



Antler Bulletin

Orlando Lodge No. 1079 B.P.O.E.

A Fraternal Organization / Lodge Founded in 1907
The Faults of our Members We Write Upon the Sand
Their Virtues upon the Tablets of Love and Memory



March 2023

Volume 83/ Issue 2

Message from the Exalted Ruler



Dear Members,

As I am writing this, my last Antler column as your ER, it gives me pause to reflect on the high points and challenges of the past two years. There have been numerous accomplishments including bringing the Board and volunteers together to make the Lodge more attractive to members and private parties; the addition of more than 40 members and new and diverse members of the Board and Trustees; and the establishment of a maintenance reserve fund to provide for the future to name a few. Still, this morning I had a conversation with a highly regarded, long-term, active member who expressed concern about "the divide" among members. It inspired me to think more deeply about all of us. We like to dance and have fun and sing karaoke. We like to sit at the bar and try not to talk politics or Lodge business. We celebrate our lost Elks with the Eleven O'clock Toast. We feel good when we raise money for our charities and cheer on those who help others in distress. We like to hang out together, plan trips, calm the drama and solve problems. We miss people when they are away. And why? Because 1079 is our family. It's where we go to share happy stories and where we go when we are blue.

There are bound to be differences about who might be the best Lodge leaders and how things should be handled. The fact that there were several contests for officer/trustee positions is healthy and positive. When I became ER, there were no members willing to serve.

Sometimes, it's hard to know what to wish for – is it better to have a group divided around two or more candidates or issues, or is it better to have no interest in leading the organization? Well, I'll take interest over apathy every time. I have confidence that the great majority of our members want only the best for our Lodge. Each of us has the capacity to be kind, to put aside differences and come together to assure a healthy future for Orlando Lodge 1079.

Most of all I have enjoyed meeting so many of you and

watching our Lodge become a warm and welcoming place. It has been my distinct privilege to serve as your Exalted Ruler. Thank you for the opportunity.

Best regards,

Donna Hoffman

Exalted Ruler

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Many thanks to Coast Guardsman A.J. Batiste of Flotilla 1711 for his recent donation of chairs for use in the Tea-Room as well as a number of kitchenware items. We greatly appreciate his generosity and look forward to seeing him at the Lodge as he will soon become a member.

2023/24 ELECTIONS

Exalted Ruler	Jody Richards
Esteemed Leading Knight	Rob Dewitz
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Jossie Havens
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Pom Moongauklang
Secretary Diane	Politi
Treasurer	Maria Morales
5-Year Trustee	Janice Moffit



DOES CORNER

Hello all, hello to March. I would like to give a BIG warm welcome to our two newest Members Andy Rustek, and Veronica (Ronnie) Mcburce. A huge thanks to Maria, Andy, Karen, Gloria, and Pat for baking those wonderful deserts for the One Heart Event on Valentine's Day! Great Job! As you always support when asked, you ladies are amazing! and for that we are Blessed and very thankful for your service as Does. Here's to our March Birthdays: Nancy Lowe March 12th Have a wonderful Birthday and Many blessings.

Just a reminder that your dues are due \$27.50 and to send them to Maria Morales your 2023 Treasurer/Secretary, 10130 Vickers Ridge Dr. Orlando Fl 32829. (914) 830- 9053 thank you.

Kim Casey

Drove #66 2023 President



March Does Birthdays
12 Lowe, Nancy



Chaplain's Corner

Spring is almost here, a time of renewal and regrowth for nature and for our lodge as well if we all do our part and volunteer.

What is the purpose of volunteering?

Being a volunteer has lots of benefits. It can bring meaning and purpose to your life, while increasing your self-esteem and wellbeing. Volunteering can also relieve stress and alleviate symptoms of depression. As well as having a positive impact on your community, volunteering can improve your relationships. Contact any of your lodge officers to find out how to volunteer your time and talents to your lodge! Make this Spring season a time of renewal in your own life as well.

SPRING CELTIC BLESSING

May you lean on the strength of the oak tree, and drink in the beauty of each new day. May the spring waters refresh and heal you. As the Trinity enfolds you.

Thank you to our active duty and veteran military members and first responders .

God bless the USA!

Pam Odom,
Chaplain



LODGE OF SORROW



Molly Royston

April 22, 1939 - January 11, 2023

Mollie K. Royston, age 83, of Casselberry, FL, passed away on January 11, 2023. Mollie was born in Millwood, Virginia, on April 22, 1939. She married Frank Royston on June 10, 1956. Mollie worked in Banking for Wells Fargo. She had a passion for family, for reading, for the beach, and for karaoke. A Celebration of Life service for Mollie Royston WAS held on Monday, January 16th at Woodlawn Memorial in Gotha, FL.



