

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

MAGAZINE

HOLIDAY 2024

7 Christmas DIY Gifts!

Santa is coming.
We know him!

- 6 Students of the Month
- 5 Resolutions You Can Keep.
- 4 New Members
- 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat
- 2 Months 'Til Mardi Gras
- And Horace The Ornerly Elk!

Volume 116
Number 5

Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120

ISSN 2996-9646



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David Chamberlain
Editor-In-Chief

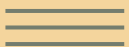
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Staff Writer



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From the Exalted Ruler

Curtis Welsh



Season's Greetings Elks! 'Tis the season for charity. I wrote this for last year's newsletter and thought it worth repeating as a reminder of what Elks are all about. "As Elks, the daily gifts we bestow increase our own riches. The help we extend to those in need is added to our own strength. The real benefactors of mankind count their store in what is given, not in what is saved. Charity is the cornerstone of every Elks' structure and the highest virtue of every Elks' creed. The joy and happiness you have given somebody else during the holiday season goes a long way toward proving 'Elks Care - Elks Share.'"

Our Lodge has had an eventful 2024 thus far in more ways than you might think. While we have had many successes with our fundraising events, we have also had our share of tragedy with the loss of several cherished members. We remember our departed Members on Elks Memorial Day (December 1) as they are enshrined on the Tablets of Memory and in our hearts forever. Living or dead, Elks are never forgotten, never forsaken.

Fruit Bowls for widows and widowers will be delivered on December 14.

The Ladies Auxiliary will also be hosting their annual "Lunch with Santa" on Decem-

ber 14 from 11:00 to 1:00. We had a tremendous turnout last year, and are expecting it to be even bigger this year. This event is free and open to the public for parents and children to come enjoy a holiday lunch, games and crafts, and meet Santa and Mrs. Claus for photos. Maybe the Grinch will make another appearance as well. We continue to show our Christmas spirit to brighten the holidays for families in need with baskets of food and toys on December 21. If you know a family in need, applications are available at the Lodge.

After all the presents have been unwrapped and New Year celebrations have wound down, there is no time to rest as we dive into Carnival season. The 65th Annual Elks Carnival Ball is on January 25. Tickets for "Red Carpet Royalty" will be available December 2 and will go fast. Please see Darla Holifield if you are interested in going. Congratulations to King Antlers LXV and Queen Doe LXV, and many thanks to Johnny Hays and Diane Waters as their reign comes to an end.

On behalf of the Lodge Officers, we wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

With Fidelity,
Curtis Welsh

J.D.W.



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A Letter From The Editor-In-Chief David Chamberlain

Since its establishment in 1908, the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 has served as an anchor of the Pascagoula community, embodying the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity through a wide array of philanthropic efforts, social initiatives, and events aimed at fostering unity and progress. Organizations such as ours are vital to the fabric of any community, helping to build strong connections, provide resources for those in need, and contribute to the improvement and development of the areas we serve.

In recent years, the revitalization of Pascagoula's downtown Flagship District has underscored the importance of community-driven initiatives. The area has transformed into a vibrant hub for commerce, culture, and celebration. This development is a confirmation of how communities thrive when organizations, local governments, and residents work together.

The Main Street Pascagoula New Year's Anchor Drop is a prime example of how collaboration can lead to memorable, unifying events. This annual celebration not only marks the passage of time but also serves as a powerful symbol of Pascagoula's determination and shared commitment to progress.

The initial 2023 celebration brought hundreds to the downtown area to view the Pascagoula City Centre for the New Year's Anchor Drop, an

Anchoring Our Community

exciting celebration that honors our city's maritime heritage and its bright future. The Anchor Drop is more than just a countdown—it's a celebration of Pascagoula's progress and a reflection of what makes our city special.

So, come celebrate the New Year and see the impact of a connected, engaged community. The Anchor Drop isn't just a party—it's a symbol of Pascagoula's strength, unity, and promise for the future. Let's welcome the New Year together and start 2025 off anchored in pride and purpose.

While you're there, consider what it means to be part of something bigger. Civic organizations like the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 play a key role in shaping the community we all enjoy. From supporting youth programs to assisting local veterans and leading disaster preparedness efforts, organizations like ours provide an opportunity to give back while building lasting friendships.

We can't wait to see you there! If you're interested in learning more about joining the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 or other civic organizations, visit us at PascagoulaElks.org. Together, we can make a difference.

With Brotherly Love,
David Chamberlain

Happy New Year from the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120!



Photograph courtesy of Frank Corder



From the Ladies Auxiliary

By Julie Eplin-Renfroe

Hello everyone and Happy Thanksgiving! I hope that this finds everyone doing well. The Ladies Auxiliary have had a very busy busy past couple of months. On October 12th, the first annual Macho Man Beauty Pageant was held, and a great time was had by all. Mr. Macho Man 2024 was our very own Lodge Secretary Darla Holifield aka "Big Poppa." Runner Up was our ladies

auxiliary vice-president, April Cole aka "Kevin C." And finally, voted on by the audience in attendance Fan Favorite, the one who is the backbone of the House Committee (because let's face it, Chad would be lost without her), Diana Dixon aka "Big Rick."

The contestants put on a great show and there was lots of laughter to be had. All

proceeds from this event went toward either the ladies scholarship fund or towards the ladies cancer fund, or both.

A very special thanks goes out to the lady that put all this together, Mrs. Sharon Freeman!! She did a fabulous job on this event, as always. Also, we would like to thank Marc Turner for always being that reliable and guaranteed to make you laugh, emcee for the night. And of course, the man who is undeniably the greatest DJ on the gulf coast, DJ Phil Richardson. Stay tuned for announcements on future shows and dates as these events are open to the public and we would love to have each of you join us.

On Halloween, the lodge hosted the 3rd annual Trunk or Treat. With this being only the 3rd time for the lodge to put this event on, the turnout was amazing. Over 3,000 people came to get in on the excitement of ghouls, ghosts, and goblins. There was candy galore at every trunk, free hotdogs were given out and the kids even had the option of playing in the jump house. This was a safe environment for all the kids to enjoy and the parents even had a good time as well. Pretty sure they are already starting preparation for next year!!

Currently, within the lodge members and the ladies, we are preparing for the 2024 Mississippi State Elks Association's Mid-Winter Conference. Our Pascagoula Lodge

was chosen to be the host lodge of this event. It will be held December 6th-7th.

There are some much-needed makeovers and improvements being made at the lodge now and the end results are going to be remarkable. The Hilton Garden Inn has graciously partnered with us in hosting this event and they have made their end very accommodating for us. The Pascagoula Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting the "Ladies Luncheon" on December 7th at the Hilton Garden Inn in the pre-function room.

We will have two special guests in attendance, Julia Schieffer, wife of our Grand Exalted Ruler Douglas Schieffer and Sandy Smith, the State Sponsor's wife. This luncheon is open to all lady elk members, the wives or partners of elk members, or any lady auxiliary members that would like to attend. It is from 12pm to 2pm. You or your spouse do not have to be registered for the conference to attend the luncheon.

However, it is Dutch treat, and if you could as so kindly get with your lodge secretary if you plan to attend and ask them to put your name on the list, that will make things a little easier on our end of things. We are planning some fun activities that will be taking place during the luncheon. Don't miss out on the opportunity to connect with fellow members, make new friends, and enjoy an afternoon filled with

Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120
Ladies Auxiliary
Party with
Santa

SATURDAY, 14th DECEMBER
11 AM - 1 PM
for any child 12 and under
FOOD | GAMES | PRIZES

Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120
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Pascagoula, MS 39567

good food, great company and lots of laughter.

But, most importantly, SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!!! Santa will be visiting with the Ladies Auxiliary on Saturday, December 14th from 11am to 1pm at the Pascagoula Elks Lodge. This is a free event for all kids ages 0-12 (and yes, I'm sure the BIGGER kids will be there too). There will be a ton of free games that the kiddos can play and earn tickets. They will take their tickets over to the prize where there will be an assortment of prizes to choose from. There will also be free snacks and drinks for the little ones and Santa will be available for taking pictures. I have even heard rumors of "The Grinch" making an unannounced visit.

We will also have several door prizes that will be given during the party and at 12:30pm, we will be drawing the winners for the wagons and the electric scooters. The tickets for the wagons and scooters come in a book of 10 and are \$3.00 for 1 Ticket or 10 tickets for \$20.00 (that's a \$30.00 value.) Each wagon (boy and girl) has over \$300.00 worth of toys piled in them and the electric scooters are valued at \$500.00 each and include a helmet and knee and elbow pads. Each ticket that you buy will also be good for 2 drawings. But you must choose the gender on each ticket for it to be eligible.

So, get in on your chance to win one of

these great 4 prizes for that special little one in your life. Tickets are available and you can contact the lodge at 228-762-3533 during business hours if you need some. So, what are you waiting for, grab the little ones up, out them in the car and drive on down to the Pascagoula Elks Lodge #1120 and let those babies have them a good time and take a picture with Santa.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and I will be back next year!!

Respectfully yours,

Julie Eplin-Renfroe

Pascagoula Ladies Auxiliary President

Santa Claus is coming to visit the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 on Saturday December 14, 2024 during the Party with Santa sponsored by the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 Ladies Auxiliary.

