



Kissimmee Elks Lodge #1873

The Antlers

Volume 223
June 2023

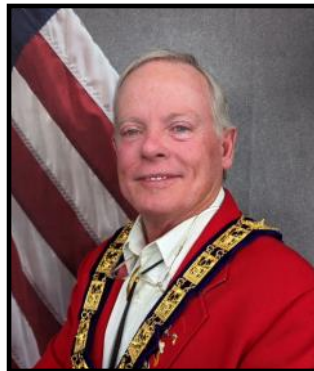
Message To The Members From Chuck Lassabe , Exalted Ruler

Hello all Elk train 1873 passengers, we are moving on down the line. Now with the State convention behind us and National coming soon. Here at home we have good committees with good vision. The house committee did a great job with the cinco de Mayo celebration. The food was outstanding good music and a cornhole tournament the night was a success.

Our Requip the kitchen project funding is moving up and we expect to be about start ordering equipment soon stay tuned for more details.

Have you heard that our lodge has a 70th birthday coming up in July stay tuned for details on the birthday party.

Please attend the lodge meeting and provide ideas for events or things to do at the lodge.



Chuck Lassabe
Exalted Ruler



Volunteer to play BINGO with our Veterans at the Lake Nona VA CLC !

Immediate need for 6 volunteers to play Bingo at the Community Living Center at the Lake Nona VA Medical Center. Bingo starts at 2pm.

EACH VISIT: All volunteers sign in at Volunteer Services (in the main hospital) with their Covid Vaccination Card. Next step is to report to the CLC where a rapid COVID test will be done. You are then ready to assist 20 CLC residents as they play BINGO in hopes of winning Canteen Bucks! Please be aware that parking may be a challenge and could require patience and a little extra time.

ELK OF THE MONTH Rob Pinkston

For all that you do we thank you!!

June Birthdays

Etta Jean Platt	01-June	Gerald Barnes	21-June
Fran Barry	02-June	Marilyn Davis	21-June
Debra Furnari	02-June	Willard Secrest	22-June
Steve Leggiero	02-June	Jimmie Jackson	23-June
Emory Miles	02-June	Emory Graham	25-June
Robert Rousch	02-June	Brian Cutcher	27-June
Richard Vortherms	02-June	Marianne Tithof	27-June
Herbert Harker	04-June		
James Johnson	04-June		
Miguelina Jorge	10-June		
Kathleen Boro	11-June		
David Demond	12-June		
Shannon Woodsby	16-June		
Yesaira Martinez	18-June		
Robert Slater	19-June		
Robert Lee Pinkston	20-June		

Kissimmee Elks Lodge #1873

Birthday Drink Coupon

This coupon entitles you to 1 Free Drink of your choice any dinner night of your birthday month.

One coupon per member

Coupon good for
June 2023 Birthdays Only

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jenny Castillo
Judith Mock
Selines Soler





We will be honoring our Flag and its essential role throughout the history of our country.

You will see the development, changes and pageantry of our flag and how it unified a nation.

You will listen to the tremendous sacrifice that our fore fathers gave to ensure the nations survival and freedom we enjoy today. You may have previously attended a Flag Day ceremony. Still, we are asking you to come and enjoy remembering who we are as Americans and to reignite the spirit of patriotism within yourself. This is OUR Flag, the symbol of Freedom and Liberty.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was the first fraternal organization to observe Flag Day. We celebrate over 114 years of the Grand Lodges 1907 designation of June 14th as Flag Day which was followed in 1911 with the order's approval for mandatory observances by all Lodges.

*Vice President
Central District*



*Congratulations
Jeannie Platt*



Thank you Members!!



RENTAL EVENTS

If you know of anyone interested in renting one our beautiful rooms please have them call

Marianne Tithof
303-704-3415



Note: Items scheduled in the calendar may change after publication. To check on any Lodge function, please call the Lodge (407) 847-2444

