

Arizona Elks Electronic News

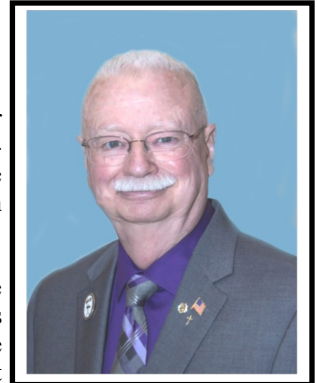
The Arizona Elks Electronic News is an Official Publication of the Arizona Elks Association

March, 2018

"Good Communication Breeds Success "

Jim's Jibberish...

HAPPY EASTER



Another month has passed and March brings us closer to the end of our year. We had our final progress meeting in Sun City and our committees had their opportunity to show the progress that has been made during the year. What a great group of men and women. Thanks again to the **Sun City Lodge #2559** for hosting us.

We experienced a great State Hoop Shoot at Apache Junction on the 17th of February. We have super young people heading to represent us in Las Vegas this month. **Gregg and Jeanne Boyce** have again done an outstanding job with our Hoop Shoot. These youngsters are what makes us proud to be Americans. It is unfortunate that the evil ones get the hype in our news. We are looking forward to riding the Junk Food Express with our kids and their parents.

Unfortunately, I have to bring up the two critical items where we are lacking. I received the latest membership report and the lodges delinquency rates. I don't see any improvement in making progress on these lists. We only have a limited amount of time left to save our goal of a State Membership Gain! Please try to work this list down....

Also, we have three lodges with a Special Representative assigned to them. I hope you will take the advice of these dedicated Elks who assume the job and give up so much of their time to assist you. They have tons of experience and only want to help your lodges.

On a happier note, Jan and I attended the **Area 7 Golf Tournament in Mesquite, NV**. Although, we didn't play golf, we had a great time. One of the courses was "Oasis". If it had snowed, you could have had an alpine skiing event. It was beautiful, they supplied us with a cart and we had a great experience. A big thank you to the Mesquite Lodge. Arizona was represented by eight golfers from **Page Lodge # 2498**. I thank them for representing us, maybe next year, we can have better Arizona participation. A portion of the entry fees come back to each state's Major Project. Arizona received \$300 this year. Way to go, Page!! (See an article elsewhere in the AZ News)

This month, the All-American Lodge Contest is due on the 15th...don't forget. Also, Contest E & F, the ENF Per Capita and Chairman Challenge are due. Our Lodges will be conducting their Installation of Officers this month and presenting our Special Awards to Officers, Elks, Citizens and Special Citations. Please remember the Elks that have done an outstanding job and went that extra mile to make your Lodge a better place.

This is also the month for the Irish! Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! At least, that's what I've always been told. So, here's to the Good Luck that all talk about.

I will finish with a Happy Easter to you and your families, and hope that the world will be more peaceful. We can all use that.

Fraternally,
Jim
Jim Casacchia
AEA President



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**OFFICERS
FOR 2017-2018
ARIZONA
ELKS
ASSOCIATION**

PRESIDENT:

Jim Casacchia

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

East: Mike Murphy

VICE PRESIDENT

North: Dwayne Cunningham

South: Lee Cook

West: Patrick A. Riley

SECRETARY:

Peter K. Gillespie

TREASURER :

Albert Kayal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

South-1 Year:

Homer M. Sylvers, Jr.

East-2 Year:

Jimmy S. Davis

West- 3 Year:

Richard Conway

North-4 Years:

Leland R. Schwein

South- 5 Years:

Alfred R. Skorupski

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

John Doucette

CHAPLAIN:

Rick Kimberly

TILER:

Angela Schenk

INNER GUARD:

William F. Buttram

ASST. SEC/TREASURER

Richard Seals

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Robert Rapps

ORGANIST:

Nancy Coleman

ENF Gratitude Grant

Yuma Lodge 476 used their \$2000.00 ENF Gratitude Grant to help the Safe House of Yuma with their security system. The Safe House provides the only shelter in Yuma County for abused or abandoned women and children. Picture from left; Evita Mendez-Count, Executive Director; John Fuller, ENF Lodge Chairman; Jodie Wight, Program Director; Sandra Ramos, Board Member; Joanna Kromer, Loyal Knight; and Ed Kromer, Leading Knight. Article and photo submitted by John Fuller.



Love & Marriage Is Celebrated



Elks Ladies Auxiliary celebrated love and marriage recently at their annual Sweetheart Ball. In attendance, of a sold out crowd, were fourteen Bullhead City Elk member couples who were married 50 years or more and each were recognized with a box of candy. Amongst them was the couple married the longest, Fred and Rachel Castro with 65 years together (right) and in the audience the couple married only 6 years was Del and Teddie Eastes. It was a joyous occasion celebrated by a lovely meal and dancing to the music of Christine and Dave.