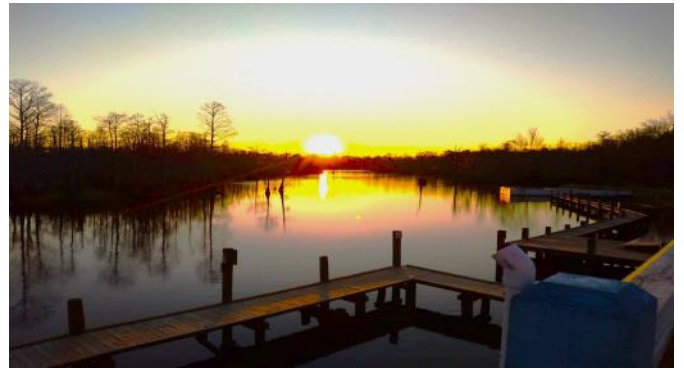
The party starts at 11:00 AM and continues through 1:00 PM. Santa will be arriving at 11:30 to hear children's





Brickyard Bayou Broodings

By John Richards,



The signs are starting to show up everywhere we go, now. As the leaves in the trees get scarce and the nights start being cooler, it seems everyone starts preparing their yards and houses for the Christmas season. Some, more anxious than others, take away the ghosts and ghouls hanging from Halloween and put up the lights and decorations for the coming Noel; while others, more patient, will transition to the Autumnal Harvest decor of Thanksgiving and then to the Christmas gala. The method you choose is totally dependent on how you wish to celebrate. The most important issue is that we remember the reason we celebrate.

The Old Testament gives us the history of the world's creation and the trials we have endured. Our Creator recognized the work of His fallen angel Lucifer and knew that He Himself must intervene. He gave insights and guidance to some of his prophets to prepare a way for His coming. He gave to us a Voice in the Wilderness from the loins of a barren couple, to prepare all for the birth of His Son. To a chaste and pure maiden descendant of King David, He instilled an Immaculate Conception, so that we would know his glory and power. Christmas is the celebration of the

Gift He gave to us all.

In the town of Nazareth lived Mary, spending her days toiling in her family household, keeping the faith of her forebears and her people. Betrothed to Joseph, a simple carpenter, her humble life progressed as many before hers had. Recently, she had been given word of her barren aunt, Sarah, being with child, and she made plans for a visit. One day, as she was doing her work, she was suddenly overcome. Her perception of our world shifted, and she was afraid. An Angel of Our Lord soothed her, telling her "Hail to you who is full of grace." As she recovered from her apparent swoon, she remembered what the angel had told her. She went home and contacted Joseph to hasten the coming vows. He informed her that he, also, had been contacted, and that their child shall be named 'Jesus'. On her visit with Sarah, Sarah told her "Blessed art though among women." for she saw the Grace of God on Mary.

In the ensuing months, Mary's life went as many others and she toiled steadily to ensure her child had a comfortable home. Soon, after hearing rumors of a "King of the Jews" soon to be born, King Herod sent out a call for a census to be taken. Mary and Jo-

seph began preparing for a trip, as the census required them to be in the city of Joseph's birth, Bethlehem.

After an arduous journey along the busy trails, Joseph and Mary, heavy with child and close to giving birth, arrived, only to find all the city's Inns full with others reporting for the census. A compassionate stable keeper found room in his stables for the expectant mother.

As evening fell, shepherds in the fields were informed by a fearsome angel of the birth of their new King. A star shone suddenly bright above Bethlehem, and Wise men who had been following that star, entered town with gifts for a foretold King. A serene stillness settled over the little town as the Most Wondrous event arrived. Before daybreak, a Messenger appeared to Joseph, warning of Roman troops coming with orders to kill all newborns. He and Mary must flee to Egypt.

I feel we must all remember this story as this time of our year approaches. It is all too easy in the busy of daily life to be caught up in the commercialization of life. The spreading of happiness and joy is paramount and our giving of gifts symbolizes the Gifts of the Magi. Yet, this season celebrates the arrival of He who was here to save us all from the curse of original sin and to give us guidance onto the proper path of God's love. I do hope this season finds you all happy and graced in His love.



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Staying Warm and Safe:

Heating Equipment Safety Tips

Chad Brownlow

Jackson County EMA Coordinator

Stay Safe This Winter

As temperatures drop, remember these critical tips to protect your home and loved ones. Heating equipment, while essential, requires vigilance to avoid tragedy. By following these guidelines, you can enjoy a warm, safe, and comfortable winter season.

Stay warm and stay safe!

Heating Equipment Safety: Staying Warm Without Risk

As winter settles in, heating equipment becomes essential to keep homes comfortable. However, it also brings significant

safety risks if not used properly. Statistics from the NFPA Research Division reveal that heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths. Between 2018 and 2022, an average of 40,997 heating-related fires occurred annually, accounting for 12% of all home fires and resulting in 470 civilian deaths each year. Space heaters and heating stoves are particularly hazardous, causing nearly half of these fires (46%), 76% of heating-related deaths, and 72% of injuries. Fireplaces and chimneys, while less common culprits, account for 27% of property damage from heating equipment fires. The colder months—December through February—are especially dangerous, with nearly half of all

heating fires occurring during this period.

To stay safe, it's important to maintain proper precautions with all types of heating equipment. Keep anything flammable at least three feet away from heat sources such as furnaces, wood stoves, and portable space heaters. Establish a "kid-free zone" of the same distance around open fires and heating appliances to protect children from burns or accidental fires. Portable heaters should always be turned off when leaving the room or going to bed. Additionally, never use an oven to heat your home, and ensure that any stationary heating equipment, water heaters, or central heating systems are installed by a qualified professional according to local codes and manufacturer instructions.

Guarding Against Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

While fire is a visible danger, carbon monoxide (CO) presents a silent threat, particularly in winter when heating equipment is heavily used. This odorless, colorless gas is a leading cause of poisoning in homes. To safeguard against CO, install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every level of your home, especially near bedrooms. Test these alarms monthly and replace their batteries twice a year, when you change your clocks for daylight saving time. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years, while CO alarms typically

last 5–7 years, depending on the model.

Additional steps can minimize CO risks: Never use a gas stove or oven as a heat source, and ensure vents and exhaust pipes are clear of snow or debris to allow for proper ventilation. All fuel-burning equipment must be vented outdoors to avoid CO buildup. If you smell gas from a heater, leave your home immediately and contact the fire department or gas company.

Fireplace and Chimney Precautions

Fireplaces and chimneys add warmth and charm to a home but must be maintained to prevent fires. Annual professional inspections and cleanings are essential to remove creosote buildup, a common cause of chimney fires. Use a screen in front of the fireplace to contain sparks and embers, and always dispose of ashes in a metal container with a lid, placing it away from the house, garage, or porch.

For portable ethanol fireplaces, use only fuel designed for the device, clean up spills promptly, and allow the unit to cool completely before refueling. Always extinguish the flame before leaving the room or going to bed, and store ethanol fuel securely, out of children's reach. When lighting an ethanol fireplace, use a long match or utility lighter, and ensure the device is on a sturdy surface away from table edges

or flammable materials.

Safe Use of Portable Heaters

Portable heaters provide a convenient way to stay warm but require careful handling to avoid fires. Choose models certified by a qualified testing laboratory, equipped with a thermostat, overheat protection, and an automatic shut-off feature for tip-over incidents. Place heaters on solid, flat surfaces, keeping them out of foot traffic and at least three feet away from anything flammable, including curtains, furniture, and clothing. Plug heaters directly into wall outlets rather than extension cords, which can overheat and cause fires. Always turn off and unplug portable heaters before leaving the room or going to bed, and keep children away

from these devices at all times.


A Final Reminder for Winter Safety

By following these precautions, you can enjoy the comfort of a warm home while significantly reducing fire and carbon monoxide risks. Whether using a fireplace, central heating system, or portable heater, proper use and maintenance are key to protecting your family and property. Take the time to implement these safety measures and make your home a safe haven during the colder months. Stay warm and stay safe this winter season!



Don't forget to change your smoke /carbon monoxide detector batteries twice a year. If you remember to do it when the time changes, you'll be on schedule.

Horace the Ornerly Elk



“Christmas decorations went up so early this year, Mrs. Elk said we might as well leave the gosh darn tree up year-round and call it the Lodge’s centerpiece!”



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7 Easy Do-It-Yourself Christmas Gift Ideas

By Patti Bradley

There's something truly special about rolling up your sleeves, letting your creativity shine, and crafting one-of-a-kind presents for your loved ones. Not only is it a fun way to spend time with family or friends, but it also adds a personal touch that no store-bought gift can match. From handmade ornaments to delicious treats and clever keepsakes, DIY gifts are all about spreading love, laughter, and a little bit of glitter. Let's dive into some festive ideas to make your gift-giving unforgettable this year!



We Whisk you A Merry Kissmas!

Supplies:

- Hershey Kisses
- Clear Bag
- Whisk
- Ribbon
- Note that says "We Whisk You A Merry Kissmas!"

Instructions:

1. Insert kisses into whisk.
2. Insert whisk into clear bag.
3. Tie ribbon around top of bag with note.



Supplies:

- 1 Cup Epsom Salt
- 1/2 Cup Pink Himalayan Salt
- 1/4 Cup Baking Soda
- Measuring Cup
- 20-30 Drops Essential Oil
- 4oz Mason Jar
- Google eyes
- Colored Pipe Cleaners
- Ribbon

Instructions:

1. Mix all ingredients together in a mixing bowl.
2. Fill a 4oz mason jar.
3. Glue google eyes onto mason jar.
4. Glue pipe cleaner onto mason jar to form nose and mouth.

