

ARCADIA ELKS LODGE 1524

DECEMBER 2023

LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY – WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20

The lodge Christmas Party is at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 20th. Bring your favorite “carry-in” food item and wear holiday themed attire for the “Ugly Sweater” contest!



DECEMBER EVENTS

- 1st-2nd – State President’s Visitation
- 3rd –Elks Memorial Service
- 5th – Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM
- 9th – HOOP SHOOT (West Elementary School Gym)
- 19th – Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM
- 20th – Lodge Christmas Party
- 23rd – Lodge Closed
- 25th – CHRISTMAS DAY (Lodge closed)

LODGE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY –TUESDAY-THURSDAY
SOCIAL QUARTERS CLOSED

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY-
FRIDAY-SATURDAY
Open 2:00 pm

TUESDAY-Closed (except for
Lodge Meetings)

1st & 3rd TUESDAY
7:00 pm Lodge Meeting

MONDAY

Hunting Season/Burgers 6:00

TUESDAY

Lodge Meeting 7:00
1st & 3rd Tuesdays

WEDNESDAY

Bar Games 6:00; Wings 6:00

THURSDAY

Closed

FRIDAY

Steak & Seafood 6:00
Karaoke 7:00
Queen of Hearts 7:00

SATURDAY

Bar Games/Hot Dogs 2:00

1028 West Oak Street, Arcadia FL 34266 *863-993-0011*

www.ElksArcadia1524.com

LODGE LEADERSHIP

EXALTED RULER	Troy Hughes PER
LEADING KNIGHT	Joey Santos
LOYAL KNIGHT	Sandy Mansfield
LECTURING KNIGHT	Kelli Jo Santos
SECRETARY	Jackie Hughes VP-SWC District
TREASURER	Nancy Higginbotham PDDGER
TILER	Bill May
CHAPLAIN	Marilyn May
ESQUIRE	Robert Vaughn PER
INNER GUARD	George Rigney
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TRUSTEE	Mary Kay Burns
TRUSTEE	Sam McLeod
TRUSTEE	Ricky Mercer PER



Lodge Advisor Nancy Higginbotham PDDGER
District Leader Brian Burns PSP

HOUSE COMMITTEE & BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Fellow Elks,

On behalf of myself and the House Committee I would like to thank our volunteers’ members who are assisting everyday with cooking, organizing events, and making the Arcadia Elks a great place for fellowship. We still would love to see more members join the House Committee for new ideas and suggestions going forward in the upcoming New Year.

The renovations to our building are coming along slowly but surely. The exterior of the building is the last phase of the process. The porch on the screened in porch and the lean to on the north side of the building are the last of the major projects. I think we can all agree the building looks great.

A brief update on completed renovations:

- Stucco and Paint
- Split AC units in secretary and ritual room
- Exterior wood repair on men’s bathroom and header board around the entire building
- New window installed in ritual room

If anyone wants to help or assist in anyway, please reach out.

Fraternally,

Joey Santos, House Committee & Board of Directors Chairman

(863) 990-4318

Stay informed!

Regularly visit our lodge webpage

www.ElksArcadia1524.com

“Like” & follow our Facebook Page: Arcadia Elks No 1524 (@arcadiaelks)

Harry Anna Investment Fund

Of everything that the Florida Elks do, perhaps nothing is more important than our work with the state’s youth. Sowing the seeds of accomplishment and commitment through our **Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services** and **Florida Elks Youth Camp** programs, children are given the opportunity to grow and learn beyond their wildest imaginations.

The trust fund started in 1951, was named after Harry and Anna Miller who donated land and a building to establish the original Florida Elks Hospital for Crippled Children. Its purpose was, and continues to be, the collection of donations and the acceptance of endowed gifts. Donate at the Lodge or on-line.

The trust fund is restricted, which means that only the income derived from it may be used to support our major projects: the Florida Elks Children’s Therapy Services and Florida Elks Youth Camp programs. **To learn how you can support these great programs and become a sustaining monthly donor (any amount), go to www.floridaelks.org**



NEWS NOTES

FLORIDA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT VISITATION

State President Joe Cooper made his official visitation to the South West Central District on December 1st & 2nd. The visitation was at the Arcadia lodge because Jackie Hughes is District Vice President and hosted the event. Friday night was the district dinner attended by representatives of the SWC District lodges. The lodge was beautifully decorated and received many compliments from the attendees. On Saturday the state officials learned much about the Arcadia lodge, our local community, and participated in the Arcadia Christmas Parade with our Elks float unit. Jackie and the lodge leadership team planned and implemented a successful Elks weekend.



Greetings Florida Elks,

It is that time of year with the hustle and bustle of the holidays! For the Florida Elks in different parts of the state it is time to gear up for the Walgreens/Elks Community Gift Drop. This year the Elks, along with Walgreens will again help to make the holidays happy for children and families within our communities.

All volunteers are much appreciated and that is what helps to make this program a success!

Make your toy donation at Arcadia Walgreens. Toy collecting ends on December 17th.

