

Arizona Elks News

The Arizona Elks News is an official publication of the Arizona Elks Association

November 2019



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Submission deadline:
25 November 2019.**

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"Elks are Patriotic Americans"

My Fellow Arizona Elks,

Welcome to November. Snowbirds are returning and the holidays are just around the corner. Also, November is Veterans' Month and I am sure you will all be participating in various Veterans' recognition programs throughout the month.



As I am preparing this message, we have just concluded our Mid-term Convention. Many thanks to you all for your attendance and participation in our two-day meeting. Also, many thanks to PSP Lee Schwein and his committee for the excellent job they did in preparing and conducting our programs. A few observations that I would like to note:

First, we would like to thank all committee chairs for their cogent and brief reports. They contributed greatly to our ability to expeditiously move through our agendas.

Second, many thanks to Charyll McKean and her FRS committee for the conduct of her excellent workshop. As we know this is a timely topic and their instruction was eagerly received.

Third, we heard about a relatively new development in brother Rick Gathen's Grand Lodge Membership toolbox. As part of his grand Lodge membership development initiative, brother Rick has developed a banner program that our Lodges can display on their buildings or signboards alerting the community to the amount of money each individual Lodge has raised and returned to its community. The California – Hawaii Elks Association president, Tim Yeager, was a guest at our convention and issued a challenge to all our Arizona Elks Lodges. The challenge involves having a higher percentage of our Lodges participating in this program than they expect to experience in California – Hawaii. Toward this end, our Special Deputy, Jerry Grimes, is working with Grand Lodge to help all of our Lodges get the details they need to prepare their announcement banners. He, together with our State Membership Committee, will be communicating these details very shortly. I trust all of our Lodges will want to participate and let their communities know the benefit of the existence of their Lodge in general and becoming a member in particular.

Next, a clarification concerning our State Protocol contest judging. During the convention we recognized and complemented all our Lodges for their increased attention to protocol. We seem to be experiencing a high degree of excellent to outstanding protocol reports from our dignitaries as they visit our Lodges.

Continued on page 2.

ARIZONA ELKS ASSOCIATION 2019-2020 STATE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Dan Snyder

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

South: Richard "Rich" Botkin

VICE PRESIDENT

North: Gregg Boyce

West: Albert "Al" Kayal

East: Dennis Appel

SECRETARY:

Peter K. Gillespie PSP

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

West-1Year:

Richard Conway, PSP

North-2 Year:

Leland "Lee" R. Schwein, PSP

South- 3 Year:

Alfred R Skorupski, PSP

East-4 Year:

John F James, PSP

North- 5 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Valentino Bianchini

CHAPLAIN:

David Quackenbush

TILER:

Mari Slocum

INNER GUARD:

Sammy Birdsong, Jr.

ASST. SEC/TREASURER:

Leslie O'Brien

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Dwayne Cunningham

ORGANIST:

Hugh Dixon

"Elks are Patriotic Americans"

Continued from page 1.

As a result, we expect the likelihood of ties among the Lodges for top awards. We have settled on a Lodge's participation percentage in the Elks Training program to resolve these ties. Make no mistake every Lodge's protocol score will be based solely on its protocol performance. The Elks Training participation percentage is only involved in the case of protocol ties. As you know our Association strongly endorses both programs and the Lodge's participation percentage in Elks Training seems as good a way to resolve ties as any other.

Finally, our First Lady extends her sincere appreciation for the generosity exhibited by all our Lodges in their participation in donating to the children at the Steel Research Center. We had over two cargo loads of diapers, books, blankets etc. delivered to the hospital. Also, your First Lady asked particular attention be paid to the older children (6 to 13). The donations of gift cards, ear pods, and DVDs to this group of children was truly heartwarming. Again, many, many, many thanks to all of you for your generosity.

Now let us move through November remembering our veterans and preparing for December. Until our visit next month always remember ***Elks are Patriotic Americans*** and many thanks to all for all that you do.

Fraternally,

Dan Snyder, President AEA

"AEA First Lady Mary's Thank You Message"



To all the Lodges:

I would like to thank you all for the generous donations your lodges gave to the AEA Major Project. It filled my heart with joy with all the gift cards, diapers, books, toys, DVD's, handmade items and just everything you all donated.

Your personal donations were also greatly appreciated. You all are the best!!!

Mary Snyder

AEA First Lady



“Casa Grande Elks #1957 Hosts Banquet for Jr. Bowling League”

The Casa Grande Valley Elks #1957 hosted a banquet for the Casa Grande, Arizona Junior Bowling League and honored them for their participation in the State and National Tournaments this year.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson, Lodge Secretary



Pictured first row (LtoR): Casa Grande Valley Exalted Ruler Bob Jaworski, Hannah Lyme. Second Row (LtoR): Todd Martinez, Ramzee Robles, Nate Martinez, Lexi Moser, Mallery Lyme, and Jady Esquivel.

