

Arizona Elks News

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

November 2019



"Elks are Patriotic Americans"

My Fellow Arizona Elks,

As November ends and December begins, we find ourselves in the midst of the holiday season. This is truly the time of year when our cardinal principle of Charity best shines. We begin December with our mandated observance of Memorial Day. Each Lodge will be focused on this day on the 1st Sunday of the month. Let us all make sure that we make the observance of this day special for all our members and especially for the families of our deceased members.



During the balance of the month let us all work hard on finding ways of charitably donating to our communities. This not only helps us leave the woodpile taller than we found it, but also exhibits the true meaning of our principle of Charity. Whether our efforts involve the Christmas Shopping Spree, delivery of Christmas Baskets, Christmas gifts and/or visitations to Veterans, or any of the many other exercises in which our Arizona Lodges are involved, exercise of our cardinal principle makes the season especially meaningful not only to all those who receive, but also to all of us who will give.

We also know that, for most of our Lodges, December marks the beginning of the Hoop Shoot season. Most Lodges will begin their local shoots during this month in preparation of sending candidates on to district competition in January. This is another way of giving back to the youth in our communities and I urge you all to explore ways you can assist your Hoop Shoot directors in the production of these shoots in your individual Lodges.

I need to spend a moment on unfinished business. Last month we told you of Rick Gathen's Community Charitable Donation Banner project. As you will recall, this project will gather historical information on a Lodge by Lodge basis for charitable contributions made by the Lodge to its local community. We alerted you to the fact that the AEA would be covering the cost of these banners for each of our 43 Lodges. I'm proud to say that the banners have been completed and each Lodge will be receiving their banner in the next couple of weeks. Dianna Adams and her vice-chairs on the Membership Committee will be handling the distribution and each Lodge should be receiving their banner shortly. It is strongly suggested upon receipt that each Lodge display their banner in a prominent and visible location on their building. We believe this will be an excellent exhibition in Public Relations and could be an additional shot-in -the-arm for your membership campaign.

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**AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
25 December 2019.**

aeanewsletter
@arizonaelks.org



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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

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West-1 Year:

Richard Conway, PSP

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South- 3 Year:

Alfred R Skorupski, PSP

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John F James, PSP

North- 5 Year:

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David Quackenbush

TILER:

Mari Slocum

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Sammy Birdsong, Jr.

ASST. SEC./TREASURER:

Leslie O'Brien

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Dwayne Cunningham

ORGANIST:

Hugh Dixon

"Elks are Patriotic Americans"

Continued from page 1.

In closing this month, in addition to participating in our charitable endeavors, please enjoy the spirit of the holiday season with your friends and especially with your families. Also, please accept Mary's and my wishes for you and your families to enjoy a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Until our visit in January, keep in mind that *Elks are Patriotic Americans* and many thanks to all for all that you do.

Fraternally,

Dan Snyder, President AEA



"Important Hoop Shoot Dates"

District Competitions

25 Jan 2020 East District, Chandler, AZ

18 Jan 2020 West District, Wickenburg, AZ

04 Jan 2020 South District, Tucson, AZ

11 Jan 2020 North District, Camp Verde, AZ



State Competition

15 Feb 2020 in Apache Junction, AZ

Regional Competition

14 Mar 2020 Las Vegas, NV

Elks National Competition

18 Apr 2020 Chicago, IL



“Sun City Elks #2559 Honors Local First Responders”

October has ended, and the ghosts and goblins made their appearances, but there was nothing scary about the October 29, 2019, event that occurred at the Sun City Elks Lodge. Far from it, in fact, those honored at the event, are the ones called upon to alleviate a scary scenario. The night in question was a dinner to honor and recognize “First Responders”, from local communities surrounding the Sun City Elks Lodge, to include the cities of; Peoria and Surprise, Maricopa County, Posse members, as well as from the communities of Sun City, Sun City West and Westbrook Village.

