

Arizona Elks News

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

November, 2018



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"Be An Elk Everyday"

The first five months of 2018 are a testament to the amazing things that the AEA, our Lodges and Members have accomplished for our communities and the Order we serve. When it comes to planning for success I am proud that our actions speak as loudly as our words. Thank you to all of the members who without fail continue to ask "what do you need and how can I help". You are truly the Best People on Earth, are answering my call for being an Elk Every Day and are working hard to promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity in your Lodges and in your daily life.



I am pleased to report that we had a successful mid-year meeting, reports were informative, I am pleased that we are making good progress toward meeting our goals and supporting our programs. The AEA continued support of AEMP and Social Welfare continues to make me proud. Thank you to those of you who attended to share in the business of the Association and to enjoy fellowship and laughter as a part of the AEA Team. The hospitality of the Double Tree staff was outstanding, it was a treat to be greeted with welcoming shirts worn by the staff and the food was excellently prepared and served. We are very pleased that the weather cooperated for our welcoming Luau event to allow for our Hawaiian Entertainment. I want to shout out a special thanks to PSP Lee Schwein and his wife Sunday for the hard work and support from the Meetings Committee.

The support received for the 1st Ladies Fall Fundraiser has been truly amazing. We were proud to share that donations almost doubled the original goal of \$6,500.00. Donations are being distributed in the next few weeks and a final report will be broadly reported and shared. Deb sends her heartfelt thanks for the generous donations from across the member Lodges. Job well done – Arizona Elks.

It is hard to believe almost half of the year is history. As Arizona Elks we have just over six months to make this a banner year for our State. To meet our membership goal of +2 we need our members to take up the challenge. This challenge isn't just the officers' job, but for every member in each lodge! It will take each of us working together and deciding to get involved in turning our membership into a plus! Please start telling our story to your neighbors and friends. I know we can do this.

Other goals to keep in mind are supporting our Lodges – we are in the business of growth and meeting the AEA per capita goal of \$10.00.

Answer to the quiz from last month – the Ajo Elks Ladies Cookbook publishes a recipe for Elephant Stew on page 73. The Cookbook is available for purchase from the Lodge.

Quote of the month – "Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." [Harry S. Truman](#). November is Veteran's month and I look forward to learning of how we celebrate our Veterans across our State to honor their service.

Remember – General election day is November 6, 2018 and the Grand Lodge Mandated Memorial Services at our Lodges will be performed on Sunday, December 2, 2018.

In closing I again thank you for your individual service to our Lodges, the AEA and our Order. We still have work to do and I continue to be proud to be working for and beside you.

Fraternally,
Mike Murphy, AEA President



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

PRESIDENT:

Mike Murphy

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

West: Dan Snyder

VICE PRESIDENT

North: Cheryl McKean

South: Ira Cohen

East: Tom Freestone

SECRETARY:

Peter K. Gillespie PSP

TREASURER :

Albert Kayal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

East-1 Year:

Jimmy S. Davis, PSP

West-2 Year:

Richard Conway, PSP

North- 3 Year:

Leland R. Schwein, PSP

South-4 Years:

Alfred R Skorupski, PSP

East- 5 Years:

John F James, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Tony Almeda

CHAPLAIN:

Richard M Ross

TILER:

Sari McQuality

INNER GUARD:

Dennis Dunkirk

ASST. SEC/TREASURER

Richard Seals

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Bill Kabat

ORGANIST:

Nancy Coleman

POW/MIA Ceremony

Our first POW/MIA Ceremony. Many of our local veterans attended along with one of our own members, Raymond Kinsman who was a prisoner of war, during World War II. Raymond, 94 years old, was with the 36th Texas Division in the Black Forest in Germany when he was taken captive. His captivity lasted for 4 months. After the ceremony, all in attendance were brought to their feet with a rousing rendition of God Bless The USA led by entertainer, The Dakota Kid. The regular Friday night dinner followed. Article and photo submitted by Bob & Karyn Sitter



CATALINA MOUNTAIN REMEMBERS FIREFIGHTERS ON 9/11



Members of Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 delivered turkey dinners with all the trimmings to ten fire stations in the Golder Ranch Fire District on the 17th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. These dedicated men and women provide service to Catalina, Oro Valley, SaddleBrooke and southern Pinal County. The Lodge has provided dinners for firefighters since the year following September 11, 2001, to express appreciation for the valuable service our first responders provide to the community.

Pictured with firefighters are (from left) lodge member Cheryl Hudson and Leading Knight Gloria Cisneros, PER. Article and photo submitted by Pat Cox, Public Relations Chair.

