



Our Mission as Elks

To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that

Elks Care and Elks Share.



Virginia Beach Elks Lodge # 2268



*Flag Day Ceremony
At the Flame of Hope
671 S Oceana Blvd,
Sunday, June 12th, 2011
11am*

PROGRAM

**Paul Shoemaker Exalted Ruler's welcomes guest
and Introductory**

**Invocation
Karyn Swenor**

**Presentation of Colors
Navy & Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center**

**The Flag: It's History
Beverly Hamby, DDGER**

**Flag bearers
Green Run High School NJROTC**

**Bagpipes
Ron McGregor**

**Response
Samantha Spencer**

**Guest Speaker
Colonel Francis Cubillo, USMC (RET)**

**Guest Speaker
Congressmen Scott Rigell**

**Award presentation to
Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr**

**Closing
Paul Shoemaker Exalted Ruler**

The Father of Flag Day

Bernard J. Cigrand was first and foremost an American patriot. From the 1880s through the 1930s, he preached respect and honor for the nation and its flag.



In 1885, however, Cigrand still a teenager and only at the beginning of his journey. He entered dental college later that year, mixing his professional studies with the promotion of the flag.

In June 1886 he made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "The Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper.

In June of 1888, at the same time he was graduating first in his class from dental college, Cigrand addressed a Chicago organization known as the "Sons of America". In his speech he emphasized the good that would come from a flag holiday. In response, the organization undertook to publish a magazine called the "American Standard" to inculcate reverence for American emblems, and appointed Cigrand its editor-in-chief. Cigrand's articles in this magazine helped direct public attention to the Flag and the date of its birth.

In the years that followed, Cigrand authored hundreds of other magazine and newspaper articles advocating recognition of the June 14th adoption of the Stars and Stripes.

In the third Saturday in June, 1894, , the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating. These observances were held in the five parks again the next year, also on the third Saturday of June.

In the years that followed, 36 Governors, scores of mayors and five Presidents of the United States sent delegates and credentials agreeing that Flag Day should be observed in all states of the Union on the actual June 14 anniversary of the adoption of the flag .By 1916 flag ceremonies on June 14 had become so prevalent that President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing Flag Day as an annual national event.



President Harry S. Truman signed the legislation in 1949 and June 14th was properly designated Flag Day. This is where Flag Day stands today, 62 years after Truman.



**Captain Robert N. Geis, USN
Executive Officer
Naval Air Station Oceana**

Captain Geis, of San Diego, graduated from the University of California at San Diego with a BA in Communications, he graduated AOCS in October 1987.

He was designated a Naval Flight Officer in January 1989. After transitioning to the S-3B, his first sea tour was in VS-32, where he made two deployments in support of Operation DESERT STORM and Operation SOUTHERN WATCH onboard USS AMERICA (CV-66). CAPT Geis was named the VS-32 NFO of the year for 1992.

CAPT Geis then became an FRS instructor at VS-27. His duties included Curriculum Officer and Carrier Qualifications Instructor. CAPT Geis was named the last NFO Instructor of the Year in 1994 at the dis-establishment of the squadron. CAPT Geis headed west to Sea Control Wing, Pacific for a one year tour as Tactical Development and Evaluation Officer and Instructor at VS-41.

CAPT Geis was then assigned to Carrier Group Three as Assistant Air Operations Officer onboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72) and USS CARL VINSON (CVN-70). During this tour, he deployed on numerous exercises and to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. He was then selected to be a Flag Aide which included a transition to Flag Aide for Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan.

After refresher training, CAPT Geis was assigned to the VS-30 Diamondcutters as Administrative Officer, Safety Officer and Maintenance Officer and completed a deployment on USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73). During his tenure as Maintenance Officer, the squadron was nominated for the Phoenix Award as the best maintenance department in the Navy. CAPT Geis was named the VS-30 Senior NFO of the Year for 1999.

CAPT Geis was selected to attend the Naval College of Command and Staff in Newport, RI. He earned a Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies in March 2002.

CAPT Geis was then assigned as an Action Officer and Executive Officer in the Plans and Policy Directorate of U.S. Central Command. He was responsible for writing, assessing and disseminating high level policy during Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. His tour included a deployment to the forward headquarters during 2002.

In 2003, CAPT Geis was selected for command of Strike Fighter Squadron 211 and transitioned to the F/A-18F Super Hornet. The command was awarded the Battle Efficiency award for 2005. During his command tour, the squadron deployed on USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) in support of both Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM on the first east coast deployment of the Super Hornet.

His next shore assignment was as the Executive Assistant to Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic. His duties included assisting the Commander decide and disseminate actions and policy in support of all east coast Naval Aviation.



**Colonel Francis X. Cubillo
United States Marine Corps (Ret.)**

A native of Long Island, NY, and a graduate of La Salle Military Academy (an Army JROTC prep-school in NY), Col Cubillo enlisted in the Marine Corps on Jan 31, 1972.