Snowman Bath Salts**Snowman Lapel Pin****Supplies:**

- Tea Light
- Small Black Beads
- Google Eyes
- Ribbon
- Pipe Cleaners
- Holly
- Glue
- Lapel Pins

Instructions:

1. Glue on the eyes.
2. Glue on black beads to make mouth.
3. Wrap pipe cleaner to make top hat.
4. Glue holly to hat pipe cleaner for decoration.
5. Glue top hat pipe cleaner to top of tea light.
6. Tie a bow with the ribbon and glue to bottom of tea light.
7. Glue lapel pin to back of tea light, make sure you do not backing so that you can still change the batteries.



Snowman Lapel Pin



Supplies:

- Mason Jar
- Water
- Glue That Will Hold Under Water - I suggest E6000
- Frosty Snow Floats, So I Suggest Glitter
- An item or 2 that is small enough to fit in the jar, nothing wood or metal

Instructions

1. Glue item(s) to mason jar lid—Make sure it is glue is good and dry.
2. Add 1/2 teaspoon of glitter to jar.
3. Add water to jar leaving enough room so when you put the lid on with the items that the water does not overflow.
4. Place lid onto jar and screw on ring tightly to make sure it does not leak.
5. Turn jar upside down.



Malted Milk Ball Reindeer

Supplies:

- Mason Jar
- Google Eyes
- Red Pom Pom
- Scissors
- Colored Pipe Cleaners
- Malted Milk Balls
- Ribbon
- Brown Paper

Instructions:

1. Cut paper to fit around center of jar and glue ends together.
2. Glue eyes and nose onto paper.
3. Add malted milk balls to jar.
4. Decorate rim of lid with ribbon.
5. Cut first pipe cleaner in half for large part of antlers .
6. Glue pipe cleaners to lid and screw on lid, make sure you don't glue the lid shut.
7. Cut 2nd pipe cleaner into quarters and fold 2 of the quarters in half.
8. Wrap 2nd pipe cleaner around first pipe cleaner to finish antlers.



Reindeer Gift Bag

Supplies:

- Brown Bag with Corded Handle
- Tissue Paper
- Google Eyes
- Red Pom Pom
- Candy Canes
- Glue

Instructions:

1. Glue on google eyes and the red pom pom as eyes and nose.
2. Open and stand up bag.
3. Insert tissue paper into top of bag.
4. Add candy canes to the inside of the bag to look like ears.



Hot Cocoa Reindeer

Supplies:

- Instant Hot Cocoa
- Mini Marshmallows
- Decorating Bag
- Google Eyes
- Red Pom Pom
- Colored Pipe Cleaners

Instructions:

1. Glue on eyes and nose.
2. Add cocoa.
3. Add mini marshmallows.
4. Twist pipe cleaners around top to make antlers.



Around the Lodge



Patti Bradley Honored as Elk of the Quarter Q2

Chances are if you have been to Bingo or Cornhole and have gone to the concession stand, you have encountered Patti Bradley. There's really not an event that Patti misses.

In addition to serving on the Kitchen Committee, Patti chairs the Hoop Shoot Committee, Soccer Shoot Committee, Americanism Committee and is also the State Soccer Shoot Committee Chair.

Manny Heredia Installs Lodge Marker

Lodge member Manuel "Manny" Heredia installed the lodge marker that had been donated several years ago by Mark and Cindy Herrin. The marker was installed outside of the door entering the social quarters. Thanks Manny, it looks great!



Officers

- Exalted Ruler..... Curtis Welsh
- Leading Knight..... Jason Darden
- Loyal Knight Becky Turner
- Lecturing Knight..... Harold Tillman
- Secretary..... Darla Holifield
- Treasurer Tony Olson
- Tiler Bill Kallsten
- Chaplain Dobbs Dennis
- Esquire..... Steve Overman
- Inner Guard Danny Holifield
- Trustee Marc Turner
- Trustee Joe Parisi
- Trustee Stacey Doggett
- Trustee Sherwood Beckham
- Trustee Paul Bosarge



By the

Committee Chairs

- Activities..... Enos Treece
- Americanism..... Patti Bradley
- Bereavement Becky Turner
- Bingo..... Sherwood Beckham, PER
- Carnival Ball..... Joe Parisi, PSP
- Christmas Baskets..... Darla Holifield
- Community Projects Diana Dixon
- Dictionary Program..... A'ndrea Tillman
- Disaster Relief..... Becky Turner
- Drug Awareness..... Karen Katzele
- ENF Lynn Overman
- Girl Scout Awards Daniel & Neka King
- Golf Tournament Marc Turner
- Government Relations..... Harold Tillman
- House..... Chad Brownlow
- Hoop Shoot..... Patti Bradley
- Investigation..... Sherwood Beckham, PER
- JROTC Recognition..... Michael Urban
- Kitchen Jason Darden
- Lapsation..... Jeri Hines
- Lodge Activities Michele Seaman
- Magazine David Chamberlain
- Presiding Justice Doug Tynes
- Public Relations David Chamberlain
- Pub Safety Recognition..... Connie Bosarge
- River Run..... Darla Holifield
- Scholarship..... Becky Turner
- Soccer Shoot..... Patti Bradley
- State Major Project Manny Heredia
- Student of the Month Jeri Hines
- Trunk or Treat..... John & Marie Richards
- Veterans Tony Olson
- Youth Activities Paul Thompson Jr.

Members 400

Candidates 4

Demits 0

Delinquencies 47

ENF Per Capita \$17.79 ^{* Estimate}

ENF Lodge Total \$6990.00

Five Resolutions for 2025 You Can Keep

By David Chamberlain

New Year's resolutions are a long-standing tradition based on the idea of self-improvement and starting fresh. They date back to ancient times when people would make promises to God or themselves as a way to set intentions for the year ahead. Whether it's committing to a healthier lifestyle, learning a new skill, or spending more time with family, resolutions symbolize hope and the human desire to grow. However, many of these well-meaning goals fall by the wayside because they are either too ambitious or lack a clear plan for success. Too often we give up because we set such stringent and lofty goals as resolutions that are simply out of reach.

This year, instead of overwhelming ourselves with resolutions we cannot achieve, we can set ourselves up for success by focusing on resolutions that are simple, reachable, and meaningful. By choosing five easy-to-keep goals—the ones I list below—we can build a year filled with personal victories. Resolutions don't have to be about dramatic life changes; they can be small, steady steps toward becoming



Attend an event like a Steak Night, Crawfish Boil, Halloween Hobble, Carnival Ball or Anything on Wheels Buggy Run.

the best version of ourselves. With this practical approach, 2025 can be the year we finally stick to our resolutions and feel great about it.

Here are five practical New Year's resolutions that are realistic and can align with a sense of community and personal improvement:

Attend One Lodge Event Each Month

Strengthen your ties with the community by committing to attending one Elks Lodge event every month. Whether it's a steak night, bingo, or a volunteer project, it's a simple way to stay connected and contribute. This doesn't mean that you have to work the event. Just coming to an event—even just a meeting—allows mem-

bers to mingle with others they haven't seen in a while or to support a lodge function such as our upcoming Elks Memorial Ceremony on December 1st.

Attending events with our friends is what brought most of us to membership in the Lodge in the first place. You don't have to live at the Lodge – Lord knows I have in the past. But visit more often and participate in YOUR Lodge.

Volunteer for two events this year

Give back to your community by dedicating time to a new volunteer effort every six months—every small act of service makes a difference. Sometimes we hear from members that an event didn't go as they thought it should, or questions are asked why an event didn't make as much



Volunteering for events like the Soccer Shoot or Trunk or Treat show the children of our community what the Elks spirit is!

income as before. Usually, it comes down to a lack of manpower. Not just in the execution of the event, but in planning the event, obtaining sponsorships, or selling tickets.

It takes a ton of work for any event at the Lodge, from recurring events such as Steak Nights, the concession stands at Bingo and Cornhole, to Bingo itself. Then there are the big 6: River Run, Golf Tournament, Halloween Hobble, Trunk or Treat, 6-Shooter Raffle, and the Carnival Ball. Then there are all the other events, including Soccer Shoot, Hoop Shoot, dances, cooking events, and disaster relief to name several.

There are more than 40 committees at the Lodge and every one of them has some sort of event throughout the year. Many of our members burn themselves out attempting to volunteer at most because we lack participation so often. Think about taking just two events this year and helping out. It will improve what our Lodge does for the community, and again bring you back to why many of us joined in the first place, to make a difference in our community.

Learn One New Skill

Whether it's improving your cooking for lodge potlucks, mastering a game like cornhole, or learning to organize events, pick one skill and work on it throughout the year. One of our members learned

leather making and is making customized key chains and belt buckles the House Committee is selling.



Whether you learn by yourself, with a family member, or in a group, investing in time with a new skill is always a smart choice.

This doesn't mean you need to learn a new skill to help the Lodge. Many of us like the idea of learning new things just for ourselves. Learn to make jellies, crochet a tablecloth, or to use a router to make wooden signs. Learning a new skill keeps our minds fresh and younger for longer.

Reach Out to One New Member Each Month

Foster connections by introducing yourself to a new member or someone you don't know well at the lodge. A friendly conversation can help them feel welcome and strengthen the group. Often times even those who sponsor a new member fail to keep in contact with the new Elk

they brought to our Order. This can lead to apathy and a lack of not feeling welcome by the new members.



Reaching out to new and long standing members alike brings our Lodge closer together and reminds us why we became Elks.