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CLOSED	Lodge Opens 4pm Kitchen Open 5 pm - 6:30 pm Charity Bingo 6 pm-8pm	Lodge Opens 4pm* Kitchen Open 5 pm - 6:30 pm *closed during lodge meeting	Lodge Opens 4pm Kitchen Open 5 pm - 7 pm	CLOSED EXCEPT 5/18/2022	Lodge Opens 4pm Kitchen Open 5 pm - 8pm Queen of ♥  Drawing 7:00 pm	CLOSED
				1	2	3 Rental
					FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	
4	5 Guido Travel 10-2:30 	6 House Committee Meeting 7pm	7 Karaoke w/Cory 5-9	8	9	10
					FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	
11	12 GTS Travel 1-3 PM 	13 BOD MEETING 6pm LODGE MEETING 7pm \$1.00 Hot Dogs 8pm	14 Flag Day Ceremony 7:00 pm	15	16	17
					FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	State President Visit
18 	19 	20	21 Karaoke w/Cory 5-9	22	23	24 Rental
					FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	
25	26 	27 Orientation 5:30pm LODGE MEETING & INITIATION 7pm \$1.00 Hot Dogs 8pm	28 Trivia w/Eileen 6:30 pm	29	30	
					FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	



Save Our Restaurant At Kissimmee Elks Lodge



My Dearest Fellow Elks,

Please join me and earn an "oven mitt" to be displayed in the Lounge by donating to improve our kitchen. We must replace the aged and failing appliances. Yes, sadly this means ovens, flattops, refrigerators, etc.

Our Chef, Steve, has been working under a handicap by having to use faulty kitchen appliances. We can't continue to hope to have magnificent meals served for both weekly menus and for special events unless we replace these appliances. Donating now will help ensure the continuation of fabulous meals in our Lodge in the the future.

Donate and ask your bartender for a donation mitt!

Thank you,

A Hungry Elk





Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America
A Fraternal Organization

**Etta J. "Jeannie" Platt, PER
Central District Vice President**

129 Nesting Trail • Saint Cloud, FL 34769-1916
(717) 580-1016 (c) • plattetta@aol.com

May 5, 2023

To: Officers of the Florida State Elks Association
Past State Presidents
State Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons, and Regional Chairpersons
District Deputies Grand Exalted Rulers
Exalted Rulers & Officers
Members All

Re: State President's Official Visit to the Central District, June 16 – 17, 2023

You are cordially invited to join the Central District in welcoming and honoring our State President, Joseph C Cooper, and his wife Allie, along with Vice President At Large Russell Smith, and wife Denise.

The President's party will arrive at the Holiday Inn Orlando SW at 5:00pm on Friday June 16th. Join your fellow Elks at the front of the hotel to welcome them. We are encouraged to wear **RED** on Friday in support of our nation's military service members.

We will be departing from the hotel for Kissimmee Elks Lodge #1873, 1655 Kings Highway, Kissimmee, FL 34744 shortly after the Presidents Party arrives. Enjoy your choice of dinner options from the lodges Friday Night Dinner Menu. Dress for the evening is casual. Return to the hotel will be at the Presidents discretion. The hospitality suite will open upon arrival at the hotel.

On Saturday, June 17th, the President and VPAL will depart the hotel to go to the Military Museum for a guided tour at 10am. All are invited and lunch will follow. There will be some free time afterwards so those who would like to visit Old TOWN and their shops can do so on their own as it is across the street from the hotel. We will depart the hotel for the Kissimmee Lodge at 4:45pm. Dress for the night is business casual, no shorts please. Kissimmee Officers will be wearing their Red Jackets. Dinner will be your choice of 6oz. filet or fresh grilled salmon, potato souffle, fresh vegetable and dessert for the price of \$12.50. The hospitality suite will be open upon return to the hotel for the guests of the State President, please call 407-847-2444, or email plattetta@aol.com to let Jeannie know your preference for dinner.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The Holiday Inn is located at 5711 W. Irlo Bronson Highway (192), Kissimmee FL 34736, and is the official hotel for the weekend. The special rate is \$99.00 per night with a \$10.00 Resort Fee and 13.5% sales tax per room, per night. To make reservations call 1-800-672-9601 and ask for the Kissimmee Elks group rate. If you are interested in breakfast, they have breakfast for \$11.00 per person. Let the front desk know at check-in and it will be added to your account. Breakfast tickets will be supplied by the front desk.

NOTE: To receive the discounted rate, reservations need to be made before 5:00pm EST May 23, 2023.

Fraternally,
Etta J (Jeannie) Platt PER
Endorsed Vice President, Central District.