Forty-two first responders and family members were invited to the ceremony as well as members of the various organizations to which they belong. 12 First Responders, along with their presenters and family members attended to receive Certificates of Appreciation. In all, there were approximately 104 people attending, including friends, family, Elk members and guests.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, PDDGER



(1) Donna Barr, Loyal Knight; Exalted Ruler Bill Hudson, First Responders (In no particular order) Jennifer Schroeder, David Anderson, Hector Cortez, Lucas Jenson, Muhammad Al Kusary, Jack Toeske, Ed Parker, Richard Mixer and Keith Klemz. (2) #1552: (Head Table) Claire Hudson Lodge First Lady, Exalted Ruler Bill Hudson, Mary Snyder, AEA First Lady, AEA President Dan Snyder, Det. Derek Fraser, CPT Tony Mapp, AZ DPS, MAJ Brant Benham, AZ DPS.(3) Deputy Chief Rob Helie, Engineer Richard Mixer; CPT Hugh Zembruski and Battalion Chief Brad Cohen.

“Casa Grande Elks #1957 Receives Flag Award”

Casa Grande Valley Elks Lodge received an honor from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for proper use, correct display and patriotic presentation of the flag of the United States of America.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson, Lodge Secretary

Pictured: Sue Turley from the Daughters of the American Revolution and Bob Jaworski, Exalted Ruler of the Casa Grande Elks Lodge.



“Payson Elks #2154 Hosts Community Children’s Halloween Party”

The Payson Elks Lodge #2154 hosted a Community Children's Halloween party October 30, 2019. We had approximately 140 kids under the age of 12 which we gave them a goody bags which were filled with Drug Awareness Information. There were a lot games to play, plenty of candy, haunted house, fed them hamburgers and hot dogs with fries and Elroy.

Submitted by: Beverly Cunningham, Exalted Ruler



“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Hosts Annual Charity Ball”

On Saturday, 2 November 2019 the Sierra Vista Elks Lodge hosted our Annual Charity Ball, and received our official visit with AEA Vice President West Albert Kayal, and his lovely wife Brenda. The annual Charity ball was well attended and we had a special skit performed by our Past Exalted Ruler’s Association. The money raised through our basket raffle, 50/50 raffle and by the PER “fleecing of the crowd” will go towards our Lodge charitable programs.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, PR Chair



Pictured 1) Lodge Officers, VP West Al Kayal, and Brenda. 2) VP West Al Kayal and Brenda at the ball, and 3) DDGER South David Dean takes on PSP Homer Sylvers in the PER skit.

“Sun City Elks #2559 Honors Veterans at Appreciation Dinner”

It's November again and Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, was anxious and eager to honor our nations heroes. Monday, November 4th, saw the Sun City Lodge host 29 Veterans, from three different facilities, to an “all you can eat” dinner. The dinner consisted of spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, ice cream and numerous, home cooked pies and cookies, all made by Elk members or their spouses.

We hosted 6 Veterans from the U.S. Vets Grand Avenue facility, 10 from the M.A.N.A. House (Marine, Army, Navy, Air Force), and 13 Veterans and 5 staff members, from the Arizona State Veterans Home.

Submitted by; Val Bianchini, PDDGER / Veterans P.R. Chairman



1) Hal Whitaker Merchant Marine WWII / Korean War Coast Guard Veteran accompanies WWII Marine Veteran Tony Gonzalez. 2) Michelle Harris, Army; Michelle Scurry, Air Force; Elray Walker Navy; Christopher Benitez, Army; Wendell Harden, Air Force and Case Worker Mike Biggs, Seabees. 3) Caitlyn Shann, Recreational Therapist, Gary Drumheller, Veterans Chairman and Kayla Taft, Therapeutic Program Manager. 4) Veterans Group picture. 5) Veterans appreciation dinner attendees.

“Sun City Elks #2559 Hosts School Supply Drive”

The Sun City Elks Lodge sponsored a "Back to School" Supply Drive headed by First Lady Claire Hudson. Two schools were selected from the Peoria Unified School District (Ira A. Murphy and Peoria Elementary). Each school provided a basic list of supplies that students needed in addition to items that the teachers needed - tissues, hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes were included in their lists. A call was put out to the members to donate everything from supplies to monetary donation to purchase additional items.