“Raceway Elks #2852 Delivers Dictionaries to School District”

Raceway Elks Lodge # 2852 delivered dictionaries to 3rd graders in the Litchfield Elementary School District. It was enjoyable to see the excitement in the student’s eyes and to hear their cute comments when they received their dictionaries. The students were asked if they can read the longest word in the dictionary (1909 letters - that is not a typo). They were also thrilled to meet Arizona Elks State President First Lady, Mary Snyder. It was an honor to have her help deliver the dictionaries.

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor



Pictured Left to Right: Chuck Waugh, ER, Mary Snyder, State President First Lady, Robin Cox, Chaplain, Steve Cox, Lecturing Knight

“Sun City Elks #2559 Hosts Casino Night for Honor Flights ”

Saturday October 5th was that time of year, when the Sun City Elks held their annual “Casino Night” fund raiser in an effort to raise funds for the national “Honor Flight” program.

Approximately 230 Elk members, their friends and guests, had a festive evening of gaming, eating, dancing and fun.

This was the sixth annual event of this nature and was hugely successful in raising in excess off \$5,000, all of which, will be used to send Veterans on the honor flight to Washington, D.C., all expenses paid for, by Sun City Elks Lodge #2559.

There are not enough words to be said to properly thank the members of the Elks Lodge, as every time a need arises, for whatever reason, those members always rise to the occasion.

One member, who chose to remain anonymous, donated \$1,150 alone, to make sure that at least one more Vet would be recognized for their service. Bless him.

Thus far, the Sun City Elks Lodge members have sent 71 WW11 and Korean War Veterans on this memorable trip.

The Lodge has already sent all of its WW11 and Korean War Veterans on this trip and has now opened the trip to Viet Nam Veterans for the first time. Others will most likely follow.

It is estimated that approximately 60% of the male members of the Lodge are Veterans of one war, or another, and several females are also in that group of Veterans and have also taken that all-expense paid trip to D.C.

It costs the Elks Lodge \$1,150 to send each Veteran on that trip, so additional fund raisers are always in the works.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) is steadfast in their oath, “that as long as there are Veterans, they will never be forgotten.”

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Sun City Veterans P.R. Chairman



Picture caption: Some of the members and guests of Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, reveling in evening filled with fun and fortune. Elk members can be seen in the background dealing blackjack. There were no losers as each person attending, whether they gambled or not, helped to make the evening a success.

“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Law and Fire Awards Dinner”

On Saturday, 4 October 2019, the Sierra Vista Elks Lodge #2065 hosted our annual Law and Fire Awards Dinner to honor two outstanding First Responders in our community. The winner for Law Enforcement Officer of the year was Naco Border Patrol Agent Arthur Cervantes, and our Firefighter of the Year was Michael Shamas from Fry Fire District. Winners were presented with \$100 worth of gift cards, donated by our Past Exalted Ruler's Association, and our Lodge Bingo committee, along with gourmet grill baskets, and challenge coin. Nominees were presented with a \$25.00 gift certificates, donated by our Lodge Auxiliary, along with a BBQ gift basket and challenge coin. The crowd was entertained by a rousing speech by guest speaker, Fire Chief Mark Savage, Fry Fire District.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, P.R Chair



Pictured: Law and Fire Nominees, and agencies— L-R: Agent Carlos, Agent Cervantes, Exalted Ruler Renee Concodora, Deputy Joseph Gilbert, LT Ken Foster, Officer Annalise Roselli, Commander Lawrence Boutte, Fire Chief Mark Savage



Pictured: Exalted Ruler Renee Concodora, Officer of the Year Agent Arthur Cervantes, and Law and Fire Chairperson Shawnee Carlile, Lecturing Knight



Pictured: Exalted Ruler Renee Concodora, and Guest Speaker Fire Chief Mark Savage. Not pictured Firefighter of the Year Michael Shamas



Pictured: Exalted Ruler Renee Concodora, and Nominees: Cochise County Deputy Joseph Gilbert, and Sierra Vista Police Officer Annalise Roselli

“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Donates to American Legion Riders”

Steve Asp, Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge PER and Past Commander of American Legion Post 132, presented a check in the amount of \$1000 to Rick Bernard, Vice President of the Oro Valley American Legion Riders Post 132. The funds will be used for the State Veterans Home golf cart program to help purchase a cart that will be modified to accommodate wheelchairs. The Veterans Home residents can now ride in comfort around the VA medical facility grounds.



Submitted by: Pat Cox, Public Relations Coordinator

Pictured (from left) are American Legion Riders Post 132 VP Rick Bernard and Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge PER Steve Asp.

“Sun City Elks #2559 Helps Spread Education to Local 3rd Graders”

On October ninth, seven members of the Sun City Elks Lodge made a trip to the Riverview Elementary School to help in the education of its students. 76 third grade students from three classrooms participated in the event.

Each student was presented with a personal “Dictionary/Gazeteer”, that is part dictionary and part historical information, such as a list of our nation’s presidents, from Washington to Trump. It also informs the students on all of the U.S. states, capital cities, etc....