NEWS NOTES

ELKS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Do you know a graduating senior who will benefit from a scholarship?

Legacy Scholarships are \$4,000 scholarships available to children or grandchildren (or step-child, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2021. Great-grandchildren are not eligible. The applicant must be a high school senior. The 2024 application process opens on November 13, 2023 and closes on February 5, 2024.



A promotional poster for Florida Elks Youth Camp Summer Camp 2024. The background is a gradient of blue and teal. At the top, it says "FLORIDA ELKS YOUTH CAMP" in white. Below that, "SUMMER CAMP 2024" is written in large, pink, bubbly letters. To the left of the text are three circular icons: a person rappelling, two people kayaking, and a group of people archery. To the right, a white box with a torn edge says "REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! SIGN UP TODAY!". Below the main text, it says "Join us!" followed by "7-Day Sessions - ages 9 through 13" and "14-Day Sessions - ages 12 & 13". A list of sessions follows: "7-Day Session 1: June 9 - June 15", "7-Day Session 2: June 16 - June 22", "7-Day Session 3: June 23 - June 29", "7-Day Session 4: June 30 - July 6", "7-Day Session 5: July 7 - July 13", "7-Day Session 6: July 14 - July 20", "7-Day Session 7: July 21 - July 27". Below that, "14-Day Session 1: June 16 - June 29", "14-Day Session 2: June 30 - July 13", and "14-Day Session 3: July 14 - July 27". At the bottom right, a white box with a torn edge says "Go to: www.feyc.org for more info & to register". At the bottom right corner, there is an illustration of a person swimming.

ARCADIA ELKS LODGE HOOP SHOOT CONTEST

The Arcadia Elks Lodge HOOP SHOOT will be held on Saturday, December 9th, 9:00 am, at the West Elementary School Gym. Volunteers are needed to assist Troy Hughes and Joey Santos.



LODGE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE “FREE STEAK DINNER” CONTEST

In the November newsletter members were offered the opportunity to win a free Friday night steak dinner by identifying the first Arcadia lodge location when chartered in 1926. Only one person responded (Chris Rogers); he identified the building on the corner of Oak Street and Monroe Avenue. It was an excellent answer since that was an early location of the lodge. But the initial meeting location was on Polk Avenue near the intersection of Cypress Street. No building is on that location now. Chris is awarded the free steak dinner for his good effort in the contest.

More information will be coming from the Lodge Centennial Committee in the months ahead.

ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICE

The annual Elks Memorial Service for members who passed away this year was held on Sunday, December 3rd at the lodge. It was well attended; a reception followed for family and lodge members attending.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Hall, Buster
- 03 Thrush, Sher
- 04 Summers, Russell
- 07 Dennison, Michael
- 10 Bates, W Steven
- 12 Hildebrand, Jessica
- 12 Hutchcraft, Carl
- 14 Ames, Alice
- 17 Carr, Melven J
- 18 Harrison, Charles W
- 18 Stark, Jace



NEWS NOTES



Greeting from the Florida Ladies of Elks

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. I am Pauline Talbott, the 2023/2024 FLOE President. My logo this year is a Lighthouse with the motto “Be a Guiding Light.”

I have been an active member of the Sebastian Elks Lodge #2714 and my local ladies’ organization for the past 6 years, attending my first FSEA State Convention in May 2020. It was there that I first heard about FLOE and attended my first FLOE meeting. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming I quickly became involved. Since attending my first FLOE meeting, I have attended every state meeting and National Convention since, which only increases my love of FLOE and the Elks. I have made some wonderful friendships that will last a lifetime.

This year we will continue the Angel Program Reverse Draw to support FECTS and will hold our 2nd Annual RV Rally May 31-June 2, 2024, to benefit FEYC. Please visit the “It’s All About FLOE’ section on the Florida State Elks Association website for more information on FLOE fundraising and events.

FLOE and the local ladies’ organizations put a lot of time and energy into various activities and events to raise money for local charities as well as to support the FSEA Major Projects With their hard work it is no wonder FLOE and the lodge ladies’ organizations have donated more than \$1.6 million to charity. The local ladies’ organization donations to the Harry-Anna Trust Fund and ENF help the lodges per capita. Promote the Ladies’ events for success and the lodge will succeed.

I want to remind everyone that FLOE membership consists of **EVERY** lady Elk, wife of an Elk, widow of an Elk, regardless of whether they are affiliated with a local ladies’ organization. There is no application and no dues. How active a lady becomes is totally at her discretion.

I encourage all ladies to come to a meeting held during every FSEA convention weekend. Join us at the midyear Ladies Activity and FLOE meeting, where we will be making Fall Holiday Wreaths. Join us for the 3rd Annual Ladies Weekend at the youth camp April 12-14, 20204. Relax, enjoy, and make new friends from lodges across the state. It promises to be a fun time.

Ladies, promote your events on the [FLOE Facebook page](#), so everyone can have the opportunity to support them.

Please check <https://floridaelks.org/floe> for more information relating to FLOE or email floeinformation@gmail.com with any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.