid program. In 1956 he was elected an honorary life member.

It seemed only natural that with so much to offer the Order, Huhn would continue to rise within its ranks. In 1956-1957 he served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Southwest District of Pennsylvania. Through most of the 1960s, Huhn was very busy with the Pennsylvania Elks Association, serving his district as Treasurer, President, and Chairman of its Advisory Committee. Additionally, Huhn was on various state association committees, served as one of its trustees, was State President in 1964-1965, and was later State Secretary.

From 1966-1971, Huhn served the Grand Lodge on many committees including the Credentials Committee in 1966-1967; the Lodge Activities Committee in 1967-1969, serving as its chairman in 1970-1971; and the Auditing and Accounting Committee in 1969-1970. With such a breadth of experience, he was a perfect candidate for Grand Secretary, a position he was first appointed to in 1971 and reelected to every year thereafter until 1977.

At the Grand Lodge Convention in New Orleans, Huhn was unanimously elected as Grand Exalted Ruler for 1977-1978. In his nominating speech, Earl Keim of Mount Pleasant Lodge said of Huhn, “He is a courageous and honest man, with unquestioned integrity…endowed with the quality of leadership and the ability to command…and he is quite successful in spreading his enthusiasm over our entire nation.”

In accepting the responsibility of the office of Grand Exalted Ruler, Huhn reminded all Elks of the importance of brotherly love, noting, “Brotherly Love is synonymous with all the other principles of our Order, because certainly, we could not be charitable, we could not be just, we could not serve with fidelity, if we did not practice that one great principle….If we practice brotherly love, if we rededicate ourselves to this great principle of Elkdom, and if each of us would assume ‘individual responsibility’ in practicing that great principle, we cannot fail.”

For a man of such character, failure was impossible. Following his term as Grand Exalted Ruler, Huhn continued to serve the Order with distinction as an Elks National Foundation Trustee and as a member of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission.

Homer Huhn, Jr. passed away in 2000.

Hurricane of 1926

On the morning of September 18, 1926, Florida experienced the worst hurricane ever recorded in the history of the United States. However, there was no sense of alarm. Most of the 200,000 people living in the storm’s projected path were new to Florida, lured here by the easy money of the land boom. Having never seen a hurricane, they had little knowledge of a storm’s destructive force. It cost many of them their lives.

Residents were already desperate from the 1926 Florida land bust that wiped out savings in failed banks that resulted in unpaid home mortgages, tax bills, and lost businesses. They were just having a terrible year when this struck. Not known at the time, recovery was not on the horizon because the big Florida hurricane of 1928 came through, exceeding even the loss of 1926. This was followed the next year with the 1929 stock market crash that lasted into the 1940s and then there was World War II which came with many sacrifices at home and abroad and the loss of many citizens including Elks in the five year battle.

No accurate data of property lost or loss of life has ever been compiled. The Elks collected and expended $4,118 for relief.
The hurricane hit Fort Lauderdale, Dania, Hollywood, Hallandale, and Miami. The death toll was estimated anywhere from 325 to 800. Winds as high as 150 miles per hour caused property loss exceeding any known in the United States at that time.

Moore Haven, a town of 900 residents on the west side of Lake Okeechobee, flooded when a dike holding back Okeechobee waters broke. The dike was nothing more than a muck dike when water nearly fifteen feet high poured through the levy destroying everything in its path. Loss of life may have been as high as 300. Moore Haven was under water for eight weeks.

Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund - Elks 1999

On the morning of September 16, 1999, Hurricane Floyd washed through the eastern half of North Carolina. Some areas accumulated 18" of rain in less than 24 hours. This was on the heels of Hurricane Dennis that had previously visited the state twice, depositing in excess of 15" of more rain.

The result of these two hurricanes is the worst natural disaster North Carolina has ever seen. Representatives of FEMA and the Red Cross stated that this was one of the largest natural disasters in U. S. history. On September 22, 1999, Grand Exalted Ruler Varenhorst issued a letter to all Elks Lodges and Elks advising that the B.P.O. Disaster Relief Fund had been established and ordered $25,000 to be sent to North Carolina B.P.O. Elks Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund. This B.P.O. Elks Fund was one of the first to give to North Carolina Governor James Hunt’s Hurricane Disaster Relief Fund with a check for $10,000 on September 24, 1999.

D. Steve Gunter, William Goodwyn, Gary Plough, and Joe Pettet were named coordinators of the fund. All eleven Lodges of the East District of North Carolina were charged with the task of identifying those individuals and families who, in spite of the efforts of FEMA, the Red Cross, churches, agencies, families, neighbors, and friends, still needed monetary help. Bruce Wood, John Chance, Lea Waite, Jack Strickland, Fred Love, John Pagoza, Lee Carlson, Don Brown, Bucky Holt, Steve Moore, Joe Morino, Mike Christensen, Ken Hovatter, Phil Cordova, John Bell, Sammy Hughes, and Ben Thomas along with other members of their Lodges identified those needing assistance and submitted requests for help. Over 300 families, some of them Elks and widows of Elks, received checks.

Approximately $200,000 in donations was received from more than 673 Elks Lodges and individuals from as far away as Hawaii and Panama. More than $33,000 in donations from within North Carolina was received.

All expenses and administrative fees were either volunteered or covered by the Grand Lodge, creating a net effect of nearly doubling the donations.

(A report on this was made by D. Steve Gunter, G. L. Coordinator of Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund.)