9 Veterans from the Orlando VA Healthcare System Adaptive Sports program bring home 17 medals and 4 ribbons from the 2023 Golden Age Games

Nine veteran athletes from the [Orlando VA Health Care System \(OVAHCS\)](#) adaptive sports program recently traveled to Des Moines, IA to compete at the [National Veterans Golden Age Games](#)

Veterans came from across the country traveling from all 50 states and 2 territories. Nearly 600 Veterans aged 55 and over gathered in Des Moines, Iowa to participate in the 37th National Veterans Golden Age Games from May 20th-May 25th. There were over 19 sporting events and 3 exhibition sports which included kickball, virtual reality air rifle, and dominoes. "Orlando Warrior Team", the team's name coined by one of OVAHCS returning Veterans, was comprised of six novice Veterans and three returning Veterans.

Orlando Warrior Team impressed many participants by collectively bringing home 17 medals and 4 ribbons. But for the Veterans, the games meant more than prizes.

Orlando Warrior Team Veteran Tim Bates explained "I don't see winning as the most important thing" with teammate Nelson Gonzalez adding "I embraced the opportunity to meet and engage with my teammates and coaches. I meet a lot of great people competing in these games; some I renew friendships with from last year, others were new faces."

Previously Gonzalez shared that he feels he is doing something healthy for his mind and his body. Teammate Robert Lee explained, "I have friends for life. Not only from Team Orlando but from Georgia, Texas, California, North and South Carolina, New Mexico, Indiana, etc. I feel as though I became part of a lifetime fraternity."

Orlando Warrior Team stats include the following:

- Returning Navy Veteran, Tim Bates - received a gold medal in bowling, silver medal in golf, and 5th place in Field Discus.
 - Army athlete, Myrta DeJesus - received the bronze medal in air rifle.
 - Returning Air Force Veteran, Robert Gawel - received gold medals in 25m backstroke and Boccia Ball Doubles, silver medal in 25m breaststroke and 50m backstroke, bronze medal in field discus and 25m freestyle swim, and 4th place ribbon in field shotput.
 - Army/ Navy athlete, Tony Johnson - received a silver medal in bowling and bronze medal in table tennis.
 - Army athlete, Bernard Jones - received a 5th place ribbon in Basketball Free Throw.
 - Army Veteran athlete, Nelson Gonzalez - received bronze medals in both Pickleball Men's Doubles and Pickleball Mixed Doubles.
 - Army athlete, Joseph Hickey - who received a 5th place ribbon in Golf.
 - Army Athlete, Dan Kalagian - received a bronze medal in Pickleball Men's Doubles and in Power Walking, beating his personal best time.
- Marine athlete, Robert Lee - received a silver medal as part of the Blue Dragons 3 on 3 Basketball Team and bronze medal in Pickleball Men's Doubles.

In addition to the medals and ribbons mentioned above, the Veteran athletes competed in many other sporting events throughout the week.

Lee beautifully expressed his experience with the Orlando Adaptive Sports Program and at the Games.

"Being in the Adaptive Sports program has given me new hope in life. I feel like I am a part of a family of like-minded individuals who are doing life together whenever and wherever we can." He goes on to say that "I had pretty much given up on the camaraderie that I once experienced during my entire military career. I am so honored and glad to be able to connect with other Veterans and those who support Veterans from Orlando and all around the Nation."

OVAHCS Veteran athletes are currently participating in the National Veterans Golden Age Games AT Home competition which runs from June 1st – June 31st, 2023.

Each year, the National Veterans Golden Age Games offers sports competitions and health education sessions for Veterans 55 years and older to assist senior Veterans live an active and healthy lifestyle. For more information about the 37th National Veterans Golden Age Games, please visit: [National Veterans Golden Age Games](#)