In addition, we should reach out to members we don't see that often anymore. Is there something going on with them that we could help them with? Is there a need that we can help them fill? Don't forget that Brotherly Love extends outside of the physical lodge itself and we should be visiting with our fellow members and being a community of Elks everywhere. It takes so little to reach out and the return can be so rewarding for both us and those to whom we have reached out.

Prioritize Self-Care Once a Week

Take care of yourself so you can better support others. Dedicate one day each week to something that recharges you, like a walk, reading a good book, or enjoying quiet time at home. Maybe this means taking a day trip to a neighboring town with your spouse to shop, eat, or attend an event. Consider joining a group such as Singing River Little Theater and trying out for a role in a play.



Walks along our local nature trails, a quick trip to Dauphin Island or Gulf Shores; shopping in the downtown plaza. Relax and enjoy life too!

Self-care is vital for maintaining mental, emotional, and physical health, enabling us to recharge, reduce stress, and better support others while staying balanced and

productive in daily life. Maintaining healthy and happy activities allows you to support others better – especially yourself.

These resolutions are achievable, can be meaningful, and also promote a healthy balance of personal growth and community engagement. It takes so little to achieve these resolutions. Let me know in 2026 how you did with these.

*WARNING: This product contains nicotine.
Nicotine is an addictive chemical.*

Harold Tillman
Proprietor

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We want to earn your business!

New Members Initiated on November 21, 2024



Donald Dixon

Donald was proposed by Jesse James



Amanda Paquin

Amanda was proposed by Jason Darden,
Esteemed Leading Knight



Tommy Thames

Tommy was proposed by Brent Thames



Deborah Wilemon

Deborah was proposed by Enos Treece

Seasonal Affective Disorder

As the holidays approach and the days grow shorter, many of us feel the excitement of gathering with loved ones, planning festivities, and embracing the spirit of the season. Yet, for others, the darker days bring feelings of sadness, fatigue, and isolation—a condition known as Seasonal Affective Disorder



By Roy Wilson

As the end of the year approaches, many people feel excitement around the holidays, planning parties, travel, and activities with friends and family. However, for some, the holiday season brings a different emotional experience. Instead of joy, they may experience fluctuations in mood, irritability with loved ones, and a reduction in energy, often feeling the desire to be left alone. For some individuals, these changes are more pronounced and debilitating, leading to a form of depression known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

SAD is a complex condition that affects millions of people worldwide, and its impact can be particularly severe for those already dealing with personal loss or financial strain. Understanding the symptoms, causes, risk factors, and treatment options for SAD is crucial, as it can help individuals seek appropriate care and support. With ongoing research, new treatments and interventions

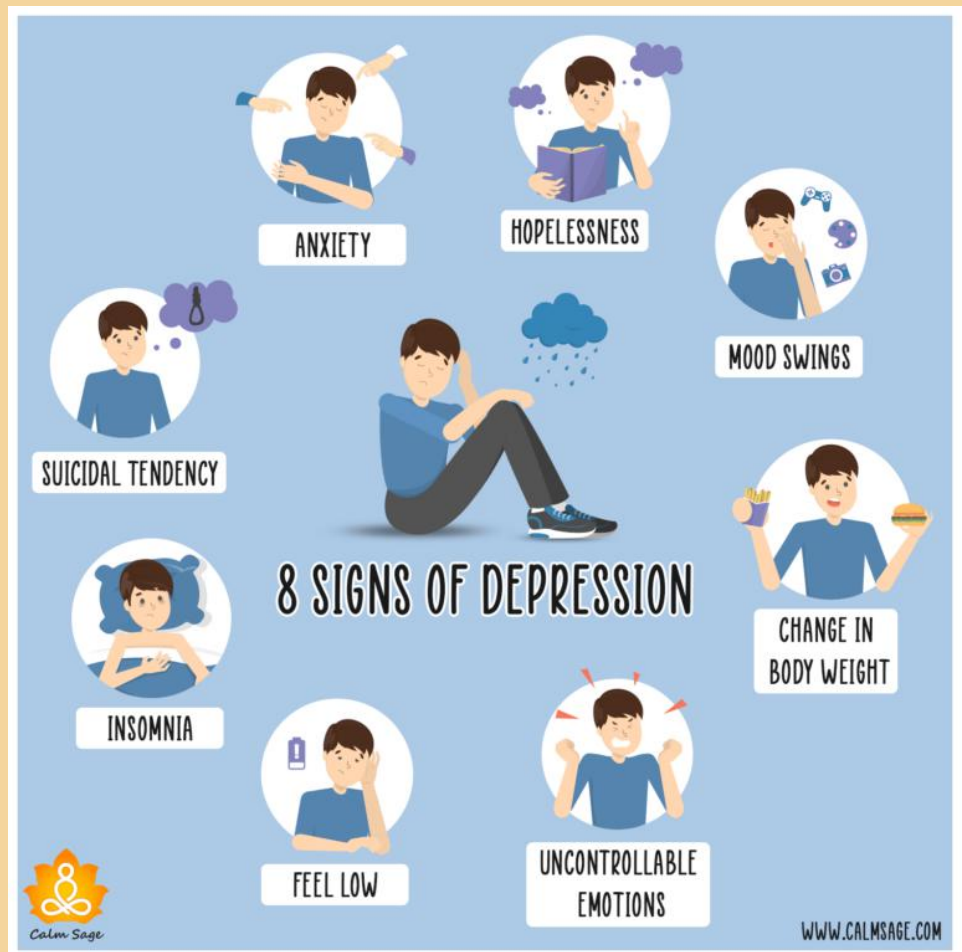
offer hope for managing and overcoming the challenges posed by this seasonal condition. This article explores the science behind SAD, its symptoms, causes, risk factors, diagnosis, treatments, and the latest research.



Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that typically occurs during the fall and winter months when daylight hours are shorter. Unlike the occasional "winter blues" or temporary feelings of sadness during gloomy weather, SAD is a recognized clinical condition that can significantly affect daily function-

ing, mood, and overall well-being. While most cases begin in late autumn and improve in spring, a smaller percentage of individuals experience SAD during the summer months.

The symptoms of SAD closely mirror those of major depression but occur seasonally. Common symptoms include persistent low mood or sadness, loss of interest in activities once enjoyed, changes in appetite or weight (often with cravings for carbohydrates), sleep disturbances (such as oversleeping or hypersomnia), fatigue, difficulty concentrating, feelings of worthlessness or hopelessness, and, in severe cases, suicidal thoughts or ideation. These symptoms may vary in intensity and duration but generally improve with the arrival of spring and longer daylight hours.



Causes and Risk Factors
The exact cause of SAD is not fully understood, but several factors are believed to contribute to its development. One factor is the disruption of the body's internal clock or circadian rhythm, which can occur due to reduced sunlight in the fall and winter months, leading to feelings of depression. Another contributing factor is serotonin levels; reduced

sunlight may cause a drop in serotonin, a neurotransmitter that affects mood, potentially triggering depression. Additionally, the balance of melatonin, a hormone involved in regulating sleep patterns and mood, can be disrupted by the change in seasons. A deficiency in vitamin D, linked to decreased sunlight exposure, has also been associated with reduced serotonin activity.

Several risk factors increase the likelihood of developing SAD, including a family history of depression or SAD, preexisting mental health conditions such as major depression or bipolar disorder, and living in geographic areas with shorter daylight hours in the winter. Women are more commonly affected than men, and the condition often begins in young adulthood.

For individuals dealing with personal loss, such as the death of a loved one or a divorce, the winter months can be particularly chal-

lenging. The lack of sunlight and colder weather may amplify feelings of loneliness, grief, or isolation, and SAD can worsen these emotions, making it harder to cope with loss. Additionally, financial stress during the holiday season can exacerbate symptoms. The pressure to buy gifts, travel, or entertain can lead to increased debt and a sense of hopelessness, which may trigger or worsen depression. For many, the combination of financial anxiety and decreased sunlight contributes to a vicious cycle that intensifies the symptoms of SAD.



To diagnose SAD, healthcare professionals typically perform a clinical evaluation that includes a detailed medical and psychological history. A physical exam and tests are conducted to rule out other conditions that could cause similar symptoms, such as hypothyroidism. A mental health assessment evaluates the severity, duration, and patterns of depression symptoms. SAD is diagnosed if a person has experienced depressive episodes that begin and end at a specific time of year for at least two consecutive years, with no other explanation for the symptoms.

Treatment for SAD often involves a combination of approaches to achieve the best results. Light therapy, or phototherapy, is one of the most common treatments and involves exposure to a bright light that mimics natural sunlight. Light boxes emitting 10,000 lux are typically used for 20 to 30 minutes daily, preferably in the morning. Medication, particularly selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), can help regulate serotonin levels and alleviate symptoms. Bupropion, an atypical antidepressant, has also been approved for treating SAD. Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) tailored for SAD (CBT-SAD) is a psychotherapy technique that can help individuals identify and change negative thought patterns and behaviors contributing to depression. In cases where vitamin D deficiency is detected,





Celebrate the New Year in

DOWNTOWN PASCAGOULA

Tuesday, December 31st

8:00 PM until 12:30 AM



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- It's Easy to Join
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- You'll be helping your lodge meet its per-capita and challenge goals.
- Lynn will stop asking you to give her money.



Join the Fidelity Club and have your set amount automatically donated each month. Just \$5 a month will get you started. -

Lynn Overman
ENF Chair
Pascagoula
Lodge 1120



Your gift can also help your Lodge earn Gratitude Grant bonuses!