AEA Golf Tournament



The Arizona Elks Association Cedric Austin Memorial Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Arizona Golf Resort in Mesa, Arizona, put on by the Mesa-Buckhorn Elks Lodge #2656 on September

8-9, 2018. The Lodge hosted over 70 golfers from many lodges throughout the state in the effort to raise money to benefit the Arizona Elks Major Projects. The net proceeds presented to the AEMP at the recent Mid-year Convention were over \$11,000.00.

Winners of the Tournament were:

4 Person Best Ball: Apache Junction. 2 Person Best Ball: Showlow. Kenneth Johnson, Rod Beman, Cory Lunt, William Fabor, Art Ruiz, Steve Leach, Steve Cooper, Terry Cooper.

E.R. Rich Bredahl and team. Among those in attendance were Rich Botkin, AEA Golf Chairman and Jim Krausman, AEA 1st V.P. Article and photo submitted by Berk Rourke



Vets and Elks say goodbye to 2018 Arizona Diamondbacks baseball season



By all indications, “the fat lady has sung”, and with her parting song, the 2018 Arizona Diamondbacks season has also ended.

The Diamondbacks may not have done as well as they had wished, but the Veterans from the Arizona state Veterans Home, were not crying the blues as they had an opportunity to give a last goodbye.

The Vets, hosted by Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, made their final trip to the ball park, on the last home game of the season.

This trip was the second of two, and final trip to the ballpark for 2018.

The Vets are taken to the ballpark twice a year, spring and fall, to allow them an opportunity to get out of the Veterans home and enjoy a day at the park, regardless of whether or not the Diamondbacks won or lost.

Any day away from the home is a good day according to most

of the vets.

The Sun City Elks have been treating the Vets to baseball outings for about six years now, and have no intention of ever stopping that program, as the Vets get a great amount of joy to getting out into the world.

Fourteen Vets and four aides were escorted to the ballpark by twelve Elk members. The Elks picked up the tab for the entire group as is usual for the Elks.

The “fat lady sang” and the Diamondbacks ended their season with a loss.

The only winners were the Vets and the Elks as it was not all about the ballgame, and both groups had a great time.

Picture captions: (Left to right as viewed)

1. Tom Bundy, Army Vet, (seated in green shirt); Mary Hein, Elk volunteer; Harold Strange, (blue shirt) Navy, who spent two tours in Viet Nam; Michael Stevenson, Army-Viet Nam (seated in gray shirt); Gary Hein, Army-Viet Nam and an Elk member; Bob, Vanderwerken, Army-Viet Nam and also an Elk member (standing with blue shirt).

2. Jean Ohlde, (seated on left) Elk volunteer; John Blakeman (second from left), Army-Viet Nam; Tony Holversess, Navy-Viet Nam; Robert Brooks (standing orange shirt), Navy-Viet Nam, volunteer; Gary Drumheller (blue shirt), Arizona Elks State Veterans Chairman and Elk member; Terry Hunt, (green shirt), Army-Viet Nam purple heart recipient and Elk member.

Article and photos submitted by Val Bianchini, Sun City Elks Veterans P.R. Chairman,



Elks Student Of The Month



Six seniors were honored by the Bullhead City Elks as Student of the Month with a certificate of achievement for September. The three high schools represented are Mohave HS, River Valley HS and Mohave Accelerated Learning Center. From left is Ethan Ribelin who wants to be a civil engineer and attend NAU, Brianna Lipinski is looking to become a nurse practitioner and will begin her education at MCC. Next is Cameron Charles Brush who will become a doctor or an anesthesiologist and will go to NAU, Stormy Venes wants to become a dental hygienist and will go to MCC, Joseph Evans is looking at a career in the Navy upon graduation and Anna Grasso will study criminology with an emphasis on forensics attending NAU. Congratulations to all

Article and photo submitted by Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair

Sun City Elks Lodge #2559 Holds Silent Auction to Aid Vets

Another successful auction was held at the Sun City Elks Lodge at 10760 W Union Hills Dr. Peoria, to raise funds fund for the lodge's many veteran activities.

Over \$5,500 was raised at the auction and will be placed in the Elk Lodge's Veterans budget, which will be used to send Vets to Washington, D.C. on the Honor Flight.

The Sun City Lodge has been having two fund raisers a year to raise funds for the honor flight and several other Veteran activities. This one was a silent auction. The next fund raiser will be a "Casino Night", which is scheduled for February, 2019.