The Sun City Elks Lodge has absolutely no schools in its own geographical area, but reaches out to twelve elementary schools, twelve high schools and several intermediate schools, to lend with assistance, training and school supplies. At the presentations, as the children answer questions correctly or ask questions of their own, each child is provided with a stuffed animal or toy, as a reward for their efforts. The Sun City Elks Lodge has been distributing these “Dictionary/Gazeteers” since 2002, and the requests for the Dictionaries and educational aids, has grown tremendously since that time. Today, the Sun City Elks distribute approximately 1600 “Dictionary/ Gazeteers” each year, at absolutely no cost, to the student, or the school.

Presently, most every school in a four-city area, call upon the Sun City Elks for one event or another, from the Dictionary program, to the Essay, poster and drug awareness programs, as well as the Elks Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot contests. A recent interview, with a teacher in the Arrowhead Elementary School, in Peoria, claimed that she had met with a student that she had taught six years ago, and that the student still had and used his personal Dictionary. It brings pride to the Elks, that their efforts, are still bearing fruit.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans P.R. Chair



Picture 1) A classroom of 40 students, comprised of classes of teachers Ms. Green and Mr. Wilkie, observe the instructions of Elk member Vicki Way (standing on the left) on how to use the Dictionaries. Assisting Vicki, are (left to right) Elk members Jerry Pitra and Debbie Batchelor. On the far right is teacher Helen Green. Picture 2) Vicki Way, displays a “thank you” poster drawn up by the students in her session. Picture 3) 36 students comprised of the balance of Mr. Wilkie’s class and those of Teacher Ms. Hufford. Standing are left to right, Ms. Hufford, Elks member Billie Hertze, who was the organizer of the Event, and Elk Member, Tim Willems, who made the presentation and, who is a former educator himself.

“Sun City Elks #2559 Supports Alzheimer’s Walk”

The Sun City Elks Lodge presented the Desert Southwest Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association with a \$5,000 check from the Lodge to be added to over \$5,000 collected from Lodge member’s in donations and registrations for their Team walking in the west side Walk to End Alzheimer’s.

Submitted by: Mary Stokes, Memory Care Meet & Greet Chair, and Lodge Team Captain for the Walk to End Alzheimer’s

Pictured: Pam Eisenberg (Alz. Assoc.), Mary Stokes (Walk Team Captain for Lodge), Stephanie Schulte (Alz. Assoc.) and Bill Hudson (current Exalted Ruler).



“Sun City Elks #2559 Invites U.S. Vets for a Dinner Treat”

Thursday, October 10, 2019, has come and gone, but the fun and camaraderie lingers to another day.

On that day, 13 Vets and 5 staff members of the Arizona State Veterans Home, made the trip North, to partake in one of their favorite treats, the Sun City Elks “burger night”. The Vets were treated to the burgers, fries or onion rings and soft drinks. The food was the main reason for the trip, but the fun was also welcomed, as the Elks Bingo Committee provided ice cream for all, and another Elk member, who is also a Veteran, walked among the tables and talked to each Veteran present. That simple gesture was greatly appreciated by the Vets from the home, as many of them rarely receive a visitor, and talking to someone other than a home resident, was a joy. Another Elk member, happy to be present during the dinner, thought it would be a great idea to give each Vet a “lottery pull tab ticket”.

Nine Vets won on the first round purchased and the member buying the tickets, was so taken by the joy of the Vet winners, thought that another round of tickets was warranted. On the second round, even more Vets won and the cheering increased substantially. All of the Vets won at least one prize, but all won the love and respect of the Elk members present, especially “Rachel”, the purchaser of the tickets, as she claimed that, “she had never done something of that nature before, and she had a “ball” seeing the delight on the faces of the Vets”.

Elks Motto, “As long as there are Veterans, they will never be forgotten”. That Motto is alive and in the hearts of every Elk member.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans P.R. Chair



Picture 1) Pat Sheehan, a member of the Elks Veterans Committee, pushes James Slone, State Veterans Home into the lodge for dinner. Picture 2) James Slone, who asked for a personal picture, with Jackie Drumheller, an Elk Member, and spouse of the Elks State Veterans Chairman. Picture 3) Veterans James Slone and Bruce Craft (seated), both Army Veterans, pose with members of the Sun City Elks Veterans Committee, (standing left to right) Claire Hudson, Bill Hudson, Sun City Elks President and Gary Drumheller, AEA Elks State Veterans Chairman.

“Green Valley Elks #2592 Donates Blankets and Socks to Homeless Teens”

Green Valley #2592 recently donated 35 new blankets and 62 pairs of socks to Youth on Their Own (YOTO), a Tucson based nonprofit that helps homeless teens in Pima County graduate from high school.

Submitted by: Annie Curie, PDDGER Public Relations Chair

Shown (l-r) Elks committee members Annie Curie and Connie Counter, YOTO volunteer Beth Wilson and Elks Community Activities Chair Mari Hodges. Money to purchase the items came from the annual Lodge Rummage Sale.