Need help Joining? Come to a Membership Meeting or Steak Night and we will help you join.



supplementation may be recommended. Additionally, lifestyle modifications such as regular physical activity, a healthy diet, maintaining a consistent sleep schedule, and spending time outdoors, even on cloudy days, can help alleviate symptoms.

Ongoing research aims to improve understanding of SAD's underlying mechanisms and develop more effective treatments. Recent studies have explored the role of genetics in susceptibility to SAD, suggesting that variations in genes related to serotonin and melatonin may play a role. Researchers are also investigating

new light therapy devices, such as dawn simulators and blue light therapy, which may offer more effective or convenient options for individuals with SAD. Furthermore, studies are examining the efficacy of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) specifically tailored for SAD, comparing it to light therapy. Preliminary results suggest that CBT may provide longer-lasting benefits by addressing the root cognitive patterns that contribute to seasonal depression.



Roy holds a Master's of Nuclear Engineering and has more than thirty five years in experience in the design, construction, operation of nuclear power facilities, and nuclear emergency regulation and response. He loves to play with aquaponics and volunteer at the Lodge wherever he can.

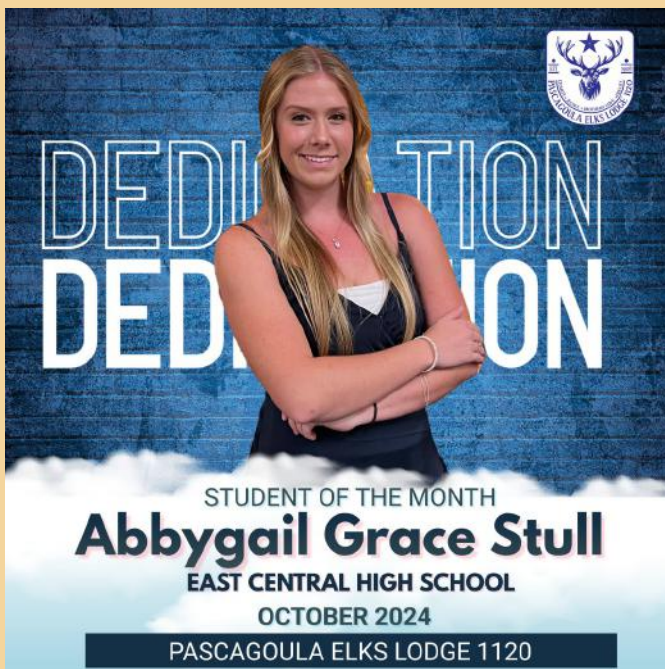
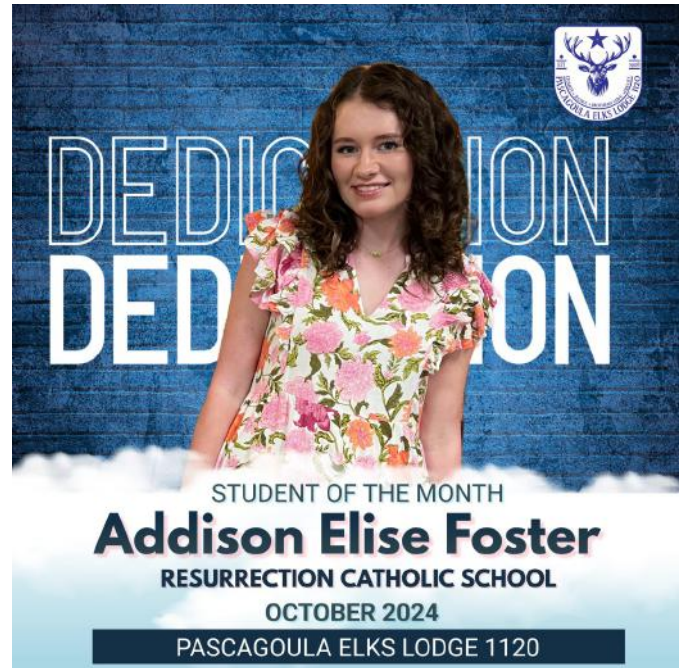


October 2024

Students of the Month are presented to the members of the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 during the second regular business meeting of the month. We are so glad to meet them each ceremony.

Representing East Central High School is Ms. Abbygail Stull, daughter of Jennifer Stull. She plans to attend the University of South Alabama to major in Finance and obtain her MBA. She is a member of Project Lead the Way, a STEM-driven program sponsored by Chevron USA. Ms. Ad-

dison Foster represented Resurrection Catholic School. She plans to study Business Marketing and Graphic Design at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She is a Hugh O'Bryan Young Leader nominee inspiring action, connection and purpose within her community.



November 2024



Our outstanding East Central High School Student was Mr. Cale Hollinghead, son of son of Matt & Teresa Hollinghead.



Moss Point High School's nominee was Zahria Jackson. Zahria is the daughter of Pamela Chatman.



Representing Pascagoula High School for November was Skylar Finn, daughter of Sheila & Harold Finn .



And Resurrection Catholic School's student was McKinley Sims. She is the daughter of Amber Coleville & Lewis Sims.

Understanding Kwanzaa and Why It's Celebrated



Lavee Sims



Habari Gani? – Swahili words spoken each day of Kwanzaa in greeting. The phrase literally translates to mean “What’s the news?” or “How are you?”

Kwanzaa is a celebration that has built traction amongst the black communities of America over the years. Many people participate in fun, not knowing the full history of the celebration. Just as Hanukkah is important to those of Jewish faith, Kwanzaa is proving to be just as important to those who understand its roots and true mean-

ing. It does not serve as an alternative religion or religious holiday but rather serves as an additional celebration to the observation of Christmas.

Created in 1966, by Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa is the first truly African-American specific holiday. Its name is derived from the Swahili phrase *matunda ya kwanza* which means, “first fruits of the harvest.” Karenga chose Swahili to reflect and pay homage to Pan-Africanism and the Atlantic slave trade which brought Africans to

America from West Africa.

Deeply rooted in the black nationalist movement of the 1960s, Kwanzaa was established to assist African Americans in reconnecting with their African culture and historical heritage. It unites them through meditation and study of African traditions and Nguzo Saba, the “seven principles of African Heritage” which Maulana Karenga boasted were the “communitarian African philosophy.” He states, “you must have a cultural revolution before the violent revolution. The cultural revolution gives identity, purpose, and direction.”

The celebration of Kwanzaa spans over seven days. Each day focuses on specific principles centered in the Black community. Many Kwanzaa ceremonies include musical selections, libations, reading of the African pledge, and a group discussion of the African principle of the day. It is also accompanied by a feast known as the “karamu.”

Each day consists of a candle-lighting ritual reflecting the principle of the day. A kinara (candle holder) and seven candles (one black candle, three green, and three red) all make up the ceremonial lighting display of Kwanzaa. The black candle is lit first and then utilized to light each additional candle on the day being celebrated – alternating between red and green.

The seven principles of Kwanzaa are:



1. Umoja (Unity):
To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.
2. Kujichagulia (Self-Determination):
To define and name ourselves, as well as to create and speak for ourselves
3. Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility):
To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our own problems and to solve them together
4. Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)
To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together
5. Nia (Purpose):
To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness
6. Kuumba (Creativity):



To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it

7. Imani (Faith):

To believe with all our hearts in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle

Outside of the ceremonial candles, other Kwanzaa symbols include a mat (Mkeka) on which many symbols are placed such as: a Kinara (candle holder), Mishumaa Saba (seven candles), mazao (crops), Muhindi (corn), a Kikombe cha Umoja (unity cup) for commemorating and giving shukrani (thanks) to African Ancestors, and finally Zawadi (gifts).



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- A pin and pin attachments
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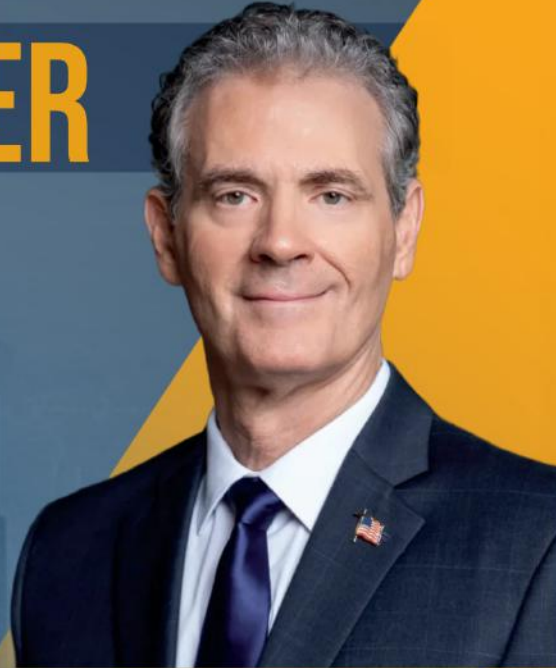
Your gift can also help your Lodge earn Gratitude Grant bonuses!





MISSISSIPPI STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION

2024 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



DATES



**DECEMBER
6 - 7, 2024**

LOCATION



Hilton Garden Inn Pascagoula
2703 Denny Ave
Pascagoula, MS 39567

REGISTRATION INFORMATION



PRE-REGISTRATION
November 22, 2024
Per Person Fees
\$50 before deadline (\$60 after)
Make checks payable to:
MS State Elks Association

WHERE TO SEND REGISTRATION



Walter Hearn & Rose Miller
2885 Highway 49
Collins, MS 39428

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LODGING



Hilton Garden Inn Pascagoula
2703 Denny Ave
Pascagoula, MS 39567
Rate: \$119/Night + Tax
Reservations: 228-762-7182
Mention "Elks Winter Conference"

Note: First-night stay will be charged to your credit card when you make reservations.