Sun City was aided in their quest to purchase supplies by their local Walgreens, which informed them of their annual 90% off supplies sale. We were then able to purchase even more for the monetary donations they received. They also purchased 49 backpacks. In addition to the necessities, we were also able to purchase “fun” school yard equipment for the kids; sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, bubbles and assorted playground balls. We made our final visit to the schools with boxes of copy paper, playground and school yard equipment and each school received a check for \$500.00 from the Sun City Elks.

Submitted by; Claire Hudson, First Lady



“Green Valley Elks #2592 Honors Veterans”

Green Valley Elks #2592 honors area Veterans monthly by helping three classrooms of students make cards for Veterans. Thanks to an Elks National Foundation Grant, the Lodge buys paper, markers, stickers, stamps and envelopes and helps students make cards. We are not sure who has more fun, the students or the Elks volunteers!

Submitted by: Annie Curie, PDDGER / Public Relations Chair

Pictured: Member John Moore helps student



“Catalina Mountain #2815 Drug Awareness Poster Contest”

Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 promoted the National Drug Awareness poster contest in two area schools for third, fourth, and fifth-grade students. New lodge members were invited to help judge the posters on theme, neatness, originality, artistic quality, and spelling. First place winners will move on to the AEA District competition with the possibility of having their poster included in the Elks National coloring book.

First place winners from Coronado School were third-grade student, Chelsea Clayton, fourth-grade student, Baylah Ponder, and fifth-grade student, Jacey Mazura. ER Gloria Cisneros and Drug Awareness Coordinator Neal Patronsky visited the school and presented the students with certificates. The winners and their parents will be invited to attend the Youth Week dinner at the Lodge in May.

The Elks Drug Awareness Program promotes a drug-free environment to help today's youth become tomorrow's leaders and America's future.

Submitted by: Pat Cox, Relations Coordinator



Pictured are (from left) Exalted Ruler Gloria Cisneros, Chelsea Clayton, Coronado School Asst. Principal Jerel Green, Jacey Mazura, and Drug Awareness Coordinator Neal Patronsky. Poster Contest Judges: Pictured are (back row, from left) Ray Carter, Michael Vince, Roy Lovejoy, Neal Patronsky, Jon Toepler, Leading Knight Monty Derting; (front row, from left) Joyce Garcia, Jackie Hymers, Annette Loria, and Trinkia Gilders.

“Green Valley Elks #2592 Honors Veterans”

Green Valley Elks #2592, along with other local patriotic and Veterans groups, honored Veterans at an open to the public program at the Green Valley Cemetery on November 11.

Submitted by; Annie Currie, PDDGER / Public Relations Chair

Pictured with the Elks wreath are Exalted Ruler Richard Brent Mahaffy and Americanism Chair Peter Kmiec.



“Sun City Elks #2559 Donates Car to Veteran”

Sun City Elks Lodge #2559, hosts several dinners and a Veterans appreciation Night for our community Veterans as a show of the love and respect that Elk members hold for all Veterans. However, when one individual showed a personal need, the Sun City Elks Veterans Committee, was quick to respond. The Veteran in need was Dennis E. Hart, whom had spent many years sleeping on the streets, but was now a resident at the M.A.N.A. Veterans facility, and was ready to finally move to a residence of his own. Dennis owned only one item, his car, which had unfortunately been towed. By the time Dennis was able to locate his vehicle, he had incurred \$4,000 in fines. His case manager, Horace “Ace” Carter, called upon the Sun City Elks Lodge Veterans Committee to lend a helping hand.

As many say, “God works in mysterious ways”, as there just happened to be an Elk member, with a car he no longer needed. This member, Past Grand Exalted Ruler James Varenhorst, is a winter resident, and occasionally attends meetings at the Sun City Lodge, plus he is a good friend of the Elks State Veterans Committee Chairman, Gary Drumheller. James and Gary saw the obvious solution to the problem, James no longer needed his car, a 1998, Lincoln Continental but, Dennis Hart did, and the transition was made. Dennis is now on his way to start a new chapter in his life.

Submitted by; Val Bianchini, PDDGER / Veterans P.R. Chairman



Pictured: 1) Dennis Hart standing in front of his new possession a 1998 Lincoln Continental. 2) Horace “Ace” Carter, Dennis Hart, Selena Hernandez and Dorothy Price.