His career as a Marine spanned nearly four decades until he retired (October 2009) with the rank of full colonel and as the first commanding officer of Marine Corps Intelligence Schools in Virginia Beach, VA. Col Cubillo ascended through the ranks from private to staff sergeant, from warrant officer to chief warrant officer-3, to Limited Duty Officer (LDO) 1st Lieutenant to Captain and to Colonel as an unrestricted line officer in the intelligence and signals intelligence career fields.

Throughout his career, he served several years overseas with the Naval Security Group in Scotland, Spain, Cuba and a tour in Washington, DC. His Marine Corps intelligence tours included: Iwakuni, Japan; Camp Lejeune, NC; Kaneohe Bay, HI, Coronado, CA, Virginia Beach, VA; and Okinawa, Japan where he commanded the Third Intelligence Battalion as a Lieutenant Colonel.

He graduated from the University of West Florida with a BS degree in Management while on active duty, and received a MS in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College, Newport, RI.

He was fully qualified as a Joint Specialty Officer after his tour with Joint Forces Command, Norfolk and graduating from the Joint Forces Staff College.

Col Cubillo saw combat in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF).

His military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and numerous personal, service and campaign medals. He was the 2006 recipient of the Rear Admiral Edwin T. Layton Award for excellence in Naval Intelligence Leadership.

Col Cubillo currently serves as the Executive Director, Center for Naval Intelligence, Dam Neck, and lives in Virginia Beach with his wife Cindy of 35 years and their Son Frank and Daughter Tina who attend VCU and ODU respectively.



Congressmen Scott Rigell

Scott Rigell, 50, is a lifelong Republican, community leader and business owner from Virginia Beach, Virginia. The founder and Chairman of Freedom Automotive in Virginia Beach, Scott and his wife Teri own automobile dealerships in Virginia Beach, Norfolk and Chesapeake which employ more than 240 people. He is a past president of the Hampton Roads Automobile Dealers Association.

Scott grew up in a middle-class family in Titusville, Florida. He served his country in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, rising to the rank of Sergeant before an honorable discharge after six years. Scott earned his B.B.A. from Mercer University and his M.B.A. from Regent University in Virginia Beach.

Since the Republican Revolution of the early 1990s, Scott has financially supported and volunteered for dozens of local and statewide Virginia Republicans, including Bob McDonnell, George Allen, Mark Earley, Jim Gilmore and Oliver North. He was a founding member of the Tusk and Trunk Club and is a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association. Scott was appointed to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board by Governor Allen.

Scott recently completed six years of service as a board member of Horizons Hampton Roads, a non-profit organization offering a unique summer enrichment experience to low-income students who attend public elementary or middle schools in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Portsmouth. He is also a co-founder and board member of Friends of St. John's University, which benefits its namesake school in Dodoma, Tanzania.

Since founding Freedom Automotive in 1991, Scott has served many community organizations, including the local chambers of commerce and economic development corporations. He has volunteered extensively for the local chapters of the United Way and the Boy Scouts, and in 2001 the VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads board selected Scott to receive their Corporate Volunteer Leadership Award. In 2007 Scott served as the Dinner Chairman for the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities.

Scott also served as a volunteer Mentor at First Colonial High School and a Partner-In-Education at Willoughby Elementary School. Scott and Teri are members of Trinity Church in Virginia Beach, where Scott serves as an elder. They are the proud parents of four grown children: Lindsey, Mallory, Justus and Shannon and a new grandson, Parks.



Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr.

Virginia Beach native Will Sessoms began his political career in 1988 as an at-large member of the Virginia Beach City Council. In 1992, his fellow council members selected him to be Vice Mayor, a position he held until 2002. In 2008, Sessoms was elected to serve as Mayor.

For more than 20 years, Mayor Sessoms has been actively involved in community service and has worked with numerous local and regional organizations. These include the Virginia Beach Jaycees, the Life Saving Museum of Virginia, the American Heart Association, the Planning Council, the Boys and Girls Club, the Norfolk State University Foundation, and the Tidewater Regional Transit Authority.

Currently, Mayor Sessoms contributes his time to the Virginia Beach Foundation, the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival, the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad Foundation, the Virginia Beach Central Business District Association, Virginia Beach Vision, Eastern Virginia Medical School, the Sentara Health Care System, the Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, and the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center.

Between 1994 and 2004, Mayor Sessoms was appointed by two Virginia governors to serve on the state's Public School Authority, the Local Health Benefits Advisory Committee and the Governor's Commission on Environmental Stewardship.

In 1997, Mayor Sessoms was honored to serve as King Neptune XXIV during the Neptune Festival. In 2006, he was recognized with the distinguished Virginia Beach First Citizen award.

Mayor Sessoms graduated from First Colonial High School and Virginia Commonwealth University. In 1976, he returned to Virginia Beach to pursue a career in banking. After working at Sovran Bank for eight years and Wachovia Bank for 20 years, he joined TowneBank where he has served as the Virginia Beach President since 2005.