For the Good of the Order

Lodge Cooks for Veterans at Annual Jackson County Veterans Day Ceremony



Left to Right: Skeeter Craig, Linda Olson, Lodge Secretary Darla Holifield, Esteemed Loyal Knight Becky Turner, and Esteemed Leading Knight Jason Darden.

The Lodge celebrated Veterans' Day by serving meals of red beans and rice with a side of cornbread to the men and women who have served in our armed forces and attending the Jackson County Veterans Day Ceremony. The event was originally scheduled to be held at the Jackson County Veterans' Memorial along the Moss Point Riverfront but was moved to Pelican Landing due to rain.

The lodge also provided trays to the Moss Point Fire Department, Moss Point Police Department, Pascagoula Fire Department, Pascagoula Police Department, and the staff of Singing River Hospital Emergency Room. Many of these fine men and women are veterans as well!

Elks
ONLINE

Join in the conversation.

Register online
www.elks.org/register

The complex block features a blue background with a white American flag pattern on the right side. At the top, the word 'Elks' is written in a large, white, stylized font, with 'ONLINE' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. In the center, a white smartphone is shown displaying the Elks.org membership forum. The phone screen shows the website's interface, including a search bar, a menu icon, and several forum posts with titles like 'Buying a building', 'Seeking Bylaw Wisdom', 'Reading Bills against the Lodge', and 'Alter Star'. At the bottom of the block, the text 'Join in the conversation.' is written in white, followed by 'Register online' and the URL 'www.elks.org/register' in a larger white font.



65TH ANNUAL PASCAGOULA ELKS LODGE 1120 CARNIVAL BALL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH

TICKETS \$25 . FORMAL DRESS CODE

**KING ANTLERS LXV
QUEEN DOE LXV**

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM BALL STARTS AT 7:30 PM

NO ADMITTANCE AFTER BALL BEGINS
ONLY THOSE HOLDING TICKETS ADMITTED



Becky Turner

Esteemed Loyal Knight



I recommend Pontchartrain Cocktail Fingers for this recipe. You can purchase this brand at Wayne Lee's Grocery and Market or Bozo's Seafood Market and Deli.

Marinated Crab Claws

Marinated crab claws are a simple yet elegant dish that's perfect for any gathering or as a refreshing treat on a warm day. I love the way the zesty Italian dressing mingles with fresh parsley, green onions, and a hint of Old Bay, creating a tangy, herbaceous marinade that enhances the natural sweetness of the crab. The secret is letting the claws soak up all those bold flavors overnight—though the wait can be tough! Served cold, these crab claws are incredibly satisfying with their tender texture and bright, citrusy kick. Personally, I enjoy them straight from the bowl, but they're also great

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. crab fingers (pre-cooked, loose shells removed, and drained)
- 1 bottle (16 oz) Italian dressing (Olive Garden or Zesty Italian recommended)
- Juice from 1 lemon (approximately 2 tablespoons)
- 2 bunches green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch fresh parsley, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning (adjust to taste)
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon granulated garlic
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

Instructions:

Prepare the Crab Claws:

Place the drained crab claws into a sealable container, ensuring there's enough space for stirring the marinade.

Make the Marinade:

In a mixing bowl, combine the Italian dressing, lemon juice, green onions, parsley, minced garlic, Old Bay seasoning, black pepper, granulated garlic, onion powder, and Worcestershire sauce. Stir well to incorporate all ingredients.

Marinate the Crab Claws: Pour the marinade over the crab claws, ensuring they are fully submerged. Seal the container tightly and refrigerate for a minimum of 6 hours or overnight for best flavor. *(Tip: Gently stir the mixture every 2-3 hours to evenly coat the crab claws.)*



Estimated Nutrition:

- Calories: ~225
- Protein: 19g
- Fat: 15g
- Saturated Fat: 2g
- Carbohydrates: 6g
- Fiber: 1g
- Sugars: 4g
- Cholesterol: 100mg
- Sodium: 850mg

Serving Size:

4 servings (about 4 oz per serving)

Preparation Time:

15 minutes

Marination Time:

6-12 hours (minimum 6 hours recommended)

Cook Time:

None (crab is pre-cooked)

YOUR RECIPES ARE NEEDED

ELKS

PASCAGOULA

COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

300
Recipes
Needed

Share
your family's
favorite recipes
for others
to enjoy.

Easily
submit your recipes
email them to Becky Turner
boo66_2001@yahoo.com

Available
ONLINE
once at least
300 recipes
are submitted

Raise Money
Help the Lodge raise money for its
charitable functions and event.

Share your Lodge
Give the Lodge notariety
everytime the cookbook is used.

Personalized Gift
What better gift than a cookbook
with your recipes in it?

Submit Your Recipe for Our Cookbook Fundraiser

The Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 is writing a cookbook that will be available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). But, we need your help. We can't put a cookbook together without recipes.

You've always wanted to be a spy! Steal your grandmother's cookbook when she isn't looking. Play like you are 007 James Bond and take a bunch of pics of those pages! It doesn't matter how you get it, so long as you send it to us. We have made it easy to submit your recipes. You can submit recipes through the MyElks App,

pascagoulaelks.org or submit our easy and convenient online [recipe form](#).

Don't want to type it in? Scan it in or take a picture of it with your cell phone and email it to socialmedia@pascagoulaelks.org. We'll get it to where it needs to go! Help us finish the cookbook. For more information, please contact Becky Hill Turner at boo66_2001@yahoo.com.

Gun Raffle Winners

Our 9th Annual 6-Shooter gun raffle was a tremendous success this year. For this year's event the number of guns given away increased to 25 with the number of ticket sales increasing to 1,500. Excitement was palpable at the Lodge on Friday November 15 and November 22 when the tickets were spun in the barrel and drawn for the winners. Congrats to all our winners and thank you for supporting our Lodge!

Week One

Friday November 15, 2024

Scott Allen x 2

Loretta Scott

James Head Jr.

Sharon Cochran

Keith Delcambre

Colby Doré

Tina McGill

Tommy Thames x 2

Dustin Hicks

James Earlywine

Jay Moilenen

Julie Renfroe

Week Two

Friday November 22, 2024

Bill Kallsten

Randy Carney

Lincoln Phelps

Bratton McGregor

Corey Moorman

Sharon Cochran

Chad Brownlow

Darrie Slay

Paul/Cheri Bosarge x 2

Josh Noble

Nate Sones

Enos Treece

Deborah Wilemon

GOTO #THE1120



Ever Practice Brotherly Love

Chad Brownlow
House Committee Chair



First of all, Seasons Greetings from the 2024 House Committee of Lodge 1120. As we get close to the holiday season, brotherly love is a primary principle that should be heavily practiced among members, family, and friends. As a reminder of the oath and walk around the altar EVERY Elk made becoming a member, I repeat to you:

"I welcome you to this station which is dedicated to Brotherly Love. Upon our Altar it is symbolized by the Antlers of Protection. The animal from which our Order derives its name is noted for gentleness and timidity. It is strong of limb, fleet of foot, quick and keen of perception. So should we be: quick to hear the cry of distress, timorous of doing wrong and fleet of foot to relieve the unfortunate, thus conforming to the Golden Rule which should govern all mankind. In this rule, which is the foundation and groundwork of our Order, Brotherly Love finds its perfect expression; and it is best exemplified by practicing the teachings of our motto — "The faults of our Members we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory." It softens the stern realities of life and manifests itself in good fellowship, in sympathy, and in kindness of thought, word and deed. It has smiles and laughter for us in seasons of joy, and it sits with us in the shadow and weeps in the hour of bereavement. It teaches us to scatter flowers along life's pathway and to speak words of kindness to the living as well as to cherish the memory of the dead. As we therefore have opportunity, let us do good unto others, for we pass this way but once. We cannot retrace our steps nor call back the days that are gone; but the passing moment is ours long enough to grasp the hand in friendship,

to lighten each other's burdens, to bring rest to the weary, and to comfort those who mourn. This is Brotherly Love!"

I challenge you this holiday season to remember your oath and obligation to be the biggest bearer of brotherly love to everyone in your presence.

This season:

- Be the Antlers of Protection for the unfortunate and downtrodden.
- Shine the light of Elkdom brightly and draw others towards our principles and cause.
- Let bygones be bygones.
- Speak love and life to your family at home, as well as, the family and homes of your Elk brothers and sisters.
- Practice Charity, Justice, and Fidelity alongside Brotherly Love amongst family and friends.

And I will leave you with this final passage:

1 John 4:20-1

"Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister."

Goodwill to you and yours this holiday season,

Chad Brownlow

House Chairman

Elks Lodge 1120

3rd Annual Trunk or Treat Attracts More Than 3000!



Halloween night was a smash hit at the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120 as more than 3,000 attendees joined us for the **3rd Annual Trunk or Treat**. With 28 creatively decorated trunks handing out candy to ghouls, goblins, aliens, princesses, and more, it was a celebration to remember!

Our Lodge provided hotdogs, bottled water, and Capri Sun drinks to ensure no one went hungry or thirsty during the festivities. Children bounced the night away on two inflatable bounce houses, while the Pascagoula Fire Department illuminated the event with light towers, making it a safe and enjoyable evening for all.