Article and photo submitted by Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair.

We Paid The Price

We gave our lives for our country. We went to war to provide our freedom. We had friends to share this conflict. Some died, some came home, but we were not the same.

We sit and wonder. We talk to others, but they don't hear us. Their stories are hidden, but we try to listen. Have you heard what they say? Can you feel it?

Listen to us or have you forgotten? We are here ... see us..!

Submitted by Al Stevenson
South District Chairman Veterans Committee
(21st in a Series)

Elks Honor Student Of The Month

Two seniors were honored for their academic achievements for January recently and received a certificate from the Lodges Youth Activities chairwoman Carol Crough, right. From left Mohave accelerated Learning Center is Luis Valdez who wishes to study computer science at Mohave Community College and possibly look into becoming a podiatrist as well. Rawaan Khatib from Mohave High is set on gong to Arizona State Univ. to study medicine to become pediatrician.



Article and photo submitted by Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair

North District Hoop Shoot



It's set. On January 27th, Jerome Lodge #1361 hosted the North District Hoop Shoot at the Camp Verde Middle School. This was the last of the District Shoots and now the Champions from each District will meet on February 17th, 2018 at the Cactus Canyon Junior High School in Apache Junction for the right to represent the State of Arizona at the Regional Finals in Las Vegas, NV. on March 2nd-4th.

North District Chairman Russell Hall and his lady Jessica did an outstanding job of running this shoot. Volunteers from all across the North District showed up to help. (pictured) The results are as follows:

8-9 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Brielle Bodily Kingman #468 2nd place Kaylee Hooke Show Low #2090 and 1st place Jordan Attakai Holbrook #2450

8-9 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Cadyn Sanchez Payson #2154 2nd place Preston Ross Page #2498 and 1st place Kingston Pina Show Low #2090

10-11 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Alayna Yazzie Holbrook #2450 2nd place Kristin Harris Page #2498 and 1st place Kenadi Stewart Show Low #2090

10-11 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Payton Stuart Payson #2154 2nd place Kenneth Nez Holbrook #2450 and 1st place Texas James Show Low #2090

12-13 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Liliana Arreola Show Low #2090 2nd place Kipree Carlisle Kingman #468 and 1st place Mylee Demuth Holbrook #2450

12-13 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Devante Greer Holbrook #2450 2nd place Armani Pina Show Low #2090 and 1st place Seth Deering Page #2498

Good Luck to all and we are all looking forward to a very competitive State Shoot.

Also pictured AEA State President James Casacchia, North District Hoop Shoot Chairman Russell Hall and DDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director Gregg Boyce

Article and photos submitted by Gregg Boyce, DDGER AEA Hoop Shoot Director



AEA State Hoop Shoot



Las Vegas Regional's here we come. On February 17th, 2018, 24 of the best in the State of Arizona at shooting free throws met in Apache Junction to determine the State Champions who will compete in Las Vegas for the right to go to the National Finals in Chicago, Ill. in April. The competition was top notch and anyone that was present did not go away disappointed. Although all that competed were already Champions in our eyes, only one from each age group may go on. The order of finish is as follows;

8-9 year old girls R to L; 4th place Camilla Orvando Douglas #955, 3rd place Addyson Arevalo Raceway #2852, runner up Jordan Attakai Holbrook #2450 and 1st place Ariana Arbizio Kearny #2478

8-9 year old boys L to R; 4th place Kingston Pina Show Low #2090, 3rd place Dayton Bond Mesa Buckhorn, runner up Alvaro Arvizu Sahuarita #2851 and 1st place Taj Deloney Yuma #476

10-11 year old girls R to L; 4th place Breana Saunders Raceway #2852, 3rd place Avory Wood Chandler #2429, runner up Jade Grijalva Douglas #955 and 1st place Kenadi Stewart Show Low #2090

10-11 year old boys L to R; 4th place Diego Lopez Douglas #955, 3rd place Dominic Avalos Chandler #2429, runner up Texas James Show Low #2090 and 1st place Logan Rose Phoenix #335

12-13 year old girls R to L; 4th place Aria Haynes Tucson #385, 3rd place Franky Sandoval Yuma #476, runner up Mia Barragan Kearny #2478 and 1st place Mylee Demuth Holbrook #2450

12-13 year old boys L to R; 4th place Joseph Lopez Tucson #385, 3rd place Barron Silsby Chandler #2429, runner up Joshua Tillman Raceway #2852 and 1st place Seth Deering Page #2498

My personal thank you goes out to Apache Junction Lodge #2349 for hosting and to the Cactus Canyon Junior High School for the use of their facility. Also to all of the many Elk volunteers that showed up and help this Shoot go off without a hitch. With out you this is not possible.

Good Luck to each and every State Champion at the Regional Hoop Shoot.