“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Partners with DEA for National Night Out”

On Tuesday evening, 1 October 2019, The Sierra Vista Elks Lodge #2065 partnered with the Sierra Vista Drug Enforcement Agency, and the South District Drug Awareness Chairman, PER Mike Giannetta to help bring Drug Awareness to the attention of the kids in our community. Chairman Mike Giannetta PER set up a table with pamphlets, and drug awareness briefcase containing visual depictions of drugs that plague our communities. The table was manned by Michael Ellingson PER. PER and Lodge Drug Awareness Chairman Barry “Bear” Carlile Jr. PER delighted the kids as Elroy the Elk, and Lecturing Knight Shawnee Carlile passed out Red Ribbons and stickers to the crowd. Elroy was even paid a visit by Bullseye, the Target Mascot. All told, we passed out 500 Red Ribbons, 400 bookmarks, and 250 coloring books.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, P.R. Chair



“Green Valley Elks #2592 Conducts Drug Awareness Contest”

Green Valley Elks # 2592 conducted their annual Drug Awareness Door Poster Contest on October 28 at Sopori School. Class winners in two divisions will be treated to a pizza party by the Lodge.

Submitted by: Annie Curie, PDDGER Public Relations Chair



Pictured L-R: Romeo and Stacy, fourth grade students from Ms. Schott's fourth grade class along with Elks member Annie Currie and their winning poster.

“Phoenix Elks #335 Honors Veterans”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 will be honoring America's Veterans at the parade in downtown Phoenix on November 11.

The Veteran's Committee works hard all year around for our Veterans. Donations have been made to the Veteran's State Home, the VA and to Veterans First. They consisted of men and ladies clothing, 116 blankets, 54 paperback books, 35 hard cover books, 4 leather kits, magazines and games. Total estimated value is \$630.00. That is one-month donations. The Veterans Committee will continue to make these donations every month. We remain loyal to our Veterans. Special Thanks to Karen Seaman, chairman and 29 committee members

Submitted by: Nancy Baker, Tiler

“Sun City Elks #2559 Donates Golf Cart to M.A.N.A. Veterans Organization”

The Veterans Facility in question is M.A.N.A. House was in need of assistance, a golf cart, to be used for security and transportation of its residents. The Sun City Elks donated a golf cart to this same facility earlier this year, but since then, the need for another has grown. The MANA House facility has grown over the last two years, moving to a larger area, and building additions to the existing building.

A new addition is under way, which will house an additional 100 residents, mostly female, and the addition of a second golf cart appeared to be a necessity. Such is the case with Carol Blaze, a Sun City Elk member, when she heard that a golf cart was needed, by a local Veterans Facility. Carol called Gary Drumheller, the Sun City Elks Veterans Chairman, and the deal was closed. Carol donated the golf cart, and the MANA House facility received a new all-purpose vehicle.

Prior to donating the golf cart, Carol replaced the battery, replaced the seat covers and did a general maintenance on the cart, prior to making the donation. Carol stated that she did not want to make a donation of the cart, to the Veterans, unless it was in good working order.

The Elks Lodge is proud to have members such as Carol, as she helps to exemplify the Elks Motto, “that as long as there are Veterans, they will never be forgotten.”

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans P. R. Chair



Pictured:(Left to right as viewed standing in front of Carol's donated Golf Cart) Anthony Ratliff, Navy Corpsman and MANA House resident; “Ace” Carter, MANA House Program Mgr. and Elk member; Gary Drumheller, Sun City Elks Veterans Chairman and Carol Blaze, Elk Member and donor of the golf cart.

“Raceway Elks #2852 Presents Donation to Boy Scouts’ Camping Program”

On Monday, October 14, 2019, Raceway Elks Lodge #2852 Exalted Ruler Chuck Waugh and Lodge Secretary Carol Lozano presented a check for \$625.00 to Litchfield Park Boy Scouts Troop 90. The money will be used to purchase and replace camping equipment for the Boy Scouts Troop. Chuck and Carol will be accompanying them on their shopping trip on October 23rd. The money provided to the Boy Scouts Troop was part of the Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant that contributes to the communities to help support community programs.

(Article written by Chuck Waugh, ER)

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor

Pictured below from left to right: Carl Seville (Scoutmaster), Harland Flagg (Senior Patrol Leader), Exalted Ruler Chuck Waugh, Lodge Secretary Carol Lozano, Dave Watkins (Troop 90 Committee Chair).



“Green Valley Elks #2592 Celebrates Red Ribbon Week”



Green Valley Elks Lodge # 2592 celebrated Red Ribbon Week by visiting four schools and giving over 2300 students and staff red ribbons to encourage a drug free lifestyle.

Submitted by: Annie Curie, PDDGER Public Relations Chair

Shown proudly wearing their red ribbons are (l-r back) Wrightson Ridge kindergarten teacher Mrs. Grant, Lodge member Steve Abrahams, Lodge Drug Awareness Chair Chris Mahaffy with students (l-r) Reuben, Marianna and Tucker.

“Raceway Elks #2852 Supports Homeless Female Veterans with Beauty Boxes”

On October 14, 2019, Raceway Elks #2852 delivered several boxes of new make-up (over \$1,400 worth), knit hats, and grooming products to Mary Ellen’s Place for their annual Beauty Bash. (Veteran’s First dba Mary Ellen’s Place is a non-profit that assists homeless women Veterans.) Dana Oviatt from Veteran’s First said the women Vets will be treated to a day of free haircuts, makeup, and new clothes.