Thomas "Tom" Lucas

December 21, 1937 – February 1, 2023

Thomas Joseph Lucas, Sr. passed away on February 1, 2023, in Orlando, Florida. He was preceded in death by his parents, Stephen and Elizabeth Lucas (née Ruffner), his brothers James, Lawrence, Daniel, and William, his stepson Scott, and two grandchildren. He is survived by his siblings Steven, David, Philip and Mary, his children Thomas Jr., John, Elena, Richard, Christopher, Joseph and William, his stepson Todd, and 19 grandchildren.

Thomas was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on December 21, 1937.

Services were held on Monday, February 20 at Christ the Savior Orthodox Cathedral located at 16601 NW 77 Court, Miami Lakes FL 33016.



George Erwin

June 5, 1943 – February 5, 2023

George L. Erwin, 79, of Ocoee, Florida passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 5, 2023, at Orlando Health at Health Central, with his beloved partner Carole by his side.

George was born in Durham, North Carolina on June 5, 1943, to the late John & Anne (Cobb) Erwin. He was past Exalted Ruler of our Lodge.

Services were held on Thursday, February 16th, 2023, 10:00am at First Baptist of Orlando at 3000 S. John Young Parkway, Orlando, FL 32805.

DAVID DUB-YAH'S JUKEBOX LIVE

(Well, mostly live)



On Friday March 3rd, I will be performing my 100th Jukebox show. Please join us in the pub about 5:30 or so for dance and listening to music as I once again sing for Tips and to celebrate living; God is good! My end time is when the lodge closes at nine, but I will go longer if the bar is making money so drink up!

The lodge will no longer provide food for sale on my show nights, but Amy and two other dear friends feel compelled to bring in snacks to bribe you into coming. You may also bring your dinner or order in but if you're not hungry there *IS* plenty of drink available at the bar.

Placards on the tables and bar list some of my songs and all are different. I will also have my song books available containing around 1500 titles from country to disco for your perusal so *you can pick* song selections from your past to hear *me sing*.

David Wiggs



Monday Morning Boys (MMB)



The Monday Morning Boys are looking forward? to the grass growing again... Yes, we do enjoy the outside work. Prior to the lawn cutting we will need all hands-on deck to do the raking of leaves...Want to help? No talent needed!!

In the last several weeks the secretary's office has been painted thanks to a couple of the MMB gang. The lot has been kept in tip shop shape; we always pick up a few large buckets of trash each morning.... and of course, always fixing a leak, doing minor electrical, setting up bingo, fixing chairs and the list goes on and on...

Schim

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

MARCH 12, 2023 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME !!!

MARCH 20TH FIRST DAY OF SPRING !!!

Congratulations to our new ELKS Lodge 1079 officers for 2023. The installation will be on Sunday March 26th. All are welcome!

Saturday March 4th - MARDI GRAS dinner dance with Michael Kohn \$22. A \$25 prize each, for best dressed Gentleman and Lady. Show off your majestic crown and beautiful cape sashaying around our dance floor. **MENU:** Gumbo with a side choice of Jambalaya OR Shrimp Etouffee and a slice of King Cake. **Who will get the Baby?**

Saturday March 4th - Bar Bingo - please bring a snack/potluck to share. The crowd is becoming bigger and bigger with much humor and laughter.

Saturday March 4th and 18th - Line Dance classes for a small fee of \$5. In the Ballroom 10 - 11:30 am.

Friday March 17th - St. Patrick's Day Pub dance with Art Porello - please bring a covered dish - FREE admission - Donations accepted.

Wednesday, March 29th - WACKY WEDNESDAY in the Pub. Bring a snack/potluck to share. Guaranteed to make you laugh!

May God Bless our 2023 officers with their courageous leadership, brotherly love, and keep our Lodge in his arms.

Visit orlandoelks.com for further information as events have Reservation deadlines and are subject to changes.

Jossie Havens

Volunteer #1079



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Elk of the Month

March 2023

ROB DEWITZ

Elk of the Month. Rob Dewitz. Rob joined our Lodge just a few years ago. His wife, Millie, first a Doe, joined more recently. He joined ELKS Lodge 2235 in Carteret, NJ in 1976. Rob has a strong interest in music so it was a natural for him to provide karaoke entertainment which he does both as a contractor and as a volunteer. Rob served as Chaplain and then became a Trustee. He always helps set up the Lodge room, gets the mikes ready and pitches in where needed. He is part of our IT team and recently relocated the TV in the pub so people would have a better view, first encouraged by Rich Margeson. Rob donated and configured the informational member relations TV in the pub. He is a member of the Lodge Activities Committee and makes continuous updates to promote Lodge and Elks values, happenings and coming events. Thank you, Rob, for all you. We appreciate your countless efforts.