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Brings Flag Day to Medical Center”

The Bullhead City Elks #2408 were invited to perform the Elks "Flag Day" ceremony and history of the flag at our local hospital, Western Arizona Regional Medical Center (WARMC).

Submitted by; Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair



Pictured is a surgical nurse Amber Moore, air force vet saluting the MIA/POW flag. All in the group picture, with the exception of two, are employees of WARMC and all are veterans. Each proudly paraded a flag into the room one by one. On the trumpet from Mohave High School, is Ivan Bellesteros who played taps which brought a tear to the eye. At the end of the ceremony all in attendance were treated to a patriotic decorated cake.

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Honors Students”

Bullhead City Elks Lodge is pleased to honor students who have achieved recognition from their school with a certificate of accomplishment. Each student is a senior from Mohave High School or River Valley High School and has been nominated by their respective teachers.

Submitted by; Terri Frear, Public Relations Chair

Pictured from MHS are McKinzie Jackson and Koda Benavidez. From RVHS are Micheala Stewart, Brandon Thimm, Christina Palfi and Brycen Lister. Congratulations to all.



“Scottsdale Elks #2148 hosts ENF Pasta Cookoff”

Scottsdale Elks Lodge #2148 hosted a Pasta Cookoff on October 27, 2019. Multiple entries of both hot and cold pasta dishes, including a Lasagna soup that took first prize were among the entries. All proceeds went towards the Lodge ENF programs.

Submitted by: Debra Clark, Lodge Secretary

“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Provides Food and Clothes to Veterans ”

Scottsdale Elks Lodge #2148 held a free lunch on Veteran's Day in honor of our Veterans. We had more than 100 Veterans in attendance for their free lunch and many thanks from the members and family at the Scottsdale Elks Lodge.

On November 8, 2018, Scottsdale Elks Lodge #2148 donated 14 large totes and boxes of clothing and jackets to the UMOM Veteran's Day Care Center. The Day Care Center works with the homeless Veterans in the Phoenix area and as the cooler weather approaches, they were extremely grateful for the donation of jackets.

Submitted by: Debra Clark, Lodge Secretary

“Sierra Vista Elks Lodge #2065 Provides “Feast in a Bag” Meals to Families

The Sierra Vista Elks Lodge held our second Annual Feast in a Bag on Friday, 22 November 2019. With the support of the \$2500 ENF Beacon Grant, our Lodge purchased Thanksgiving sides such as; corn, green beans, gravy, pumpkin pie, yams, mashed potatoes, stuffing, marshmallows, cream of mushroom soup, and dinner rolls to put into dinner bags. We partner with our local food bank, Peach's Pantry, that delivers weekend meals to children on the school lunch program.

In order to pick up the supplies, we had a “member caravan” that met at the store and loaded up their cars, and trucks with items to bring back to the Lodge. Each bag includes a flyer expressing a happy Thanksgiving from our Lodge to their home. Once filled, the bags are then delivered to families across our county, by Peach's Pantry with a Turkey that has been donated by one of several other local businesses. Once the bags were completed, we caravanned the bags back to Peach's to be paired with donated turkeys and delivered to the families in need.

Last year our Lodge put together 100 bags, and this year, the need in our county exceeded last year with a total of 156 bags. Each year the need grows in our county for food for children / families that would otherwise go without. Our Lodge is making an impact on our community each Thanksgiving, and we are looking for ways to increase our Grant opportunities to make an even larger impact on childhood hunger. Please know, that these endeavors are possible because of the generosity in time and ENF contributions from our members each year. Each meals makes a difference in the lives of our little ones in our community on the program.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, Public Relations Chair



“Raceway Elks #2852 Hold Annual Flag Raising Event”

On November 2nd Raceway Elks Lodge #2852 held their annual Flag Raising Event to honor our country's flag and to raise a new flag that will fly over the lodge throughout the year. Boy Scout Troop #90 from Litchfield Park did a spectacular job as the Honor Guard. State President Dan Snyder gave a moving talk about the “History of our Flag” and on Americanism. At this event Jerry and Bev Petty were honored for all they do for our community and their contribution to true Americanism.

