



The Antlers



April 2026



Message To The Members From Richard Theriault, Exalted Ruler



Dear Elks Members,

As we begin a new Elks year, I want to express my gratitude for your continued dedication and commitment to our lodge and community. Each year brings fresh opportunities to strengthen our bonds, serve others, and uphold the values that make our organization so special. Stop by the lodge to see your fellow members and check on upcoming events.

We may briefly celebrate our accomplishments of the past year. Then we must look forward to completing current projects and turning the page to new projects to better improve our lodge and create sustainability.

One of the projects we would like to complete soon is painting the exterior of both the main building and the annex. We have the paint and some experienced volunteers to paint but will need lots of help with the final prep of the building.

Continued on next page...

April Birthdays

- 04 /01 Kimbrey Grant
- 04 /02 Cindy Andrews
- 04 /03 Mark Kalapp
- 04/04 Robert Arredondo
- 04 /04 Paulette Swanson
- 04/05 Ethan DeLong
- 04 /06 Robert Boro
- 04 /07 Eric Chambers
- 04 /07 Katherine Ginkel
- 04 /10 Dorothy Gonzalez
- 04 /10 Nicholas Schlamb
- 04 /15 John Hauer
- 04 /18 Carol Hamilton
- 04 /18 Brooke Rodriguez
- 04/21 Catherine Pantalone
- 04 /22 Mimi Freeman
- 04 /22 Patricia Harker
- 04 /23 Derek Bartoli
- 04 /26 Robert Tithof
- 04/27 Kimberly Ireland
- 04 /27 Billie Jackson
- 04 /27 Bert Laffee
- 04 /30 Thomas Hanneken

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
Good for April '25*





**Message To The Members From
Rick Theriault, Exalted Ruler**

Cont...

A workday for April will be announced soon. Please come and join us. There will be a pleasant surprise at job completion.

Let us embrace the challenges and possibilities ahead with enthusiasm and unity. Together, we can make a positive impact and ensure this year is memorable for every member. Thank you for all you do, and here's to a successful and rewarding Elk's year!

Fraternally yours, Rick



THE ANTLERS



PAY YOUR DUES TO RECEIVE YOUR NEW CARD

Use Your New Card Starting April 1st



**2026/2027 DUES MUST BE PAID
BEFORE APRIL 1ST
TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE LODGE**



THE ANTLERS



Thank You for All You Do!



Dennis has recently taken on the task of mowing our grounds and is doing a great job! He has been around the lodge at our recent workdays this winter.

Thanks, Dennis, for all you do.

A warm welcome to our new Elk!



Kim Ireland



April 2026



Lodge Closed on Sundays, Thursdays and Saturdays
Except when noted

Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6PM 	2	3  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	4  1 pm
5 EASTER SUNDAY	6  6pm	7 Activity Committee Meeting 6pm	8 6PM 	9 Private Event	10  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	11 DD clinic in Zephyrhills
12	13  6pm	14 BOD Mtg. 6pm Lodge Mtg. 7pm \$1 Hot Dogs after mtg.	15 6PM 	16	17  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	18
19 Private Event	20  6pm	21 BINGO WITH VETS 2-3PM 	22 6PM 	23	24  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	25
26	27  6pm	28 Orientation/ Lodge Mtg. 7pm 1 Hot Dogs after mtg.	29 6PM 	30	<p>Lodge Hours Open Hours Bar - 4pm Kitchen Monday/Tuesdays 5:00pm - 6:30pm Wednesday 5pm-7pm Friday 5pm-8pm Bingo - 6pm *Closed during Lodge Meetings</p>	



April At-a-Grance

Celebrate Easter



Sunday, April 5th

Wednesday,



April 22nd

HAPPY EARTHDAY

Friday, April 24th



NATIONAL ARBOR DAY



THE ANTLERS

2026-2027



Congratulations to our New Elected Officers

Exalted Ruler – Richard Theriault
Leading Knight – Robert Husband
Loyal Knight – Joe Waskelis
Lecturing Knight – Steve Hebior
Esquire – Steve Campbell
Lodge Secretary Etta Jean Platt, PER
Lodge Treasurer Dawn Heid
Inner Guard – Betty Lambert
Tiler – Dennis Miller
1-year Trustee Mark Waskelis
2-year Trustee Frank Husband
3-year Trustee Blake Freeman
4-year Trustee Ken Edwards
5-year Trustee Chuck Lassabe



