

# Arizona Elks News

The Arizona Elks News is an Official Publication of the Arizona Elks Association

October 2017



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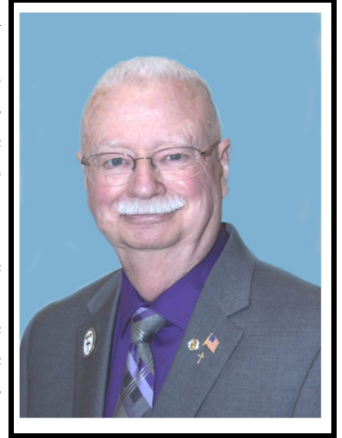
**Arizona Elks Association  
Mid Year Meeting  
October 20-22**

Double Tree By Hilton  
2100 S Priest Dr.  
Tempe, Az. 85282

## "Good Communication Breeds Success"

### Jim's Jibberish

Here we are, it's almost time for our Mid-year meeting in Tempe on October 20-22, 2017. Fall is in the air and the time has been flying by. Our Vice Presidents and I are well into our Lodge visitations, as are the District Deputies. Please remember that our visits are to help in any way we can and we gather ideas from your membership as well, to pass along to other Lodges. Remember, **communication!**



I want to thank Rich Botkin and his committee, along with the Tucson East Elks, for the terrific Golf Tournament this month. We had such a great bunch of golfers and I believe everyone had lots of fun and fellowship. We raised over \$6,000 for the Arizona Elks Major Projects. Thanks to everyone that participated in whatever way you did.

Our progress meeting in September went well. We had good reports given as to how the individual committees are progressing towards their goals for the year. We need more input from the District Chairs in a timely manner to complete the State Chairs reports at the Mid-year meeting. Remember, our honored and invited guests will be in attendance for the October convention, so please be prepared to give informative, but concise reports when it's your time slot.

Our website under the care of Barry 'Bear' Carlile should be up and running in the next couple of weeks. He has created a new format, user friendly and I believe that you will find it very helpful in planning your events around set dates for the year. Remember, that we still want all committees and lodges to send any dates you wish to Bear and he'll include them. Remember, it will only be the name of the event, no room for details, but, interested people can call your lodge or you personally and obtain the details. You and your chairperson can put your details in the Arizona Elks News...what a great idea for **"Good Communication"**! There will be links available on the website, forms, guides, quiz, etc. Many of the same items we've had before, and perhaps new ones as he continues to create new things and update the site.

The month of October brings forth Red Ribbon Week from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of October. Also, the Secretary's Report is due to the Lodge, as well as the Trustee's Report. And don't forget that the Exalted Ruler's Report from the Grand Lodge Convention is also due to the Lodge. And one last item, the Auditing & Accounting Committee is to review lodge books and report at the last meeting of the month.

Just a note on Jan's project for the year: Undies for Veterans....your Lodge received an 8x11 poster to display in your Lodge for donations from your members. Please remind our members that we don't want our Veterans to be forgotten. This is an easy way to help and allow each of us to do our small part in making their lives better and more comfortable.

Fraternally,  
**Jim**  
Jim Casacchia  
AEA President



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## Back to School

The Ajo Elks Lodge recently used their \$2000 Gratitude Grant to assist local children, families and teachers in their small community. Exalted Ruler Shali Haas, Loyal Knight Helen Pyron, Secretary Linda Celaya and the Public Relations/Scholarship Chairperson Lynn O'Connor obtained school supply lists and shopped to fulfill them. The results of those shopping trips packed two tables with much needed school necessities.



ties. Elk members then went to work sorting the supplies and packaging them up by grade in tote bags donated by the Activities Chairperson, Kord Klienfelder. By partnering with Support Our Schools (SOS) to facilitate the distribution of the supplies the Ajo Elks benevolence aided students in six different grades. Feedback from SOS, local teachers and the community to the Lodge

has been overwhelming positive. The members are looking forward to doing more in the future!

Article and photo submitted by Shali Haas, Exalted Ruler

## Phoenix 335 Donations



Phoenix Lodge raised \$3,000 in book sales to purchase clothing for Veterans at the "Central Arizona Shelter Services". Approximately 2,500 books in good condition were collected and sold, with funds going to our Veterans. This is one of many projects led by George Francis (80) over the last several years. Any Veteran's Committee member may initiate projects for the Veterans after obtaining approvals. The Clothing Drive also collects gently used clothing and

distributes the items to six Veteran's organizations in the Phoenix area.