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor



Pictured Left to Right:
Jerry Petty, Bev Petty,
Dan Snyder AEA State
President, Willie Buttram
PDDGER, Chuck Waugh,
Exalted Ruler

“Raceway Elks #2852 Hosts Annual Law and Order Night”

On September 28th Raceway Elks hosted their annual Law and Order Night to honor First Responders from several West Valley Departments. The event was chaired by Gail Kragh, Leading Knight who took the time to find out something special about each honoree and spoke eloquently about each one. We were especially honored to have in attendance Rich Botkin 1st Vice President South District who assisted in presenting the awards.

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor



Pictured L to R Front Row: Rich Botkin 1st Vice President South District, Officer Jaret Refearn Avondale Police Dept., Captain Jason Neese Avondale Fire and Police L to R Back Row: Fire Captain Orion Godfrey, Goodyear Fire Department, K-9 Officer Mike Miller Goodyear Police Dept., Officer Corbin Claxton Surprise Police Dept., Engineer David Anderson Surprise Fire-Medical Dept., Detective Anthony Mennella Maricopa County Sheriff, Gail Kragh Leading Knight, Chuck Waugh, Exalted Ruler

“Payson Elks #2154 Hosts Veterans Day Dinner ”

Payson Elks Lodge #2154 Veteran's Day Dinner honoring at least 50 Veterans and a total of 120 attendees. Payson Military Honor Guard presented the Flags. Tom Morrissey (Mayor of Payson) and his wife Chris were in attendance.

Submitted by: Beverly Cunningham, Exalted Ruler



“Phoenix Elks #335 Holds Gala for Charity ”

The “Stars and Stripe Spectacular Gala” themed Diner Dance and Fundraiser held in November at the Phoenix Elks Lodge #335. The event lived up to its billing, as there were approximately 200 in attendance. The banquet rooms were decorated beautifully. The dining tables were patriotic works of art. The Scouts provided the Color Guard, and a moving musical tribute to all of the Armed Forces Branches in a Flag ceremony was held. Al Kayal, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, PER was the Master of Ceremony for the event and we were fortunate have as our guest, Past District Deputy, Grand Exalted Ruler, Arizona State Association 1st Vice President Rich Botkin and his wife, Joanne.

There were in excess of 50 raffle baskets and auction items and the spirited bidding ensured that many people were attracted by the variety of those items. In addition, there were three cash raffle drawings. The dinner of Beef Bourguignon and Chicken Kiev prepared by the Banquet Kitchen staff was excellent and enjoyed by all.

Al Kayal led the Jolly Corks and Eleven O'clock toasts as only he can to the appreciation of all. The band certainly kept the dance floor busy until the end of the event. Early reports are that the event raised approximately \$3,000.00 for our Veterans Committee to be used to support of our Veterans. Thanks to all who volunteered, attended and worked so diligently to make this one our premier events this year.

Submitted by: Nancy Baker, Tiler

“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Participates in Annual Veterans Day Parade”

The Veterans Committee participated in the Veterans Day Parade with a decorated float with Veterans from the Lodge and Boy Scout Troop 444. The Parade ended at 1200 and a Feed-A-Vet BBQ (from our Freedom Grant) was attended by the Veterans and their families.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile, Public Relations Chair



“Phoenix Elks #335 Annual Law and Order Night ”

As is our tradition Within our Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 and all Elkdom we annually honor our police, fire-fighters and first responders at Law & Order Night. This year’s event was held in November in our Vista Banquet room, beautifully decorated by our picnic committee volunteers Victoria and Charlene Myrick. The 120 plus guests and awardees were served a delicious meal prepared by both Tim Bos and Cindy Pendergrass. The guests were served at the buffet table by Girl Scout Troop 133. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clem Brown, Lecturing Knight; the Invocation and Benediction by Lodge Chaplain Lori Smith, welcome introduction by Leading Knight Randy Sterling and Special Guest Speaker, US Marshall David Gonzalez.

Awards were given to Sergeant Eric Vasquez, Arizona Department of Corrections, Trooper John Simon, AZ Department of Public Safety, Officer James Skinner, Paradise Valley Police Department, Officer Suzanne Ehret, AZ Game & Fish Department, FBI Special Agent Suzanne Allen, Federal Bureau of Investigation-Phoenix Field Office, Officer Colby Holt, Phoenix Police Department, Detective David Segura, Maricopa County Sheriff Office, Deputy U.S. Marshal Andrew Cheslkey, United States Marshals Service, Captain Chris Pardi, Phoenix Fire Department.