Community Partners Make it Happen

A huge **thank you** to our community partners who made this event possible:

- **Piggly Wiggly**, for supplying over 500 bottles of water.
- A generous donor and **Edd's Drive Inn**, for providing hotdogs.
- **HSI**, for portable restrooms.
- **Infinity Inflatables**, for the bouncy houses.

A Night of Fun and Recognition

Highlights of the evening included **Manny Heredia's Haunted Walk-Through**, which won **Best Trunk**, and **Bud Scholar**, who dazzled as a Scarecrow to win **Best Costume**. We couldn't have done it without the incredible efforts of **Trunk or Treat Co-**

Chairs John and Marie Richards and their team:

- **Candy Scholar, Becky Turner, Darla Holifield, and David Chamberlain**, for setup assistance.
- **Cary Welsh**, for coordinating candy distribution and troubleshooting.
- Volunteers like **Steve Vlahos, Gary Randall, Bubba Holifield, Sherwood Beckham, and Steve Seeley**, for their unwavering support.
- **Enos Treece** and **Paul Bosarge** for coordination efforts to clear the parking lot and equipment.

Why Trunk or Treat is Safer

Trunk or Treat events like ours provide a controlled, family-friendly environment where kids can safely enjoy Halloween festivities. With well-lit spaces, organized activities, and community involvement, parents can rest assured their little ones are having fun while staying safe.

Looking Forward to 2025!

The success of this year's event already has us excited for next Halloween! Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this year's Trunk or Treat. We can't wait to see what spooky surprises next year brings to the Pascagoula Elks Lodge 1120!

Stay tuned and mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Trunk or Treat in 2025—it's sure to be a hauntingly good time!

Christmas PARTY



Please join us at our anual Christmas
party at the

*Pascagoula Elks
Lodge 1120*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024
3 PM

POT LUCK BUFFET
UGLY SWEATER CONTEST
DIRTY SANTA

Please bring a wrapped
gift \$20 to \$30

MEMBERS AND FAMILY
ONLY - NO ONE UNDER 21





Top Shelf Espresso: A Local Coffee Truck Brewing Community and Flavor—And a soon-to- open Café!

In a sea of coffee options, one neon pink-and-blue coffee truck has been capturing hearts—and taste buds—in Mississippi: [Top Shelf Espresso](#). Owned and operated by Kristen Leyba, a Hawaii-born, Spokane-raised coffee enthusiast who moved to the Magnolia State two summers ago, this local gem has quickly become a favorite for coffee lovers of all ages.

Kristen's journey began with a passion for espresso and specialty drinks, which she brought to life in early 2024. After branding and trademarking Top Shelf Espresso in the winter of 2022-2023, the coffee trailer officially opened for business in January 2024. Offering both walk-up and drive-thru service at [4404 Chicot Rd, Pascagoula](#), the truck has made grabbing a delicious cup of coffee a convenient and cheerful experience.



What sets Top Shelf Espresso apart? It's their dedication to quality and variety. Kristen uses **private-labeled, specialty-roasted beans**, ensuring every cup is fresh and flavorful. From iced flavored lattes and hot coffees to frappes and beyond, their extensive menu has something for everyone. Plus, with a wide array of syrups—including plenty of sugar-free options—customers can customize their drinks to perfection. And it's not just for humans; even little ones and fur babies have treats waiting for them at



the truck!

The hard work and passion haven't gone unnoticed. This year, Top Shelf Espresso earned **third place for Best Coffee on the Coast in the Best of Coastal Mississippi 2024** awards. This recognition speaks volumes about the love and loyalty of the community they serve, something Kristen is deeply grateful for.

But this is just the beginning for Top Shelf Espresso. Kristen is currently expanding the brand into a cozy café that will feature indoor seating alongside a drive-thru. The new location promises to be a welcoming space where locals can sip their coffee, unwind, and feel at home. And Kristen is dedicated to giving back to the community that has embraced her business with open arms.

Whether you're in need of a quick morning pick-me-up, a mid-day treat, or a relaxing spot to catch up with friends, **Top Shelf Espresso** invites you to stop by and experience their exceptional drinks and warm hospitality. Swing by the truck today and discover why it's not just coffee—it's a community.



Community Activities

Looking for some fun ways to spend your time? You don't have to look far. Our community is full of exciting events. Whether you want to make new friends, support a good cause, or learn something new, you will find plenty of opportunities in our community events calendar. If you go to one of these events, use the hashtag #elks1120outandabout in a Facebook post with a picture of you at the event to let us know you found it here. We'll post the best of them in our next issue.

Storytime with Santa

December 5, 2024 — 10 AM

Gautier Public Library

Everyone is welcome to join Santa as he shares his favorite Christmas classics. He'll also be answering questions about his reindeer, elves, and the North Pole! Don't miss the chance to take a photo with him during his visit.

This joyful event is sponsored by Toys for Tots and the Gautier Friends of the Library, making it extra special for families in our community.

And don't forget—Gautier Public Library is a Toys for Tots drop-off location, so feel free to bring a new, unwrapped toy to help spread holiday cheer to others. We look forward to celebrating with you and Santa himself!

Admission is Free!

Christmas Pottery Nativity

Workshop

December 6, 2024 — 6 PM—8 PM

810 Hwy. 90 Suite D, Gautier

Social Pallet Art & Pottery will be hosting their annual Nativity workshop. A great activity for a wonderful Christmas decoration that will be welcome in your home for years. Create and glaze your very own Nativity. You know you have always wanted to paint pottery!

Pickup will be December 13. Reservations required.

Price—\$35

For tickets to the Nativity Workshop call 228-327-4114

Downtown for the Holidays

December 6, 2024 — 5 PM—8 PM

Downtown Pascagoula—Delmas Ave

Downtown for the Holidays will be Friday, December 6th from 5pm - 8pm. Featuring the traditional Christmas parade of lights starting at 7:30pm! There will be photos with Santa, performances by locals, and more for the entire family to enjoy.

Admission is Free!

[More information about Downton for the Holidays](#)

Holiday Fest at the Fairgrounds

December 7, 2024 — 9 AM—4 PM

Jackson County Fairgrounds, Pascagoula

Antique car show, antique and vintage items, arts & crafts, face painting, food trucks, games for the kids, live entertainment and Santa! Bring a toy donation for Santa Wears a Badge and get your picture taken with Santa.

Admission is free! Costs vary by vendor.

[More information about Holiday Fest at the Fairgrounds](#)

Lights & Lagniappe on the Bayou

December 7, 2024 — 1 PM—6 PM

Old Singing River Mall—Gautier

Join us for a magical holiday event that's fun for the whole family! The City of Gautier is hosting its annual Lights & Lagniappe on the Bayou on Thursday, December 7th at 1 PM, and you won't want to miss it! Event Highlights: Christmas Music, Pictures with Santa, Face Painting, Children's Craft Area, Train Rides, Carnival Rides, Dance Performances, Annual Tree Lighting ceremony, Light the Night Fireworks Show, Arts & Craft Vendors

Admission is free! Costs vary by vendor.

[More information about Lights & Lagniappe on the Bayou](#)

Christmas by the River

December 7, 2024—3 PM—5 PM
Moss Point River Front Park

The annual Christmas on the River lighted boat parade is set to run on Saturday, December 7, at 6 p.m. for guests along the riverfront in downtown Moss Point. Boat owners are invited to join the fun by decorating boats and lining up at the Hwy 613 bridge by 5 p.m. After the boat parade, the event finale will be fireworks over the river. Food and merchandise vendors will be staged along the riverfront for the enjoyment of all.

Admission is free!

[More information about Christmas by the River.](#)

2024 Rudolph Chase 3K Color Run

December 14, 2024—8 AM—10:30 AM
Lum Cumbest Park, 18417 Hwy 613, Moss Point, MS

Get ready to dash through the Lum Cumbest Park in our 2024 Rudolph Chase 3K Color Run - a fun-filled, colorful event for all ages!

Join us for the Rudolph Chase 2024 Color Run on December 14 at Lum Cumbest Park! Dash through a festive course and get splashed with holiday colors along the way!

Register by Nov 29 to score your Rudolph Chase shirt! Don't miss out—let's make it the most colorful run of the season!

Registration required. Cost \$10-\$30

[More information about Rudolph Chase 3k Color Run](#)

Teen Air Dry Clay Program

December 14, 2024—12 PM—1 PM
Gautier Public Library

Teens ages 13-18, unleash your creativity with us on Saturday, December 14th, from 12–1 p.m. for an exciting air-dry clay workshop! Learn various techniques to create your own unique clay bowls, with all supplies provided. This free event is a perfect opportunity to explore hands-on crafting in a relaxed, supportive setting. Space is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot by calling 228-497-4531. Don't miss out on this chance to make something special—grab a friend and join the fun at the library!

Reservations required.

Admission free!

[More information about Teen Air Dry Clay Program](#)

Christmas by Krebs Lake

December 14, 2024—3 PM—5 PM
La Pointe—Krebs House, 4602 Fort St, Pascagoula,

Come one, come all Come by boat, or come by car! Walk or run...come as you are! Join us in the Holiday Merriment Visit with Santa Claus Play Reindeer Games Enter your Pup in the Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest Enjoy Hot Chocolate & Beignets Mann's Kettle Corn will be here AND we hear Elvis will be too Museum and House open for tours.

Admission is free!