ELK OF THE MONTH 2023

January	Visually Impaired Veterans Holiday Luncheon Volunteers
February	Our Elk Bartenders
March	Rob Dewitz

March 4th & 18th

Orlando Elk's: 12 N. Primrose
9:00am - 2:00pm

AD VINTAGE FAIR

& FLEA MARKET 1st Saturdays
Vendors \$20, Tables \$5 for rent
Call 407-309-3548, Text 407-864-7490

ANTIQUES

RePurposed

crafts & Furniture

ARTS

FUNKY JUNK

CLOTHES & SHOES

Burgers, Treats & More

Elk's March Birthdays

01 Lemerond, Lauerance F	12 Bronson, Jody
02 Lange, Torben	12 Zak, Joseph
03 Lawton, Gailann	18 Acks, Gabriele
03 Schilling, Henry A	20 Flowers, Joshula
04 Micare, Dennis P	22 Blazeovic, Ivan
05 Denton, Carol F	22 D'Alessandro, Nicole
09 Braun, Richard C	24 Gibolde, Alexander
09 Lightner, Shelly D	25 Milford, Steven C
09 Prevatt, John Douglas	29 Particini, Valentine
10 Mahr, J C	31 Gonzalez, Benjamin
11 Motes, Maria	



Birthday Drink Coupon

Any current Elk or Does Member may present this coupon at the bar and receive a free well drink, domestic beer or glass of house wine anytime during your birthday month compliments of Lodge 1079.

Member's Name _____

Birth Month & Day _____

Elk or Does Card Number _____

BECOME A BOOSTER!!

WE LOVE OUR BOOSTERS!

TO: ANTLER BULLETIN BOOSTER CLUB

AMOUNT: _____

Name: _____

\$20 per year, effective Jan. 2013 per name or couple's names. Make check payable to Orlando Elks Lodge 1079. Please drop check or cash in Secretary's Office (or door slot if closed)

ANTLER BOOSTERS

If you would like to make a donation in honor or memory of someone, please send a check to the Secretary at Elks Lodge 1079 for \$10 or more. Names will be published in the *Antler* in accordance with your wishes.

☐ I have enclosed a check. Please Make Check Payable To:
Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614-2256

Please charge my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Account # _____

Your Signature _____ Expiration Date _____

ANNUAL DRUG AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST – WINNERS ANNOUNCED

On February 7, 2023, Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 conducted its 2022-2023 Drug Awareness Poster Contest Award Ceremony at Waterford Elementary. Elks National Drug Awareness Program is the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the United State. This year's theme is "One Pill can Kill!" As Chair and Trustee of the Orlando Elks Lodge 1079, I coordinated the Art Contest with students at Waterford Elementary School from 3rd through 5th grade. This gave me the opportunity to educate them about the dangers of substance abuse. This was done with and the assistance of the Art Teacher, Donna Lindsay. This year, the Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 provided Trophies, Medals, cash prizes, certificates and snacks after the event.

The three young winners really thought about their message and artwork. Our first place winner, Isabella Mata displayed how drugs can be a negative impact in her life and if she lived without drugs, she can have a brighter future in music, sports, awards, graduation and even a happy home. I spoke to second place winner, Charlotte Overstreet and asked her "What inspired you do come up with this design?" She said "She had a family friend who died of an overdose." I can see the beautiful colors she gave her large pills on her drawing and ironically pills in society are taking many shapes and color to look pretty or alluring. Unfortunately, it may look pretty but pills can be deadly if not used properly or purchased from the streets. Finally, young Mirianadrea Sangronis moved here from Venezuela a few months ago and barely speaks English. She understood the contest rules and wanted to make a picture of a young girl making the right decision, despite peer pressure or bad influence. She



*Front Row: Isabella Mata (1st Place), Charlotte Overstreet (2nd Place) Marianadrea Sangronis (3rd Place)
Back Row: Principal Danielle Arblaez-Willis, Victor Barrios (Trustee), Master Deputy Carmen Rivera (Orange County Sheriff Office), Tony Schiappa (Vice President, Central District), Jossie Haven (Lecturing Knight), Donna Lindsey (Art Teacher) and Jody Richards (Trustee)*

said "Being cool, means being drug free." We received many entrees and provided trophies to the top ten and gave medallions to all the other participants.