Antler's Booster Club

June 30 2024

J Wayne Wrightstone (IMO) Melvin Constant

June 30 2024

J Wayne Wrightstone (IMO) Wayne Farmer

June 30 2025

Addison & Sandy Walker (IMO) Heather Bock

August 31, 2028

John & Carol Hamilton (IMO) Paul & Louise Daniels

August 31, 2023

Bob & Marianne Tithof (IMO) Phyllis Jean Kirchner

October 31, 2023

Bob & Fran Barry (IMO) Wayne Sorrell

October 31, 2023

Randy Musser PDDGER (IMO) Jesse and Ina Musser

December 31, 2025

Addison Walker (IMO) Eric Bock

January 31, 2024

Robert & Karen Slater (IMO) Eric Slater

January 31, 2024

Jim & Jeannie Platt (IMO) Merle & Toby Mountz

February 28, 2028

Dot Johnston (IMO) Les Johnston

February 28, 2024

Jane Couture (IMO) Rene Couture Jr

March 31, 2024

Fred & Fran Hammer (IMO) Amanda Anderson

May 31, 2027

Lee Hershner (IMO) Ella Flynn



11 O'Clock Toast

"You have heard the tolling of 11 strokes. This is to impress upon you that with us the hour of 11 has a tender significance. Wherever an Elk may roam, whatever their lot in life may be, when this hour falls upon the dial of night, the great heart of Elkdom swells and throbs. It is the golden hour of recollection, the homecoming of those who wander, the mystic roll call of those who will come no more. Living or dead, an Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken. Morning and noon may pass them by, the light of day sink heedlessly in the West, but ere the shadows of midnight shall fall, the chimes of memory will be pealing forth the friendly message,

To our Absent Members

Please consider using this Antler Booster Page to assist our Lodge with a personal contribution or to eulogize or memorialize someone near and dear to you. For \$20 per year, your name can appear here to acknowledge that extra contribution.

Please contact the Lodge Secretary to make a \$20 Antlers Booster donation for yourself and/or also make a donation In Memory Of (IMO) a loved one or friend.

***Tax Disclaimer:** Kissimmee Elks Lodge #1873 is a not-for-profit organization 501(c)8.

Americanism



Learn about our military history for FREE !! Our lodge has a corporate membership for the **Museum of Military History**. You and your family are invited to visit anytime during the year. Please see our secretary Jeannie Platt for the pass and use it as often as you like. All we ask is that you return the pass so the next members have a chance to use it.

5210 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway in Kissimmee, 34746



Kissimmee Elks Lodge #1873

1655 Kings Highway
Kissimmee, FL 34744
Telephone: (407) 847-2444
OFFICE: (407) 785-1610
EMAIL: BPOE1873@gmail.com
Or on Facebook @
Kissimmee Elk's Lodge #1873
www.KissimmeeElksLodge.com



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CONTACT NUMBERS;
Bob Barry 407-414-1718
Jim Platt 717-580-5039
Jeannie Platt 717-580-1016
Steve Hebior 407-927-9301
Terry Hebior 407-927-9303
Chuck Lasabbe 407-709-0789
Joe Waskelis 727-560-5482
Marianne & Bob Tithof 303-704-3415
Office of the Secretary Hours
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 10AM—2 PM

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



LODGE MEETINGS

2nd and 4th TUESDAY
(except July, August & December)
OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 pm

Members are encouraged to attend!

Please submit all articles for publication by email to thebior.elk@gmail.com
Please include your contact information.

2023-2024
Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler	Chuck Lassabe
Leading Knight	Rick Theriault
Loyal Knight	Joe Waskelis
Lecturing Knight	Robert Husband
Lodge Secretary	Etta Jean Platt, PER
Lodge Treasurer	Steve Hebior
Esquire	Derek Bartolli
Tiler	Dennis Miller
Chaplain	Robert Hatchell
Inner Guard	RC Crotty

2023-2024
Board of Trustees

1-year Trustee	Brian Light
2-year Trustee	Mark Waskelis
3-year Trustee	Janice Kirsch
4-year Trustee	James Platt, PER
5-year Trustee	Frank Husband

Central District Sponsor
PSP Victor McClellan

Central District D.D.G.E.R.
PER Brian Estus—West Citrus

Central District V.P.
PER Anthony "Tony" Schiappa - Orlando

2022/2023
Central District Visitation Schedule

2022/2023
Central District DD Clinics
April 8, 2023 Zephyrhills

Past Exalted Ruler Association (PER)

President	Robert Barry PDDGER
Vice President	Etta Jean Platt, PER
Secretary/Treasurer	James Platt, PER

2023-2024
House Committee

Member	Eileen Barrett
Member	Linda Bartoli
Member	Terry Hebior, PER
Member	Steve Mazon
Member	Robbie Pinkston
Member	Karen Roper
Member	Judy Schmidt
Member	Vivian Theriault
Member	Joe Waskelis

Lodge Advisor	Robert Barry PDDGER
Lodge Attorney	Addison Walker, ESQ.