Also pictured are AEA President Jim Casacchia and AEA Hoop Shoot Director Gregg Boyce, DDGER

Pictures and article submitted by AEA Hoop Shoot Director Gregg Boyce, DDGER

Gregg Boyce, DDGER
AEA Hoop Shoot Director

Antlers From #335

Phoenix Lodge #335 instituted Phoenix Antlers Lodge #335 on January 24, 2018. The Eighteen young people ages 12 -20 were initiated as the founding members of this new Antlers Lodge. Following are the officers elected by their membership. President – Victoria Myrick, Vice President – Alexander Havertine, Secretary – Miranda Courtney, Treasurer – Brandon Greenaway, Trustees - Alivia Lochhead, Jack Miller, Cade Miller, Sargent at Arms – Maverick Courtney, Chaplain – Rebecca Havertine, Guard – Justin Hall. Congratulations to all these young men and women who will be the future of Elksdom. Lodge #335 looks forward to supporting you in your charitable endeavors!



Article and photo submitted by Martha Humphreys,.

Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge Remembers Veterans



Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 hosted a luncheon on February 3 for twenty-one veterans and three staff members from the Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center of the Tucson VA medical facility. The veterans were treated to Mexican food since it is not served at the facility.

The Past Exalted Rulers Association provided winter clothing and \$600 to disabled veteran Larry Moses and his wife, who will be attending the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic in Colorado in April.

In addition, the Lodge provided \$36,062 worth of clothing, books, and miscellaneous toiletries to the VA medical facility over the past ten months. The Lodge also

donated food gift cards and supplies to Arizona Fisher House, who provides lodging for families of veterans or active duty personnel receiving inpatient care at the Tucson VA facility.

Article and photos submitted by Pat Cox, Public Relations Chair



Donation To Veterans



Phoenix Lodge #335 Veterans Committee presented a check in the sum of \$1,000 to the Veterans Furniture Center of Phoenix, Arizona on January 17, 2018. The money will provide transitional home furnishings to Veterans whose lives are being reintegrated with our community. This is one more way that Elks honor and support our Veterans.

Photos Left to right: Larry Bodwell Exalted Ruler, Andy Chukka committee member, Lorie Smith Committee Chair, Veterans Furniture Center representatives Bruce Pagel, Bob Alford

Article and photo submitted by Marti Humphreys.

Chicken In A Box

Leading Knight, Bruce Van den Eng Kimmy Kamerer, HUD-VASH team member; Danna Auirana, HUD-VASH program coordinator and Pete Kaniowsky pose as they complete the lodge donation of 20 "Kitchens in a Box" on January 22 to veterans at the Southern Arizona Veteran's Affairs Homeless Program. The donation was made possible from an ENF grant.

Article and photo submitted by Ira Cohen



Life Insurance - Costs and Benefits



Let's look at the "top five" reasons people give for not owning life insurance.

1. Too Expensive. "I just cannot afford life insurance right now." Many people who live on fixed incomes see an insurance purchase as a luxury, not as a basic need.

2. Confusing. "We looked at proposals from three companies—page after page of numbers. What does it all mean? I haven't the slightest idea!"

3. Too Many Types. "I checked into term insurance, whole life insurance, universal life, variable life, single premium and survivorship insurance. But which one is right for me?"

4. No Trust. "Those big insurance companies claim to have billions of reserve funds. But one of the biggest insurance companies has been on the ropes for months. Who can you trust?"

5. Don't Plan to Die. "Someday when I plan to die, I will consider life insurance. But for now—don't worry, be happy!"
Don't have Life Insurance – or you have a very limited amount of coverage? Call or e-mail the Arizona Elks Major Projects Office – We have a list of Arizona Elks who as attorneys are willing to assist you in answering your insurance questions and concerns.

Five Reasons to Own Life Insurance

There are several reasons for you to purchase life insurance. If you were to pass away, the life insurance death benefits could provide resources that are quite important to your family. The various benefits include payment of your funeral and final expenses, paying off mortgages or other debts, living expenses or income for a surviving spouse, inheritance for children and payment of estate taxes.

1. Final Expenses and Funeral Costs. Usually there are medical expenses during the last weeks of life. These frequently will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Your memorial service preparation and costs can also easily exceed \$10,000. Total final expenses can often be more than \$20,000.

2. Pay Debts and Mortgages. The payment of debts or a mortgage is a one-time expense. Depending upon the amount of your mortgage, this could cost anywhere from a few thousand dollars to many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

3. Living Expenses for Spouse. The largest amount of insurance is typically purchased to provide both economic security and an investment that will add to the spouse's other annual income. A reasonable method is to estimate a 5% return on the investment. For example, if a spouse needed another \$25,000 of income over and above the amount paid by retirement funds, Social Security and other earnings, then insurance equal to \$500,000 invested at 5% would produce this amount.