I am thankful to Principal Danielle Arbelaez-Willis who supports the Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 and the Annual Drug Awareness Poster Contest. The participant's artwork was displayed at the school. This way the other children can read/see then learn from the message through Art.

Respectfully,

Carmen Rivera
Chair/Trustee

CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

Rob and Millie routinely spend their time volunteering at the Christian Service Center, providing lunches to the homeless. Learning that the CSC was struggling to keep up with overhead costs to run the center, Rob appealed to the Orlando Elks 1079 Board of Directors for a donation.

On February 14, 2023, Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 donated \$1,000 to the Christian Service Center.



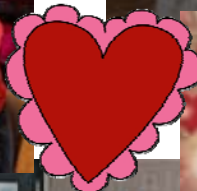
Rob and Millie Dewitz presenting the check to Eric Gray, Managing Director.

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE & FUNDASER

On February 14, Orlando Elk Lodge 1079 help a Valentine's Day Dinner, Dance and Fundraiser, a joint venture between us and One Heart for Women & Children. Planned and executed with the help of the PER's and the Activities Committee, the event morphed from a potluck dinner in the Pub to a full-blown steak, chicken, or vegetarian dinner in the Ballroom. "If we want to make money for our lodge and improve our financial health, we have to think BIG", said PER Mike McClay. At a November Activities committee meeting, Donna Hoffman, Exalted Ruler, said, "We need to make this a fundraiser for us and a local charity. What better alignment for Valentine's Day than "One Heart". Event chairman, Diane Politi, took that to heart....no pun intended. Working with Stephanie Bowman, One Heart for Women & Children President & Founder, and Barbara Kenney, a community leader and board member for One Heart, we were able to pull together resources to create a very memorable event for our members and the community.

One Heart donated a silent auction of nearly 40 items; AARP contributed long-stem roses for the ladies; Kathy Lewis, Violinist, greeted guests with her beautiful violin music; Carl Motes photographed all who wanted pictures. The PER's planned the meal, shopped for groceries, took a food handlers class from Pom Moongauklang, and cooked our meal.

We raised almost \$5,000 for ourselves and One Heart for Women & Children.



ORLANDO LODGE #1079 SUPPORTS LOCAL FAMILY

On February 4, 2023, the Orlando Elks Lodge 1079, provided a Charitable Donation Check to: Salome Piedrahita for \$500 for Family Financial Assistance.

Salome is a 22-year-old Nursing Student from the University of Central Florida. She also works full-time and is the guardian for her diabetic 11-year-old twin siblings, Maria and Nicolas Delarosa.

This family has been hit tragically with the loss of both parents. The mother passed in 2015 and her stepfather passed away in April 2021. In November 2020, I invited the family to come to the Orlando Elks Lodge to pick up a fully cooked Thanksgiving Dinner. Shortly after, the father died and the aunt from New York wanted to take the children, but Salome refused. With the help of her school advisors, she was able to obtain full custody of her siblings. Salome admits it has been difficult raising the children without her parents, but she is working hard to provide a happy home.

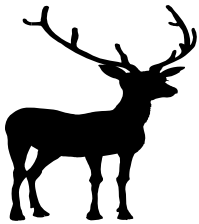
In October 2021, Maria Delarosa won third place in the Orlando Elks 1079, Drug Awareness Poster Contest. When she received the money she said "I am going to buy groceries with this money!" It almost broke my heart, and I told her to keep the money to buy something nice for

herself. I spoke to Salome and told her to have the children take home groceries after school from the Food Bank at Waterford Elementary School. The Orlando Elks Bingo volunteers and players donate food and school supplies that go directly to several schools in our community, including Waterford Elementary.

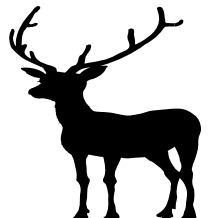
In the summer of 2022, Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 sponsored both Nicholas and Maria and they attended Elks Children's Camp. Salome said, "It was a great opportunity for the children to be outdoors, meet new friends, and get out of their small apartment." She hopes that the children will be able to attend this summer. Our lodge will definitely sponsor this family again.

All in all, Salome doesn't have a family here in Orlando, but she has us. Orlando Elks Lodge 1079 is proud and honored to help this young family by applying our principles of charity, brotherly love, and fidelity. Keep this family in your prayers and thank you all because it really does take a village to raise a child.

