

Tania DeFrank

Liberty Lodge #1545

Tania was initiated into Liberty Lodge #1545 on December 14, 2005, with this being her 20th year in Elkdom. Tania was installed as Esquire the following March and was announced Officer of the Year that same year. She followed each chair through to the position of Liberty Lodge's first female Exalted Ruler in 2010-2011.

She was the Lodge Treasurer from 2011-2017 and has been Lodge Secretary since 2017. She is also the East Central District's Past District Deputy's Association Treasurer.

Since becoming a member, Tania has chaired and/or participated in every committee in the lodge in her years as an Elk including ENF Chair, Major Projects Chair, Lodge Activities Chair, Elks Training

Chair, Community Holiday Events Chair and Membership Committee.

Tania is also the Grants Coordinator and has secured \$92,000 in ENF grants for her lodge since 2013 and has initiated and chaired and co-chaired community wide events since, helping local children and families. On the District level, Tania was the Major Projects District Chair from 2016-19 and was awarded the NYSEA

Outstanding Support of NYS Elks Major Projects in 2018-19 at the Spring Convention 2019. She has been the Lodge and Community Activities Chair since 2019 and Charitable record chair until 2022. Tania has also been on the staff of five District Deputies since becoming involved at this level.

On the State Level, Tania was elected as the first female State Vice President for the East Central District in 2014-15. Tania was also the State Lodge Activities Chair from 2019-2024 where she was in charge of grading submissions for the "All American Lodge" Contest and submitting all the information to Grand Lodge. In 2019, she was appointed as the State Financial Reporting System (FRS) Coordinator working with lodges throughout the state assisting with their transition to the new online financial system and she was the State's contact with Grand Lodge for the FRS System. She continued in this position until 2023.

On the Grand Lodge level, Tania was installed as the East Central District's first female District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the 2016-17 Elk year in Houston Texas. She has attended Grand Lodge Conventions in 2009, 2010, 2016, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

On a personal note, Tania was born and raised in England in a suburb of London. She came to the United States in 1986 at that age of 18 to work the summer at an Association of Retarded Children (ARC) Camp in Liberty, NY. She emigrated to the United States in May of 1988, a day before her 20th birthday. Tania became a US citizen in 2005, and on the same day, she signed her Elks application form. In addition to volunteering at the Elks, Tania was a Boy Scout leader for 11 years followed by being a Girl Scout leader for another 12 years. Tania works at Liberty Central School District as the District Clerk and Superintendent's Secretary. Tania and her husband Marren, a Past Exalted Ruler from Liberty Lodge #1545, live and work in Liberty and have a blended family of 5 children and 6 beautiful grandchildren.