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor

Pictured Left to Right: Frank Hylton, Dana Oviatt, Robin Cox, Steve Cox.



“Green Valley Elks #2952 Celebrates Red Ribbon Week”

On October 2021, 2019 the Green Valley Elks #2592 handed out ~600 Red Ribbons at Continental Elementary School grades 1 – 8. All teachers, teacher aides and Office personnel were given Red Ribbons to wear. After hearing why we are giving them the Red Ribbons Cheryl Ponzo, PER, Jack Ponzo PER – AEA Drug Awareness Chairman. Joe Carlone (Board of Trustees President), Pam Carlone (Lodge Secretary), Renee Allen, Betty Chadwick (Elk Members) 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.

Submitted by: Cheryl Ponzo, PER



Pictured: back row (L to R) – Green Valley #2592 Elk Members Jack Ponzo (PER) – AZ Drug Awareness Chairman, Betty Chadwick, Pam Carlone, Joe Carlone and Renee Allen. Front row (L to R) – Continental Students Jack Du Boise, Benny Vega, Janae Barreras, Dominique Rice and Carolina Navarro

“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Delivers Dictionaries to 3rd Graders”

Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 Dictionary Project Chairperson Joyce Garcia, ER Gloria Cisneros and Lodge members Deborah Derting and Mimi Wittenborn distributed 160 dictionaries to third-grade students at Casa Christian, Copper Creek, Immaculate Heart, and Mesa Verde elementary schools in Oro Valley. Joyce has made this worthwhile endeavor her personal project by funding the cost of all dictionaries for many years.

Submitted by: Pat Cox, Public Relations Coordinator



Pictured are Mesa Verde School students and staff with Chairperson Joyce Garcia.

“Tucson East Elks #2532 Holds Soccer Shoot Competition”



Tucson East 2532 held its annual soccer shoot at Jesse Owens Park on October 6, 2019 with the help of some dedicated volunteers. Eight young people came out to participate in the event on a beautiful sunny fall day. Our eager competitors ranged from 5 to 16 years of age. Finalists competed in the District soccer shoot on October 27, 2019. We consider all our competitor's winners.

Submitted by: Mary I. Shaffer, PER, Tucson East Elks Public Relations Chair

Back row L to R: Rebecca Frankel, Allen Swope, PER, Marty Benoist, PER, Toby Worrell, Barry Deslatte, and Brenda Visotski. Front row L to R: Katie Tomesko, Cypress Goetz, Charlie Browning, Luna Pahona, and Sally Frankel, Youth Activities Chair.

“Tucson East Elks #2532 Hosts President Dan Snyder at Lodge Oktoberfest”

Tucson East 2532 was pleased to host Dan Snyder, AEA President and his lady Mary on Saturday, September 28th during our Oktoberfest benefiting the Veterans Committee. At the end of this fun filled day \$690 was raised in support of our Veteran programs.

A traditional delicious German dinner was served at our outside venue while the polka music played. There were plenty of games for those so inclined including, cornhole, horseshoes, pickle ball and a dunk tank. Both Dan and Mary took a shot a dunking Exalted Ruler Rocky Davis and old deadeye Dan sent him into the chilly water.

Submitted by: Mary I. Shaffer, PER, Tucson East Elks Public Relations Chair



Pictured First Lady Mary Snyder winds up in her attempt to dunk ER Rocky Davis



AEA President Dan Snyder prepares for his chance to dunk ER Rocky. Also pictured is Rocky's Lady, Bonnie Meyer documenting the moment. Oh yes, he did succeed.

“Tucson East Elks #2532 Hosts ENF Luau”

Tucson East held a luau October 12th as a fundraiser for the Elks National Foundation (ENF). Our South District ENF Chair, Bruce C. Van Den Eng was on hand with his lovely wife Aimee, both of whom received an abundance of Aloha from the many guests attending the event. Following a traditional Hawaiian meal cooked and served by Lodge volunteers there was music provided by one of Tucson's favorite local bands “Black Jack” for dancing. While the band was on break Bruce spoke on the many benefits received through giving and the grants the Lodge is eligible to receive. Then we drew our lucky raffle winners and made some guests very happy. We're happy and proud to report that this event raised \$2,400 for ENF. Major donors included the PER's, Auxiliary and the Lodge.

Submitted by: Mary I. Shaffer, PER, Tucson East Elks Public Relations Chair

Pictured L to R: Rocky Davis, Exalted Ruler presents \$500 on behalf of the Lodge to Bruce C. Van Den Eng, South District ENF Chair



“Sun City Elks #2559 Hosts Lodge Blood Drive”

October 12, 2019, was a busy day for Sun City Elks Lodge # 2559. The day began, with the Elks kicking off their annual Alzheimer's drive continued with our annual Blood Drive. The Sun City Elks have been hosting a blood drive at the Lodge for approximately ten years now and the program continues to grow under its Chairperson Joan McConnell, who has been the Lodge's blood drive chairman, for just under three years.