Carmen Rivera, Trustee
Orlando Elks Lodge 1079



Pictured: Nicolas Delarosa, Salome Piedrahita, Donna Hoffman, ER,
Maria Delarosa



LODGE OFFICERS – 2022-2023

Exalted Ruler
Esteemed Leading Knight
Esteemed Loyal Knight
Esteemed Lecturing Knight
Secretary
Treasurer
Esquire
Chaplain
Inner Guard
Tiler
Trustee (1 Yr)
Trustee (2 Yr)
Trustee (3 Yr)
Trustee (4 Yr)
Trustee (5 Yr)
Presiding Justice
Mediator
Organist

Donna Hoffman
Larry Lockwood
Jossie Havens
Pom Pom Moonguaklang
Diane Politi
Christina Atkinson
Roger Bristol
Pam Odom
Sarita Schuck
Georgia Duffy
Jody Richards
Richard Ballerino
Victor Berrios
Carmen Rivera
Rob Dewitz
Carl Motes
Steven Michael
Vacant

PAST EXALTED RULER ASSOCIATION

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Tony Schiappa
Jody Richards
Bill Woolgar
Roger Bristol
Ralph Bemos
Mike McClay
Dale Schmitt

Drove #66 Does

Kim Casey
Maria Morales
Diane Politi
Gloria Krasovec
Beth Ankney
Betty Garcia
Helen Lippert
Sue Lebruno

President
Treasurer/Secretary
First Counselor
Senior Counselor
Junior Counselor
Chaplin
Inner Guard
Flag Bearer

LODGE ADVISOR: Roger Bristol

SAFETY OFFICER: Rob Dewitz

MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Pom Pom Moonguaklang (Chairman), Linda Rossel, Amy Story,
Diane Politi (Antler Editor), Jeannette Dixon (Webmaster, News Flash),
Trudy Harold (Social Media), Rob Dewitz (Pub TV)

LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

(Includes the former Activities, Decorating, and Band committees)
Diane Callen, Rob Dewitz, Aubie Dingwell, Trudy Harold, Jossie Havens,
Cheryl Melvin, Pam Odom, Jody Richards, Denise Russell,
Amy Story, Diane Politi

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Pam Odom, Larry Lockwood, Amy Story

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Robert Schimmelpennig (Chairman), Richard Hochreiter

EVENT COORDINATOR

Carmen Rivera

AUDITING & ACCOUNTING COMMITTEE

Ralph Bemos (Chairman), Maria Morales

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dale Schmitt (Chairman), Rigo Rodriguez, Terry Schlichenmaier

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

Bill & Donna Hoffman

VETERANS OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Diane Politi (Chair), Mike McClay, Pat Davies,
Lisa Leighty and Christine Atkinson

FRATERNAL COMMITTEE

Larry Lockwood (Chairman)

ENF FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Donna Hoffman

BURGERS 'N MORE TEAM SCHEDULE			
	TEAM		
DATE	COLOR	TEAM MEMBERS	
March			
3/4/2023	Gold	Larry Lockwood, Phil Finlay, Bob Finlay	
3/18/2023	Purple	Richard Ballerino, Richard Hochreiter.	
April			
4/1/2023	Blue	Dave & Karen Staub, Jody Richards	
4/15/2023	Red	Roger Bristol, Pat Davies, Bob Doane	
May			
5/6/2023	White	Jossie Havens, Rob DeWitz, Trudy Harold	
5/20/2023	Gold	Larry Lockwood, Phil Finlay, Bob Finlay	
June			
6/3/2023	Purple	Richard Ballerino, Richard Hochreiter.	
6/17/2023	Blue	Dave & Karen Staub, Jody Richards	

All teams are placed on a rotating basis. Team Captains are responsible for obtaining coverage if they have a scheduling conflict. Please contact Larry Lockwood with any questions or concerns. Cell 321-436-6128 FOP93@yahoo.com



MEETINGS

Lodge: Wednesday, 2nd & 4th week - 7:00 pm
Board of Directors: Wednesday, 1st & 3rd week - 6:30 pm
DOES: Monday, 1st & 3rd week - 1:00 pm
PERs: Wednesday, 2nd week - 6:00 pm

PHONE NUMBERS

Secretary's Office 407 894-5781
Treasurer 407 203-6853
Pub and Dining Room 407 894-1079
Fax 407 894-8205
Email: info@orlandoelks.com / Web Site: www.orlandoelks.com

Secretary's Office Hours:
Open 12:00 noon - 5:00 pm Mon.-Fri.
Closed Sat. & Sun.

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