This year, sending Vets on the Honor Flight to D.C. has become a greater challenge as the cost of the flight, lodging, food and transportation has risen to \$1,150 per Vet, from the \$900 per Vet only a few months ago, but the Elks will not be deterred in their efforts to honor our Vets in a manner they so rightly deserve. To date, the Sun City Elks have sent fifty nine (59) Vets to D.C., Vets from both WW11 and Korea. An additional twelve (12) Korean War Vets, all Elk members, will be so honored on October 23, 2018, as each will be sent on the flight, completely free of any expense.

The Honor Flight is near and dear to the hearts of the Sun City Elks, and as long as they are able, to carry on with the fund raisers and as long as the lodge members are willing to support the program, the Sun City Elk Veterans Committee, will continue to honor them in this fashion.

Music for the evening was provided by Bobby Freeman, of Arizona Diamond Backs organ music fame. The highlight of the evening was the bidding on a three wheel scooter. The scooter was donated to the Elks, by the VFW post #285, who in turn, donated it to the Sun City Elks, who totally refurbished it, for their auction.

The scooter, when new, was valued at \$5,995, and was coveted throughout the evening by Bill Cresap, 91 years young, and a Korean War Veteran. Bill has difficulty walking and need the scooter for local transportation. Bill said, "that his legs are so bad, that he uses his car to drive down to the curb to get his mail". It couldn't go to a more deserving person.

God Bless our Troops, past and present, God Bless the generous members, of Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, and God Bless America.

Picture Caption:

Seated in his newly "purchased" scooter is Bill Cresap and his daughter Debbie. Standing beside the scooter is Gary Drumheller, Arizona Elks State Veterans Chairman, and Elk member.

Article and photo submitted by Val Bianchini, Sun City Elks Lodge veterans P.R. Chairman,

Sun City Elks Remember Our First Responders



Most citizens in this great country, respect and appreciate the efforts and sacrifices that our “First Responders” provide to their communities, but for more than 25 years, Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, have gone the step beyond, and have invited our “First Responders”, to their lodge for a dinner and formal thanks.

It is not only the “First Responders”, who are invited, but also their entire family, as they also serve while their spouses are out serving their individual communities.

That is as it was on October, 9, 2018 at the Sun City Elks Lodge at 10760 W. Union Hills Drive, Sun City, Arizona. The Evening began with a welcome to all present, prior to the lodge serving all 126 “First Responders” and their families, a dinner of roasted chicken, scallop potatoes, vegetables and dessert.

The meal was followed by a speech given by Maricopa Arizona Sheriff, Paul Joseph Penzone.

Sheriff Penzone rightly sang the praises of the many “First Responders”, Police, Emt., fire, Sheriff’s Deputies and Sheriffs Posse’s. Praising and thanking them for their service.

The height of the evening, however, was the presentation of a “Certificate of Appreciation”, to Detective Kristy Coats, of the Surprise Arizona Police Department. Detective Coats was officially recognized for her service, in May, 2018, at the Arizona Elks State Convention.

Prior to the Arizona Elks State Convention, Detective Coats was recognized for her service by the Sun City Elks Lodge with a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$500, which would be donated to a charity of her choice.

Detective Coats was chosen because she had outperformed all of the other “First Responders”, Presented to the Elks Committee by the other services in the geographical area of the lodge.

Detective Coats was then forwarded to the State organization for possible additional recognition, and was chosen as top “First Responder”, in the entire state, surpassing officers submitted by the other 44 lodges in the State of Arizona.

Detective Coats was unable to attend the state recognition, as she was unavoidably pre-occupied.

That omission was remedied on October 9 2018, at the Sun City Elks lodges, “Law and Order” night festivities.

The Sun City Elks take great pride and pleasure to acknowledge the sacrifices of our local “First Responders” and their families, and have done so for more than 25 years.

Thank you all and may God keep you safe from harm, and bless you for your service to your communities.



Picture Captions:

Sun City Elks President, Sid Palmer (right), shakes the hand of Paul Joseph Penzone (left), Sheriff of Maricopa County Arizona, after his rousing speech of praise to the “First Responders”.

Sun City Elks Chaplain, Donna Barr (at lectern), informing the audience of 126 “First Responders”, and their families, of the many accomplishments of Detective Kristy Coats, of the Surprise Arizona Police Department.