Joan is a retired O.R. Nurse and a three-year member of the Sun City Elks, but she does not let her newness to the lodge restrict her in any way, as she is also the Elks West District Chairman for the blood drive, and the Lodge Chaplain. Our Lodge generally brings in approximately 40 pints of blood each year and is trying to expand that figure.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans P.R. Chair



Pictured: Joan McConnell, Elks Lodge Blood Drive Chairman, standing to the left, Jackie Drumheller, Veterans Committee Member, seated waiting for her blood draw and Jacyra, blood drive tech with the Vitalant group.

“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Hosts Haunted House for Charity”

The Sierra Vista Elks Lodge held a Haunted House from 25-27 October 2019. It took 20 volunteers (9 Elks, 4 CVMA members, and 7 non-Elks), and 330 volunteer hours to help set up, work, and breakdown the event. We had approximately 750 customers, not counting children 6 and under, collected \$900 cash, a \$100 donation in the name of our late Elk Brother, Paul S. Adams, and over \$1400 in food for Peach's Pantry, our local food bank that provides weekend meals for children on the school lunch program. Members donated \$110 worth of candy to hand out to the kids, and two members, along with a non-Elk, donated the use of their animatronics, fog juice, finger lights for the kids, and other items.

The Haunted House was started 6 years ago by PER Barry “Bear” Carlile Jr., Drug Awareness Chairman, and his wife Lecturing Knight Shawnee Carlile, in order to provide a safe place for kids to enjoy all things Halloween. The event also serves as a venue for us to hand out drug awareness ribbons and bookmarks. For the last two years, the Sierra Vista Elks have partnered with members of the 32-4 Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter in putting on this 3-day evening. Our Lodge has come along way since our first year where we raised \$200 in cash, and \$300 in food for Peach's Pantry.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, Public Relations Chair



“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Brings Drug Awareness to Village Meadows Elementary”

On Tuesday, 29 October 2019, the Sierra Vista Elks Lodge Drug Awareness Committee joined forces with the SV Drug Enforcement Agency to provide a Red Ribbon event to remember at Village Meadows Elementary School. In addition to McGruff, our very own Elroy the Elk was in attendance. For a few years now, our Drug Awareness Chairman, PER Barry “Bear” Carlile Jr., has been making kids smile while bringing attention to the dangers of drug use. Also in attendance, was speaker and South District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler David Dean.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, Public Relations Chair



“Wickenburg Elks #2160 Donates Sports Equipment”



Wickenburg Elks Lodge #2160 recently donated sports equipment to Hassayampa Elementary School, Vulture Peak JR. High and Wickenburg High school helping the athletes take their game to the next level. Athletics have always been an essential component of education. Lodge Secretary, Lisa Roubal, (R) made the presentation.

Submitted by: Ronald Wilson, West District Newsletter Chairman

Pictured: students are exploring the benefits of sports offered to the both during academic years and beyond.

“Wickenburg Elks #2160 Donates School Supplies”

Wickenburg Elks partnered with the Wickenburg High School for delivering much needed school supplies. Many students in the Wickenburg area are not able to afford all the supplies needed in school. The Elks are here to help. Many teachers are buying supplies for their students, the Elks are hoping to rectify the situation by continuing their support of the schools.

Submitted by: Ronald Wilson, West District Newsletter Chairman

Pictured are Julie Macias, school counselor (L), Exalter Ruler, Diana Crosthwaite (C), Rachel Willis (R).



“Bullhead City Elks Host Special Olympics Halloween Party”

Bullhead City Elks Lodge held a Halloween party for the local Special Olympics folks with pizza and candy for the main course. All 30 kids had great costumes and really enjoyed singing and dancing to the sounds of KJ Susie Stillabower (Loyal Knight) for a fun afternoon. Each of the kids were given a backpack filled with a note book, pencil, crayons and chalk. The event was funded by the money raised at the Elks Halloween party held earlier. Then came a special surprise, Walter the orphaned donkey from Oatman, AZ entered onto the dance floor. Everyone was so happy to see 3 1/2 month old Walter. He's so cute! The kids and adults alike loved to pet him but all were warned not to stand behind the donkey as he might kick! One of our members is of the same name, so Walter meet Walter!! Walter, the donkey, was given a Certificate of Appreciation from the Elks by ER Marsha Haddick (right) and he really liked it!

Submitted by: Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair



Editorial by: Ronald Wilson DDGER, West District News Chairman

A Lodge member once was asked a question, "do you want a bar or do you want a Lodge?" This could be very difficult or easy to answer. What is your opinion?

My father was a PER before I was born, I grew up in and around the Elks. Lodge buildings were known as Temples, the bar was called the Club. It was a time when men dressed in suits and women wore dresses when coming to the club and Lodge.

A Bar is defined as a place/counter licensed and stocked to sell alcohol. A Club is "private organization", a licensed premises for which membership is required to enter. The Club is not the Lodge and the Lodge is not a Club.