[More information about Christmas by Krebs Lake.](#)

Krampus Night Market

December 14, 2024—5 PM— 8 PM
La Pointe—Krebs House, 4602 Fort St, Pascagoula,

Your favorite metaphysical shop on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Join us in holistic health and spiritual wellness at the 2nd Night Market of the year. With a variety of vendors, food and drinks, fire dancers, and live music. Krampus will be visiting and taking pictures.

Admission is free! Costs vary by vendor.

[More information about Krampus Night Market.](#)

Beware the Yule Cat!

December 19, 2024—5 PM
Ina Thompson Moss Point Library—4119 Bellview St

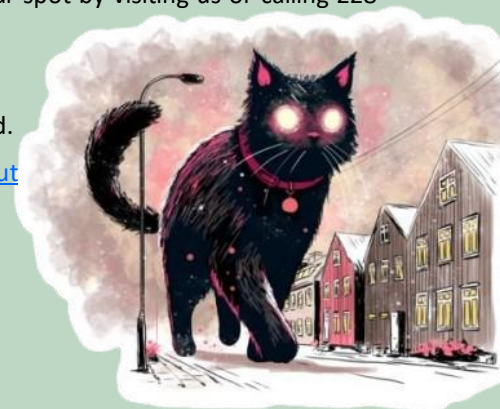
Beware the Yule Cat! Join us at the Ina Thompson Moss Point Library on December 19th at 5 PM for a chilling dive into Icelandic folklore. This legendary feline is sure to keep naughty children on their toes! Enjoy a spooky holiday tale, then stay for a craft you can take home. Space is limited, so reserve your spot by visiting us or calling 228-475-7462.

Admission is free!

Registration is required.

[More information about](#)

[Beware the Yule Cat!](#)



Jingle Crawl

December 20, 2024—5 PM—8 PM
Downtown Pascagoula

It's the most wonderful time of the year... to JINGLE CRAWL through the Flagship District! Wear your tacky Christmas attire and bring some holiday cheer as we celebrate Christmas in Pascagoula. Pick up your crawl card from 5-8 PM and then head around the Flagship District to jingle crawl away.

Costs vary by restaurant/bar.

[More information about Jingle Crawl](#)

NarbyCon 7

December 21, 2024 — 10 AM—11:30 PM
maCnarB Gaming—2307 Highway 90, Gautier

Get ready for NarbyCon 2024, the ultimate one-day gaming event! Dive into RPGs, TCG tournaments, HeroClix, Legion Tourney, Miniature Gaming, Board Games, and our first-ever Board Game Flea Market! All this fun for just a \$10 entry fee. Don't miss out!



Tournament Registration \$10. Costs vary by vendor.

[More information about NarbyCon7](#)

Christmas Movie Night

December 21, 2024—5 PM—7 PM
Gautier Public Library

Christmas Movie Night - Santa Claus Conquers the Martians (family)

Join us for a classic Christmas Sci-Fi movie. Bring your lawn chair or blanket for an outdoor movie. There will be free popcorn, soda and water. Movie showing will be moved indoor for inclement weather.

Admission is free!

[More information about Christmas Movie Night.](#)

MILITARY SERVICE RALLY
FOR ALL WHO SERVED

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5
11AM - 2PM
PELICAN LANDING
6217 MS-613, MOSS POINT

VENDORS
MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS
VINTAGE MILITARY VEHICLES

SRFCU
Singing River Federal Credit Union

INGALLS SHIPBUILDING
A Division of IHG

Mississippi Power

Singing River Hospice of Light

THE RIVER CITY
MOSS POINT
MISSISSIPPI

Rotary Club of Moss Point

IN HONOR OF PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

King's Parade

January 4, 2025 — 2 PM
Main Stret, Moss Point

Kick off Mardi Gras 2025 in Moss Point as the first parade of the season rolls through the River City. The parade splendidly marks the Epiphany of the King, igniting the Mardi Gras season with a burst of color, music, and communal joy.

Experience the festive atmosphere of Mardi Gras with a spectacular parade featuring beautifully decorated floats, colorful beads, dazzling masks, and festive feathers. Watch as the parade participants throw beads and trinkets to the enthusiastic crowds lining the streets

The parade will begin at Southgate plaza and travel northward to the Riverfront park where vendors and live entertainment will help keep the celebration lively.

Admission is Free! Costs vary by vendor.

Chloe Taylor Memorial Bowling Tournament

January 18, 2025 — 10 AM
 Spanish Trail Lanes, Gautier, MS

The 2nd Annual Chloe Taylor Memorial Bowling Tournament is hosted by her family every January in honor of her birthday. Chloe, along with her best friend Baleigh Bowlin, were tragically killed in a car accident on October 16, 2022.

As a way to honor her memory, a bowling tournament is held to raise funds for various charities and scholarship funds. This year all proceeds will go towards scholarships for East Central High School seniors and the USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital Mapp NICU Patient Support Fund.

The tournament will include 4 man teams with an entry fee of \$125. Lane sponsorships are also being accepted for \$50. Raffle tickets for door prizes that have been generously donated by local businesses are being sold and winners will be drawn on the day of the tournament. Need not be present to win. For more information, contact Amanda Taylor at 228-219-0189.

Registration \$125 per four (4) person team.

Spring Blood Drive

January 30, 2025 — 9 AM
 Moss Point Career and Technical Education Center
 4924 Church Street, Moss Point

Each donation can save up to three lives, helping accident victims, cancer patients, and those with chronic conditions who rely on the generosity of donors like you. By donating, you join a life-saving mission ensuring that local hospitals and patients have the blood supplies they urgently need. Take this opportunity to be a hero and inspire others to do the same—because every drop counts.

Help Moss Point High School reach its donation goal. It only takes a few minutes out of your day.

Admission 1 pint of blood!

Donors must be 16 years of age and up!

For more details, please email Ms. Marilyn McMillian at mcmillian@mpsnow.org



Recurring Events at #the1120

All recurring events are members and their guests only except for Bingo and Cornhole which are open to the public. Want to attend a members only event? Ask an Elk you know to sponsor you to start your membership adventure.



Every Thursday 7:00 PM
Members Only



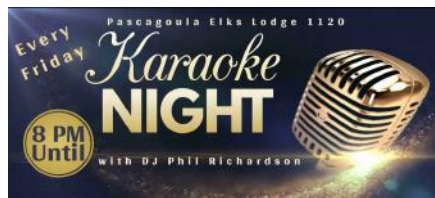
Every Tuesday 6:30 PM
Open to the public.



Every Thursday 11:00AM
Open to the public.



Every Friday 6:30 PM
Elks & Their Guests Only



Every Friday 8:00 PM
Elks & Their Guests Only



Every Sunday 4:00 PM
Elks & Their Guests Only



1st Wednesday 6:00 PM
Auxiliary Members Only



1st Thursday 6:00 PM
Committee & Elks Only



2nd Tuesday 6:00 PM
Committee & Elks Only



2nd Wednesday 6:00 PM
Committee & Elks Only



Last Sunday 2:00 PM
Elks & Their Guests Only



2nd Thursday 6:45 PM
September—April

December Calendar

1	SUNDAY	ELKS MEMORIAL CEREMONY 2 PM
2	MONDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY CARDS CARVINAL BALL MEETING
3	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE
4	WEDNESDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING
5	THURSDAY	NO BINGO NO MEETING MID WINTER CONFERENCE
6	FRIDAY	NO STEAK NIGHT MID WINTER CONFERENCE
7	SATURDAY	MID WINTER CONFERENCE
8	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
9	MONDAY	
10	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
11	WEDNESDAY	HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETS
12	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS—STUDENT OF THE MONTH
13	FRIDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
14	SATURDAY	WIDOWS FRUIT BOWLS PARTY WITH SANTA
15	SUNDAY	LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY
16	MONDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY CARDS
17	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE
18	WEDNESDAY	
19	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS
20	FRIDAY	HOUSE STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
21	SATURDAY	CHRISTMAS BASKETS
22	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
23	MONDAY	
24	TUESDAY	LODGE CLOSED
25	WEDNESDAY	MERRY CHRISTMAS! LODGE CLOSED
26	THURSDAY	NO BINGO NO MEETING
27	FRIDAY	OFFICERS' STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
28	SATURDAY	
29	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
30	MONDAY	
31	TUESDAY	LODGE CLOSED

January Calendar

1	WEDNESDAY	
2	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS KITCHEN COMMITTEE MEETS
3	FRIDAY	KITCHEN STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
4	SATURDAY	
5	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
6	MONDAY	CARVINAL BALL MEETING
7	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE
8	WEDNESDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY MEETS HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETS
9	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS - STUDENT OF MONTH
10	FRIDAY	LADIES STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
11	SATURDAY	
12	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
13	MONDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY CARDS
14	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE COMMUNICATIONS COMM MEETS
15	WEDNESDAY	
16	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS
17	FRIDAY	HOUSE STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
18	SATURDAY	PRIVATE EVENT
19	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
20	MONDAY	
21	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE
22	WEDNESDAY	CARNIVAL BALL REHEARSAL
23	THURSDAY	NO BINGO LODGE MEETS
24	FRIDAY	OFFICERS STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE
25	SATURDAY	ELKS CARNIVAL BALL
26	SUNDAY	NFL AT #THE1120 POTLUCK SOCIAL
27	MONDAY	LADIES AUXILIARY CARDS
28	TUESDAY	CORNHOLE LEAGUE
29	WEDNESDAY	PRIVATE EVENT
30	THURSDAY	BINGO LODGE MEETS - INITIATIONS
31	FRIDAY	ENF STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE



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Official Publication of Winking Elk Publishing