To far right is Sun City Elks Second Vice President, Raymond Gulbranson waiting to present the Certificate of Appreciation to Detective Coats. Center in uniform is Detective Kristy Coats, of the Surprise Arizona Police Department

Article and photo submitted by Val Bianchini, Public Relations Chair

Old Timers Night

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29: "Old Timers Night". Recognizing the years of membership and dedication that our members have put into our Lodge. After awarding pins to members, everyone enjoyed a spaghetti dinner prepared by officers of the Lodge.

Article and photo submitted by Bob and Kayren Sitter, Public Relations Co-Chair



Elks Luau



Elks Luau was such a good time. Pitchers: DDGER Roy Haddick and wife Marsha, Luau chair Susie Stillabower, festive ladies-Helen Lloyd, Katherine Cornelison, Belinda Sierra & Terri Frear

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

Sun City Elks Lodge 2559 Walk to End Alzheimer's

The Sun City Elks Lodge Team participated in the October Alzheimer's Walk in Sun City West. The Elks, in keeping with their pledge of community and charity partnerships, raised over \$6,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. Two Lodge patrons donated \$500 each with the challenge to Lodge members to match these funds. While over 50 Elks donated to this walk with personal donations, \$1,000 cash was donated by Lodge Members on the two Matching Funds nights held at the Elks Lodge in September to meet the challenge!

Article And photo Submitted by John Stokes



Lake Havasu City Lodge Donation

"The Elks Senior Bowlers donated \$2,000.00 to Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 27 for various programs aimed at helping disabled veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and assistance earned through their time in the military.

Pictured are from left: DAV Commander Frank Blain, Elk Senior Bowler Jerry Gillen and DAV Member Bud Watts."

Article and photo submitted by Jackie Turcotte



Catalina Mountain Dictionary Project



Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 Dictionary Project Chairperson Joyce Garcia distributed dictionaries to third-grade students at Casa Christian, Copper Creek, Immaculate Heart, and Mesa Verde elementary schools in Oro Valley. Joyce personally purchased 300 dictionaries for distribution to these students and to the Roadrunner Elementary students, who will receive their dictionaries at the Christmas party following their shopping spree.

Pictured are students and teachers with Chairperson Joyce Garcia and ER Bob Kielsa

Article and photo submitted by Pat Cox, Public Relations Chair

Enrique Camarena Award Winner

"LHCPD Detective Ryan Huerta was presented to Enrique Camarena Award at the Lodge Law and Order Night. As a result of his investigation, various quantities of cocaine, marijuana, pills, cars, cash and firearms were seized, which in turn led to the dismantling of an entire drug trafficking organization. Pictured are from left: Elks Drug Awareness Chair Mike Arlowe, Detective Huerta, LHCPD Captain Doug Whittaker and ER Mike Vail."

Article and photo submitted by Jackie Turcotte, Public Relations Chair



103rd Mid Year Meeting



Senior Bowlers donate to Youth Bowlers

"The Elks Senior Bowlers donated \$500.00 to Havasu Lanes Youth Bowlers. This program provides a safe venue, with adult supervision, for kids to hone their bowling skills, make friends and have fun. Pictured are: Back row from left are Elks Senior Bowler Jerry Gillen, Coach Donald Schrecengost, Bowler Julianna Beristain, Coach Rhodanne Abbott and Bowler Donnie Ward. Front row: Bowlers Matthew Baltins, Andrew Lymmef, Mikaela Amos and Talon Davis"

Article and photo submitted by Jackie Turcotte, Public Relations Chair



Coolidge-Florence Elks 1st Quarter District Scholars



Congratulations to our 1st Quarter District Scholars!! These high school juniors excelled in their academics and extracurricular activities for the 1st quarter of the 2018-19 school year. Each student received a certificate and a check for \$50.

Pictured left to right: Miki Ysaguirre (Florence High School), Anthony Garcia (Poston Butte High School), and Laura Zuniga (San Tan Foothills High School)

Article and photo submitted by Angela Schenk

Drug Awareness Red Ribbon Week

The 4th-8th grade students (490 students total) learned what Red Ribbon week stands for, the dangers of drugs, also the importance of being there to help others to not use drugs. Students said the pledge to stay drug free, then were given red ribbons to wear. They were also able to wear "impaired goggles" provided by PCSO to understand and feel how vision is impaired. They attempted to walk a straight line, ride a tricycle without knocking over cones, and tried to catch a frisbee.

The Elks Drug Awareness Program provided popcorn, bookmarks, pamphlets, stickers, and the red ribbons for the students. PCSO provided pamphlets, bracelets, pencils, sitting in back of various police vehicles, 5 deputy motorcycles to sit on, goggles to feel impaired, and the tricycles to ride.