When a member sponsors a prospective new member, does the sponsor promote the good food and inexpensive liquor prices, or promote the community activities and good works the Elks do for themselves, for children, Veterans and the State Major Project? Does the sponsor try to convince them that the club is the way to go, or make the Elks Organization more appealing to a new member while preserving its ties to the older membership corps? Who is the better seller, the member or Indoctrination?

In your Lodge, do the committees promote upcoming events? Are they promoted in the newsletter, on bulletin boards, even flyers on tables? On the other hand, do the members who choose to visit only the club read the articles previously mentioned?

The committees putting on the projects are the center of the Lodge. Many members are a major portion of the Lodge that make up the committees and promote Elkdom. The promotion and the news articles following events is crucial to promoting a Lodge and its works. The Members who chose not to visit the Lodge only know what they read or worse, listen to the negative comments by a minority of the membership.

The membership only knows what is told in the Lodge meeting or newsletters and even the local newspapers. For the active Elks, I believe they feel have a Lodge. For the members who are not active in the Lodge and spend more time in the Club with their associates, only feel the Club is all that the Elks have. Bar Bingo, Queen of Hearts, NFL Sundays even State Lottery scratchers are a club event. Even though monies made in these events, possibly for the Lodge charities, members feel these are club events to come out, have fun and relax and be amongst friends.

So, is your Elks Temple a Club or a Lodge?

Fraternally,
Ronald Wilson, PDDGER
AEA News West District Chairman
Wickenburg #2160

Elks Care - Elks Share

Arizona Elks Major Projects News

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

The winners of the 2019 Polaris RZR Raffle are:

1st Prize- Polaris RZR XP 4 1000: Anthony Janis

2nd Prize- \$500: Steve Harrison

3rd Prize- \$300: Dee Beattie

4th Prize- \$200: Libby Parsons

5th Prize- \$100: Claude Anderson

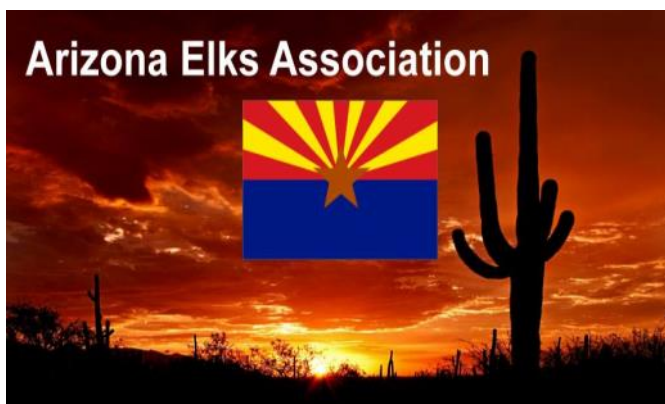
Congratulations to all of our winners and a BIG thank you to everyone for your support and donations! Even if you didn't win, you helped the children of Arizona!

Katie Murdoch
Executive Director
Arizona Elks Major Projects
W: 520.326.0556
C: 720.505.6491
www.azelksmp.com



Arizona Lodges Helping Lodges

Does your Lodge have an appliance, supplies, or other items that you are no longer need? If so, we may have another Lodge in our state that can use those items. If you have something that you can donate to another Lodge, please e-mail us at aenewsletter@arizonaelks.org and we will publish it in the next issue.



For all the latest news, please check out the Arizona Elks Association webpage

<https://arizonaelksassociation.org/>

or our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaElksAssociation/>

Arizona Elks Major Projects Diamond Club

Your Monthly Gift Gets You:

A Commemorative Pin showcasing
your membership

Your name displayed on our website
as 'Diamond Member'

Certificate of Appreciation

Recognition at all AEA Conventions
& Meetings

Become a Diamond Member today at:
WWW.AZELKSMP.COM

“November is Veterans Remembrance Month”

GRAND LODGE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

November checklist: Veterans, voting, volunteering

By JAMES W. MARTSFIELD

Committee Member

November is the month to honor our V.E.T.S. It is also the month that we elect members of our legislative bodies; and a time to be thankful for all that we have.

V—Veterans Day. The Order of Elks has designated November as Veterans Remembrance Month and we as Elks remember our solemn pledge that *“So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.”* In 1917, our Order established a war fund to care for veterans. In 1946, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission was established with the goal of serving hospitalized veterans, and to this day we are proud of our pledge to never forget the veterans in our hospitals. We also honor our servicemen and women whose sacrifices have preserved the freedoms we all enjoy. They are the heroes of our country. Let us also never forget the volunteers who make our programs so successful. The men and women who donate their time to make our Elks Veterans Program work are also heroes. Be sure to recognize and thank them.

E—Election Day. November is also significant because November 5 is Election Day. We as Elks have a duty to vote and support candidates who share our dreams, morals, love of country, our Pledge of Allegiance, and our American Flag. Do you know your government officials and your first responders? Do you set aside an evening where you honor your policeman and your firefighters? Do you invite your local government officials to your Lodge whenever possible? Have you ever held a Legislative Day at your capital? After the election, do you send a congratulatory letter to the newly elected and re-elected legislators and local city and county officials? Along with your letter, don't forget to include a copy of your State and National Survey of Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Service Programs report.