Veteran's needs are never ending and it is the Veterans Committee's goal to identify those needs and fill them. Thank You goes out to all those team members for their strong leadership, and for just having fun and working together for our Veterans. The first annual Veteran's Appreciation Dinner Dance was also initiated by George. One hundred and twenty were in attendance for the Veteran's Dinner Dance this year. It was led by Keith Christensen, PER, and raised approximately \$4000 dollars for our Veterans. The success in raising funds is always due to great teamwork. A few people can make a big difference!

Pictured L to R: Dr. John Records, Lorie Smith, Veteran's Committee Chairman, Barbara McDonald, George Francis and Pamela Records.

Article and photo submitted by Marti Edwards



## Willcox Elks Donate Backpacks



Willcox Elks Lodge #2131 grant committee applied for and received a Gratitude Grant. Kelly Colbert committee chair worked closely with school counselors to identify children to receive the backpacks. We were able to give 54 backpacks filled with necessary school supplies. Due to diligent shopping we were also able to give a box of supplies to each school office to be distributed as needed.

The boxes contained copy paper, filler paper, bottles of hand sanitizer, Lysol wipes, Kleenex, pencil, pens, erasers, dry erase markers/erasers, glue sticks and more. Willcox Elementary, Willcox Middle, Joanne Todd Christian, Bonita and San Simon schools were touched by Elks Sharing!!

The backpacks were distributed at the Lodge and popsicles were passed out. It was a very humbling afternoon. Received many Thanks and Hugs.

Article and photos submitted by Gladys Olsen, Public Relations Chair.



## Elks Team Up To Help Disabled Vet



Anthony (Tony) Raymond Bauer, 68, a disabled Navy vet, who served in the Gulf of Tonkin invite Nam, did not believe that he would ever get the assistance that he desperately needed and if he did get that help, it would be a long time coming.

Little did he know that his plight had reached the ears of the Sun City Elks Veterans Committee.

Anthony is presently a resident in the Arizona State Veterans Home, and the home does not always provide the equipment that some vets may need as it is not a federal facility.

Tony is permanently confined to either his bed or a wheel chair, a chair that he cannot manage himself, he needed a power chair.

The Sun City Elks work in close contact with many local veterans facilities and had recently heard that the Paralyzed Veterans facility had a brand new \$30,000 plus power chair that they could not use.

The Sun City Elks Veterans committee then checked with the Therapeutic director for the Veterans home to see if they would approve of the chair as their regulations require.

The chair was approved and "Tony" received the assistance he did not believe would be soon forth coming.

Pictured l to r: Gary Drumheller Elks

Arizona State Veterans

Chairman, Tony Bauer and Kayla Uptain, Arizona State Veterans Home Therapeutic Director.

Article and photo submitted by Val Bianchini, Public Relations Chair

**Arizona Elks Association  
Arizona Elks News  
4102 E. Tamaya St.  
Phoenix, Arizona 85044**

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## Vets Do Love Their Spaghetti

On Monday, August 28, 2017, The Sun City Elks hosted twenty vets to an all you can eat spaghetti dinner, your choice of red or white sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread and ice cream.



The vets were from two local veterans facilities, M.A.N.A. House (Marines, Army, Navy, Airforce) and the Grand Avenue chapter of Vets for Vets facility, both located in Phoenix, Arizona. The Elks lodge was expecting thirty five vets, but due to a bus driver not showing up, fifteen vets were left out, as they did not have transportation to the Elks Lodge and missed a dinner they had been looking forward to for quite a while. The service of the twenty vets who did attend, ranged from Viet Nam to Iraq and each was Thrilled to be able to get away from their facilities and join other vets to enjoy a fun evening out.

The Sun City Elks put on several spaghetti dinner events for the vets throughout the year, and combined with hamburger nights that the Elks provide, the vets have some great times away from their facilities.

One of the fund raising events the Elks have for the vets is their "Casino Night" event. This years event will be held on Saturday October 7, 2017 at the Elks Lodge on Union Hills drive in Peoria, Arizona. The event is open to the public and offers fun, food and optimism for the vets.

Elks Moto: "As long as there are vets, they will never be forgotten". Bless them all.

Article and photo submitted by Val Biachini, Public Relations Chair.

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