4. Inheritance for Children. Permanent insurance is frequently used as a method of providing an inheritance for children. Many parents who make substantial gifts to charity plan to use life insurance as a means of providing additional inheritance for children or other family members.

5. Estate Taxes. If your estate is large, there may be a substantial payment of federal or state estate tax. If you own a family business or other assets that are intended to be transferred to family, then your estate could be subject to estate tax. Life insurance can be an excellent method to provide funds for payment of estate tax. Normally, for larger estates the life insurance is owned by an irrevocable life insurance trust so the insurance itself is not subject to estate tax.

Alfred R. Skorupski, PSP
Planned Giving Coordinator
Arizona Elks Major Projects

AREA 7 GOLF TOURNAMENT....

Mesquite, Nevada held it's 19th Annual Major Projects Golf Tournament on February 19th through the 21st, at the Casa Blanca Resort and Casino in Mesquite, NV. It was Jan's and my pleasure to accept the invitation to attend, along with the other Area 7 State Presidents. Even though we left Chino Valley in blustering cold and frigid temps, we arrived in Mesquite in 40 degree temps. Dennis Baylor, Activities Chair for Mesquite, changed this tournament from the hot, blistering temps of June, to now holding it in February when the temps would be mild and warm, or normally, mild and warm. It was a bit cold and windy there, also. But, that didn't stop the 77+ golfers and enthusiasts from persevering and enjoying the somewhat warm sun and the fun and fellowship that was had by all.

From Arizona, we had the following **Page Lodge #2498** golfers pursuing that little white elusive ball all around the courses. They were: **Bill Decker, Larry Evans, Jim Davis, Kristen Davis, Gracie Burton, Scott Torrey, Russ Madsen and Gawin Horrocks**. With the entry fees, each state would receive back some of the monies collected to go toward their Major Project. Jan and I bought a hole sponsorship, so with that made 10 participants. The tournament awarded each participant a \$30 return, so we brought home a check to the Arizona Elks Major Projects for a total of \$300. I am turning this in, with the understanding that the **Page Elks will receive the credit for the \$300**.

Hopefully, next year, we can have a larger number of participants from Arizona attend and bring back more of the earnings. **This was also the 3rd year in a row that Bill and Larry have won! Congrats to them...."The Champs"**.

Article submitted by Jim Casacchia, AEA President

Lost Dutchman Days

Apache Junction, Az 2349 hosted their annual Lost Dutchman Days, Elks Brat Party Feb 22nd. This years crowds were the largest ever with over 2,000 brats being served to thousands of festival goers. This years Brat Party featured thousands of Johnsonville Brats, three polka bands, plus a top forty band, a large car show and many raffles & drawings. The Brat festival, which kicks off Lost Dutchman Days has become a signature community event attended by thousands every year. Proceeds from Lost Dutchman Days are returned to the youth of Apache Junction each year at an annual awards ceremony.



Have You Forgotten

We went to war so we all could be free. Some died in our arms, others died nearby, but we fought. Our stories are out there. Come talk to us..! Hear what we did, 'see' our feelings. We are like you and we knew why we were called.

We went to different countries because we were asked to. We saw others who were not from America. Some we fought with – some we had to fight. It was ugly, but we fought.

We came home... some gave us hope to return. Some gave us nothing. WHY?? We did this for them.

Have they forgotten?

Submitted by Al Stevenson
South District Chairman
Veterans Committee

(22nd in a Series)

Lunch For The Homeless



Phoenix, Lodge provided a “hands-on” program to help make 1600 lunches for homeless people. In conjunction with the “Dad’s Club” from neighboring Great Hearts School, Lodge #335 opened their banquet rooms and set up dozens of work tables for this February 3, 2018 community service project. Lodge members worked with the school families to make hundreds of lunches for those less fortunate in the Phoenix community.

Article and photo submitted by Marti Edwards

Arizona Elks Electronic News

News Timelines:

The *Arizona Elks News* is a quarterly publication. It is printed and mailed in January, April, July, and October of each fraternal year, and is mailed before the 5th of the month.

In order to achieve that deadline, it is necessary for your copy and photos to be in the hands of the editor by the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.

The *Arizona Elks Electronic News* is published 8 times a year. The February, March, May, June, August, September, November and December editions are e-mailed and posted on the Arizona Elks web page before the **5th** of the month.

In order to achieve that deadline, it is necessary for your copy and photos to be in the hands of the editor by the **25th** of the month prior to the month of publication.

NOTICE TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

One of the biggest complaints that people have with editors is the quality of reproduction of their photos. “Why is my photo so blurry?”

To help prevent this use a digital camera set at the highest pixel setting, (“Super Fine” on most cameras). This will give you the sharpest photo and will allow the photos to be edited.

Attach photos as JPG with your article and e-mail to the AEA News team.

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