T—Thanksgiving Day. This day is a time to give thanks to our Creator for the blessings that have been bestowed on our families, servicemen and women, veterans, the Elks, and America. It's time to thank those who are still in harm's way while protecting our freedom. When we

gather with friends and family, may we be thankful this day and every day for the many blessings of family, the fellowship of friends, Lodge members, and our beloved American heritage.

S—Support Our Military Families.

At tables across our nation, we will share our gratefulness for the service of our men and women in uniform and their families for the many sacrifices made to keep our nation safe. Our military families offer strength and encouragement to our service members while managing the household, caring for children and putting the country and the military's mission in front of their own desires and dreams. The holidays can be very stressful for many of these families that remain at home. Consider adopting a family and invite them to your Thanksgiving dinner or prepare and deliver dinner to a family. Let's not forget them during this holiday season, and please always remember that *“Elks Care – Elks Share.”*

The Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee wishes all Elks, your family and all the military families a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Two holidays commemorate veterans this month

By JOHN D. AMEN, PGER

NVS Commission Vice-Chairman

While we as Elks support our nation's veterans throughout the year, we step up our volunteer efforts in November. Our motto is most important during this favored month: *“As long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.”* Let's all ramp up that meaningful motto to produce more support than ever before.

We have two significant opportunities to show our support: Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Volunteer at your Lodge to make sure no veterans are forgotten.

Veterans Day on November 11 is our first major event. Bring in veterans for an

honor lunch or dinner. They deserve your respect and gratitude for their service.

On Thanksgiving, take some time out of your family activities or bring the family along for some service and acts of charity to ensure that no veteran misses a beautiful Thanksgiving dinner.

Most importantly on both of these two special days, be sure no veteran in your community is left to sit alone in their home. Your presence and show of appreciation will be worth more than gold to these heroes who have defended our nation in war and peace.

Take time to assist events at any of the 430 veteran centers supported by our great

Elks National Foundation charity through the VAVS program. Picnics and Lodge meals will satisfy our commitment to remember veterans. Supporting the current Elks drive to restore and enhance the Pearl Harbor Memorial with a donation or fundraiser is another great gesture. Look for the banners for this project on Elks.org.

These and many more of our Elks veterans programs will achieve our mission. The veterans are counting on us.



NOVEMBER 2019

www.elks.org

Volume 55, No. 4



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care – Elks Share



Alcohol provision policies keep spirits high

November is when we move into the season of holidays. It is a time of festivity and gatherings when people join together for good times and camaraderie. It is also a time we need to be extra vigilant for those who may be consuming alcohol.

In recent years, the Elks have made a strengthened commitment that our Lodges will not allow the overserving of alcohol under any circumstances. The needless heartbreak and loss that can arise when people get on the road while under the influence of alcohol is something we just don't want to see. In my state, California, there are special programs in place that every person involved in the sale or provision of alcohol, whether paid or volunteer, must go through. Many, if not all, of the other states and associations have similar requirements. I ask every Lodge



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

**ROBERT L.
DUITSMAN**

to make the effort to ensure all covered people are properly trained so that the coming season of festivity can be just that for everyone.

Something that isn't touched on enough, in my mind, is the concept of family. That network of those closest to us that we can rely on and share good times. Family is precious. But for many of us there really isn't anyone to share the good times with, and it is in this season that loneliness is all

the more biting for those without others close to them. It is for those people, more than for all the rest, that our Lodges can play an extremely important role in filling that empty space.

For some, our Lodges are their family, and it is a role that should not be taken lightly. Special events for the Members who may not have anywhere else to go can play a critical role in their lives. It would be a nice gesture if at least a phone call could be placed to every Member of the Lodge just to say hello and ask how he or she is doing. Extend a personal invitation for the Member to come for some special event, or just to let them know they are being thought of. That can be an important outreach and have lasting consequences.

Please see GER, Page 2

GER From Page 1

Please consider Veterans Day on November 11, a time to honor those men and women who have served our country in military service. Few need to be reminded of the Elks commitment that *"As long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."* Too little is said or done to pay tribute to these individuals, and the Elks have a long tradition of service to and support of our veterans. Do your part in letting your local veterans know you care.

Now is the time to plan for the Elks Memorial Service on December 1, required under our laws but more importantly an opportunity for us to remember and pay tribute to our departed Members. It exemplifies our cardinal principle of Brotherly Love. The service should be conducted with meaning and propriety, as befitting a remembrance of a departed Member. Make sure to invite the surviving spouses of departed Members; the service will undoubtedly have special meaning to them and will be a fitting tribute of respect not only to the departed but to their families.

Beth and I extend our best wishes to each of you for a happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.

Grand Lodge Convention- Baltimore, MD. July, 5-8 2020

Registration forms are up:

<https://arizonaelksassociation.org/grand-lodge-headquarters/>



Registration is due by 31 March 2020