In addition, a check for \$1,000.00 was presented on behalf of the Arizona Elks Major Projects fund to the North Mountain Police Cadets. The cadets were also in attendance that night and stood watch to lend assistance throughout the evening.

The commendations made of their bravery, integrity and service were compelling. Thank you, First Responders.

Submitted by; Nancy Baker, Tiler

“Sierra Vista Elks #2065 Shoots for the Stars at Hoop Shoot ”

On Saturday, 9 November 2019 our Lodge hosted our Annual Hoop Shoot Competition, headed by Committee Chair, Addie Lee Swearingen, PER. We had 5 children compete, with 3 going on to compete in the District competition. We had a special visit by our Drug Awareness Elk– Elroy the Elk. He was joined by CooleyBlue from Coolfmonline.com and they too had a competition of their own. Cooley battled hard, but Elroy took home the bragging rights. All in all, the kids, Elk volunteers, Elroy, and Cooley had a great time. Hoop Shoot winners are: 12-13-Year-old Boys-First Place-Jeremiah Malone, Second Place-Gabriel Padilla, 10-11-Year-Old Boys-First Place-Marcus Collins, 10-11-Year-Old Girls-First Place-Taliyah Malone

Submitted by; Shawnee Carlile, Public Relations Chair



***“Tucson East Elks #2532 Elk Riders Participate in “Serve our City”*”**

On Sunday November 17th our Tucson East 2532 Elks Riders participated in “Serve Our City”. Over several weeks prior to the event they collected food, games, movies, puzzle books, popcorn, BBQ sauces and spices. Then on Sunday they loaded their support vehicle and mounted their motorcycles to deliver the boxes of goodies to four First Responder locations in the City of Tucson. These devoted members are outstanding representatives of the Elks exemplifying the cardinal principals of our Order, Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. We couldn't be prouder of the Tucson East Elks Riders.

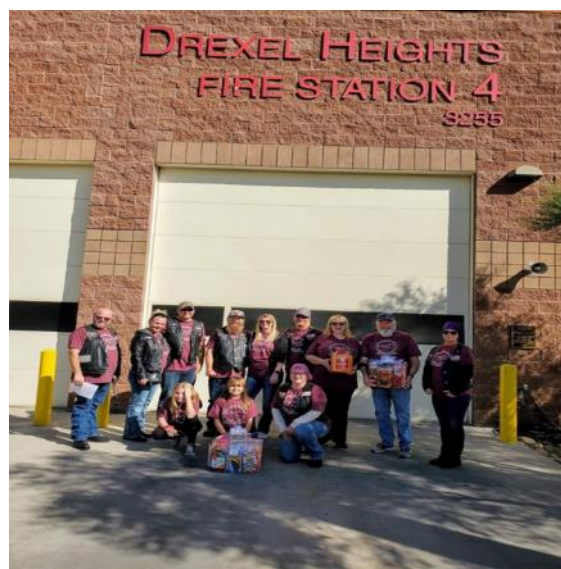
Submitted by: Mary Shaffer PER, Public Relations Chair



Some of the goodies to be delivered to our First Responders as Care Packages.



Elk Rider, Rocky Shamburg talks to members of the Tucson Fire Department after they receive their Care Packages.



Members of the Elks Riders pose at Drexel Heights Fire Station #4 prior to delivering their Care Packages.

***“Phoenix Elks #335 Featured at Veterans Day Parade ”*”**

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

“Tucson East Elks #2532 Hosts Veterans from VA Hospital and Blind Rehab”

On November 8th Tucson East 2532 hosted 30 Veterans from the VA Hospital and Blind Rehabilitation to dinner at the Lodge. Upon arrival our honored guests were greeted by Lodge members and students from Salpointe High School. When everyone was seated our Lodge Officers performed the Veterans Day Service. After the Service our helpers from Salpointe dished out dinner and Lodge members served our guests. All of our visiting Veterans received a Challenge Coin with their branch of Service on the face. Prior to departing every Veteran was given a ditty bag containing cards, chips, candy and other items. Needless to say everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening and the Veterans were most appreciative of our efforts.