THE ANTLERS

04

Saturday
April 2026
1:00PM

Installation followed by buffet of baked ziti and breadsticks
\$10 to be paid at door

ELKS

Celebrate New Leaders

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



Community • Friendship • Charity

elks.org



Community Service

CHARITABLE SERVICE

The Order prioritizes charity in its broadest sense, allowing local lodges to choose their benevolent activities while also responding swiftly to national disasters. Their charitable efforts include food, shelter, medical aid, education, and support for children, veterans, and the underprivileged. State Elks Associations lead initiatives such as scholarships, medical clinics, and rehabilitation programs.



What can I do today to keep our local mission going?

Highlights from Elk Year 2025

- *Grant to McCormick Research Center, Veterans PTS therapies
- *Grant to animal shelter
- *Public Safety Awards Banquet
- *VA Bingo
- *Give Kids the World
- *Meals on Wheels
- *Barktoberfest
- *Fundraising & Membership Drive featuring Neil Diamond tribute artist

Let's all look for ways to make 2026 our best Elk year ever!



THE ANTLERS

The 11 O'clock Toast to Our Absent Members

"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.

ANTLER'S BOOSTER CLUB

MARCH 31, 2027

FRED & FRAN HAMMER (IMO) AMANDA
ANDERSON

MAY 31, 2027

LEE HERSHNER (IMO) ELLA FLYNN

AUGUST 31, 2028

JOHN & CAROL HAMILTON (IMO) PAUL &
LOUISE DANIELS

JANUARY 31, 2027

JIM & JEANNIE PLATT (IMO) MERLE & TOBY
MOUNTZ

FEBRUARY 28, 2028

DOT JOHNSTON (IMO) LES JOHNSTON

APRIL 1, 2027

PAT DEVILLERS (IMO) GEORGE DEVILLERS

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.**



THE ANTLERS



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WWW.KISSIMMEEELKSLODGE.COM



**2026-2027
LODGE OFFICERS**

EXALTED RULER	RICK THERIAULT
LEADING KNIGHT	ROBERT HUSBAND
LOYAL KNIGHT	JOE WASKELIS
LECTURING KNIGHT	STEVE HEBIOR
LODGE SECRETARY	ETTA JEAN PLATT, PER
LODGE TREASURER	DAWN HEID
ESQUIRE	STEVE CAMPBELL
TILER	DENNIS MILLER
CHAPLAIN	ROBERT HATCHELL
INNER GUARD	BETTY LAMBERT

**2025-2026
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- 1-YEAR TRUSTEE MARK WASKELIS
- 2-YEAR TRUSTEE FRANK HUSBAND
- 3-YEAR TRUSTEE BLAKE FREEMAN
- 4-YEAR TRUSTEE KEN EDWARDS
- 5-YEAR TRUSTEE CHUCK LASSABE

LODGE MEETINGS

2ND AND 4TH TUESDAY
(EXCEPT JULY, AUGUST & DECEMBER)
OF EACH MONTH @ 7:00PM
MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND

CONTACT NUMBERS

RICK THERIAULT	407-414-4482
JIM PLATT	717-580-5039
JEANNIE PLATT	717-580-1016
STEVE HEBIOR	407-927-9301
JOE WASKELIS	727-560-5482
VIVIAN THERIAULT	407-595-6730
BOB BARRY	407-414-1718

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY HOURS
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 10AM-2 PM

**PAST EXALTED RULER
ASSOCIATION (PER)**

PRESIDENT	ROBERT BARRY PDDGER
VICE PRESIDENT	ETTA JEAN PLATT, PER
SECRETARY/TREASURER	JAMES PLATT, PER

**2025-2026
TEAMS/LEADS**

KITCHEN	STEVE HEBIOR
RENTALS	VIVIAN THERIAULT
NEWSLETTER	BILLIE JACKSON
ACTIVITIES	PAULINE HUSBAND

LODGE ADVISOR	ROBERT BARRY PDDGER
LODGE ATTORNEY	TBD

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES FOR
PUBLICATION BY EMAIL TO
BILLIE.ELKSLODGE@GMAIL.COM
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CONTACT
INFORMATION