The event was arranged and sponsored by Anthem k-8 PTA, all 4th-8th grade teachers, and the principal Leah ALISA.

Article and photo submitted by Angela Schenk



Elks Entertain Vets with Professional Entertainers



Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, again extended themselves to provide entertainment, to the residents of the Arizona State Veterans Home residents, 4141 North S. Herrera Way, Phoenix.

The entertainment group in question is the "Re-Creations", a volunteer entertainment group dedicated to improving the lives of our veterans.

The group started in 1976, and has been performing ever since, having visited Veterans facilities for over twenty (20) years.

The Elks Organization, "Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks", have been supporting the group for approximately thirty (30) years. The group consists of seven (7) entertainers, all volunteers, one road

manager and one sound effects tech.

The "re- Creations last appeared at the Arizona State Veterans Home about three years ago and needless to say, the Vets were happy to have them back. The group receives no formal pay and exists primarily on donations for their sustenance.

About two (2) years ago, the BPOE, donated a brand new large van to the group to use for their transportation.

The Sun City Elks, in conjunction with Henry Brown, Viet Nam Vet, VA/VS representative, and member of the Tempe Az. Elks Lodge, donated \$2,000, to the group, to help offset expenses.

Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, takes great pride in their endeavors entertain our troops, and to help make their lives a little more enjoyable.

About eighty (80) people attended, mostly Vets in wheelchairs, who had to be pushed to the showroom, as many could not do it on their own.



Picture Captions: (1) Elk members presenting the 'Re-creations" with a donation of \$2,000.(left to right) Henry Brown, Army Viet Nam Vet, Purple Heart Recipient and Elks VA/Vs representative; Gary Drumheller, Viet Nam Vet and Elks State Veterans Chairman; Steve Downy, road manager for the "Re-Creations" group.(2) Three "Re-Creations" volunteer entertainers. (Left>Right) Tyler West, tenor, 2 yr. volunteer; Aaron Pottrigiter, bass, 1yr; Nick Marolf, Baritone, 4yr.

Article and photo submitted by Val Bianchini, Sun City Elks Veterans P.R. Chairman,

Food Bank donation

"Lake Havasu City Lodge, No. 2399 donated \$300.00 to Havasu Community Health Foundation's newly opened Food Bank to help stock shelves with food. Families and Senior Citizens who qualify can go to the Food Bank for pre-boxed basic foods and select food, as needed, from stocked shelves. Pictured are from left: Food Bank Manager Colleen Mattinson, ER Mike Vail and Food Bank Volunteer Linda Duffy."

Article and photo submitted by Jackie Turcotte , Public Relations Chair



Red Ribbon Week at Continental School in Green Valley

On October 22, 2018 the Green Valley Elks #2592 handed out 650 Red Ribbons at Continental Elementary School grades 1 – 8. Also, Prescription Drug Take Back information was distributed that day. During the week of October 22 – 26, 2018 there will be Drug Awareness Pencils, DA Bookmarks, DA Coloring books for 1 – 4th grade students and DA literature for 5th to 8th grade students. All teachers, teacher aides and Office personnel were given Red Ribbons to wear. After hearing why we are giving them the Red Ribbons Rosanna Gabaldon, Arturo Gabaldon. PER Cheryl Ponzo, PER, Jack Ponzo PER – AEA Drug Awareness Chairman and five 8th grade Student students gave all students Red Ribbons. Each student was requested to wear the Red Ribbon for the rest of the week. No parents attended this event.



Also, six other Green Valley Elks handed out 850 Red Ribbons to Sahuarita Intermediate School and 175 Red Ribbons to Sopori Elementary School students and staff on the same day. These two schools will receive all the literature and items mentioned above during Red Ribbon week.

Photo:

LT to RT Rear, Jack Ponzo PER, AEA Drug Awareness Chairman, Stephane Lane – 8th grade Student (yes her name is correct – she spelled it out for me), Rosanna Gabaldon – GV Elk member

Arturo Gabaldon PER

LT to RT - Front, Jack DuBois - 8th grade Student (Yes Jack is his given name), Parker Ciruli - 8th grade Student (Former winner of AEA Essay Contest for Arizona)
Camila Soto – 8th grade

Photo and Article submitted by Cheryl Ponzo PER

Eagle Scout Presentation



Cameron Baldwin - Eagle Scout and flag presented by Phil Cobb, ER, Holbrook Elks Lodge at annual Youth Awards celebration. Two other Eagle Scouts were recognized, but not in attendance.

Article and photo submitted by Bev Goodnight, PER, Secretary