Submitted by: Mary Shaffer PER, Public Relations Chair



Pictured (1) Lodge room setup prior to our guests' arrival. (2) Our guests are seated just prior to the Veterans Day Service. (3) Salpointe students serve up dinner

“District News: The Dreams of Children ”

We left home as kids, some for adventure and some for fun.

We learned tactics and were given ideas of war. We still looked at the thrill that we saw in movies.

We were heroes and went to see it.

Then we saw things that were horrible and things that would never go away.

We want to tell others of what was there, but no one listens.

We need to talk to get this off our chests. Come see and listen to us!

25th in a Series by;

Al Stevenson, District Chairman - South

Elks National Veterans Service

All American Lodge Contest – Contest A

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler to receive (postmarked) no later than March 15th, 2020

State Chairperson to receive (postmarked) from DDGER no later than April 1st, 2020

State Chairperson to mail to Grand Lodge on April 15th, 2020

“AEMP NEWS”

I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for your generous donations during the Mid-Year Convention! This has been our most successful year EVER for Arizona Elks Major Projects. That is because of each and every one of you and your dedication to bettering the lives of children across our great state and beyond. I am in awe of how generous the Elks are! When people ask me who the Elks are, my first response is “they are the most charitable people you will ever meet”.

At the Mid-Year convention, I set a goal of reaching \$250,000 in donations from lodges by the end of our fiscal year in March. I am excited to announce that the lodges have now donated over \$250,000 and exceeded our goal! The vehicle raffle had a record-breaking year by raising over \$70,000. This is entirely because of you.

We have already begun our next vehicle raffle and I am excited to see what records we can break next year through the ticket sales. We will be raffling off a Honda Pioneer 1000-5 Deluxe and posters with raffle tickets will be sent out to your lodge very soon.

Let’s finish out the year better than we ever have and continue saving and changing the lives of children in Arizona!

Katie Murdoch, Executive Director

katie@azelksmp.com

520-326-556

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

“Americanism Essay and Brochure Due Dates*”

***“What Does
Freedom of Speech
Mean to Me”***

Lodge Submissions

15 Dec 2019

District Submissions

31 Jan 2020

State Submissions

28 Feb 2020

Grand Lodge Submissions

31 Mar 2020

**Essay and Brochure Dates are
the same.*

DECEMBER 2019

www.elks.org

Volume 55, No. 5



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care – Elks Share



Lonely Members appreciate holiday cheer

Happy Holidays! Beth and I extend to each of you a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and a happy, prosperous, and successful new year.

While schedules become crowded with social and family engagements, we should remember our duties to one another as Elks. The holiday season is the loneliest time of year for many of our Members. For many reasons, they find themselves alone, and a lack of social opportunities is undoubtedly a large part of the heightened levels of depression experienced during this time of year.

As Elks, we should be mindful of those Members we haven't seen in a while, or who don't have anyone special in their lives. Try to reach out, to find out how Members are doing and if the Lodge can help with getting them to



**Message from
the Grand
Exalted Ruler**

**ROBERT L.
DUITSMAN**

events. A simple phone call or visit may be the greatest gift some of our Members will ever want.

The Elks Memorial Service, to be held this year on Sunday, December 1, is a time to remember our departed Members. It falls under part of my slogan for the year, "*Honoring the Past.*" It is a time to remember the people who brought our Lodges and Order to the heights they have reached.

Of course, it is also important to be mindful that the service is not just for our Members who remain among us, but also for the spouses and friends of our departed Members who may attend and who will appreciate a dignified and well-prepared event to honor the memory of their loved ones. Let's give it our best!

As I close this message, it goes without saying that the holiday season can be a time for alcohol consumption, and it falls on each of us to do our very best to keep consumption within limits. Unfortunately, our Order continues to be confronted with liquor liability lawsuits arising from our Lodges that are not diligent in monitoring the over-serving of alcohol. For the sake of everyone—Members, guests, and even strangers—let's all do our part to keep the holiday season safe.

Arizona Elks Association



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/>



Lodge Bulletin Contest

Due to your District Chair by;

21 December 2019