

# Arizona Elks News

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

February 2020



## *“Elks are Patriotic Americans”*

My Fellow Arizona Elks,

Welcome to February, perhaps the most important month for our subordinate Lodges. As you know February is election month. It is the month of both nominations and elections for the leadership that will craft your Lodge for the upcoming year. It is my fondest hope that all Elks will play an active role in this process. It is one of the most significant ways you have as a member to affect the legacy of your Lodge. Please do not waive this opportunity and participate in the process. Let your voice be heard.



As we move forward, there are some items of old business that deserve comment. First is following up on our progress with our Lodge Charity Banners. By now the Lodge Banners should have been delivered to all of our Lodges. I know many of you have already installed them in a prominent place on the exterior of your Lodge. If you haven't done so already, please make it a priority as the message the banners carry is an important one to share with your communities. It not only carries a proud message of your activities in your communities, but also invites members in the community to come join you as a member and participate in the process. If for any reason your Lodge is having difficulty obtaining its Banner, please let your district membership vice chair or myself know. We want to have all 43 Lodges proudly displaying their banners.

The next item is Arizona's participation in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Drive. As we commented last month, Arizona's participation to date is paltry. We have established a goal of \$1 per member and, for all of us in Arizona that he equates to \$25,000. Last month, as a state, our donations totaled less than \$200. As I prepare this message, our total has increased to \$553. Still a meager amount in light of our goal and hardly indicative of the generosity of Arizona Elks. We need everyone's help. Besides encouraging our members to donate individually, we need to keep this memorial in mind during the course of our Lodge fundraising.

### Inside this edition:

**AEA President's Message** 1-2

**Local Lodges Charitable and Community Contributions** 3-13

**District Hoop Shoot Winners** 4-21

**AEMP News** 22

**Grand Lodge News** 23

**AEA Newsletter Submission deadline:**  
25 February 2020

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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

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West-1 Year:

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.

Please help me keep this project a center of attention for our membership. There is a slideshow available for this very purpose on the *Elks National Veterans Services Commission* page at [ellks.org](http://ellks.org). We want to continue to do our state proud in the area of our generosity especially when our state's namesake, the USS Arizona, is a principal element in the memorial we are supporting. Again, the website link for donations is listed below.

[enf.elks.org/phc](http://enf.elks.org/phc)

In looking forward to our May convention there are a couple of newsworthy items that I'm eager to share with you. In addition to the State Presidents from Nevada and Utah, we will very much look forward to welcoming our Grand Exalted Ruler Robert "Bob" Duitsman and his lovely lady Beth and we will further be excited to welcome Brother Rick Gathern who will be conducting one of his trademark membership workshops. I hope you'll make your plans now to join us in May and help us give a warm Arizona welcome to our guests.

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

Fraternally,

Dan Snyder, President AEA

### **Help us reach the \$25,000 Goal for Arizona**

#### **Pearl Harbor National Memorial on Oahu, Hawaii**



**[Make a donation today at enf.elks.org/phc!](http://enf.elks.org/phc)**



## ***“Kingman Elks #468 Kicks off Imagination Library”***

Kingman Soroptimists & Kingman Elks Lodge 468 teamed up together on November 24, 2019. Soroptimists, headed by Kathy Hopper, President, and Colleen Kirby, co-chair, sponsored the kick off of the “Dolly Parton Imagination Library” to bring this new program, which is a book gifting program that mails free books to children from birth to age five, in participating communities within the United States. Kingman Elks Lodge 468 was the venue for families with children up to five years old and Soroptimists enrolled families to participate in this free book a month program.

Soroptimists also had Mrs. Claus at the Elks Lodge 468 for the young children to visit and tell all after they heard a story at various reading tables set up by age groups. Cookies and juice drinks were given out. The wonderful snack cakes and cookies were donated by McKee Food – Little Debbie in Kingman, AZ.

Elks Lodge 468 applied for and received the “Spotlight Grant” for \$2,000 which covers books for 80 children. “We need more sponsors at \$25 per child which covers books for one year, said Nani Chrimes, Elks Trustee.” We have over 100 now enrolled and expect this number to grow here in Kingman, AZ.

WACOG, Western Arizona Council of Governments, is also promoting this program through “Head Start,” a community action agency, and their goal is to have 100 children enrolled by December school break, said Kathy Roddy, Center Manager. There are Five (5) WACOG centers in Kingman and each have families with about 20 young children. They offer parenting classes as well. WACOG’s address is 208 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St, Kingman, AZ.

At enrollment in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, they receive a free book in their age group and one each month for parents to read to them. This will encourage parents to get involved with reading to their children and the children, in turn, will be more involved when they start school. This sentiment was shared between this editor and Kathy Roddy of WACOG. Enrollment can be done online with one (1) application for every 2 children. “The goal is to make children Kindergarten ready,” said Kathy Roddy.

Volunteer readers were from Soroptimists, namely Suellen Stewart. There was a Fireman who came in

full gear to read as well. Other community readers were Deana Nelson, City Council; Bill Ward, Club for Youth; Lieutenant Joel Freed, MAGNET; KALP Tutor, Sarah Pleth, represented the Kingman Area Literacy Program. KALP offers free tutoring in all subjects to all ages at the Mohave Public Library from Monday to Saturday.

Mrs. Claus is Soroptimist Shay Givans, with Becky Fawson, and Paige & Payton Becker (granddaughters of Soroptimist Sue McClure).



Standing in photo: Soroptimists Sharon Bay, Cherie | Bourlier, Colleen Kirby, Debi Sherwood (Venture), Nani Chrimes (Elks), Becky Fawson, Shay Givans, Suellen Stewart, Allison Ladendecker, Amanda Aguilar, Julie O'Connell. Seated: Chloe White (daughter of Nikole), Nikole White (Venture), Sue McClure, Linda Miller, Cindy Vawter, Sandy Moon, Caroline Palmquist.



## ***“Sun City Elks #2559 Brings Christmas to Veterans”***

The monthly event can usually find 25-35 Vets attending, depending on visitors, meals, medications, etc., but this past Christmas, the Sun City Elks were pleased to see one of the largest crowds of Vets in attendance. There were 45 Vets, 5 aids, 14 Elks and several “walk Ins”, and the Elks had to scamper, to rearrange tables and chairs, to accommodate them all, but accommodate them they did. It seemed on that particular day, that everyone in the home, capable of attending, made their way there. Normally, the Elks put on four individual games to play, with everyone playing was a winner, but on this day, the games had to be reduced to three, as the Elks were planning on passing out gifts, and although the crowd was a little older than most who attend a Christmas party, Santa dropped in anyway. Each won a game, giving each of them a little cash, then the Sun City Elks Veterans Committee members, handed out lap robes, clothes and hygiene products. Santa handed out Christmas Cards, each containing a \$5 bill, making the days haul for the Vets even more exciting. It gives the Sun City Elk members a great deal of satisfaction and joy, to bring a bit of cheer into the lives of those, who gave up much of their cheer, just so the Elks and everyone else, could enjoy the Christmas holidays, as we do today.

**Submitted by:** Val Bianchini, Veterans Committee Chairman



Picture 1: L-R: Susan Rich, Jeannette Farr, George Henry, Santa (aka Val Bianchini), Harry Phillips Pat Sheehan and Pat Hutchinson. Picture 2) Joan McConnell, Santa (aka Val Bianchini), John Webber, and Elroy Williams, both residents of the Az. State Veterans Home.

## ***“Coolidge-Florence Elks #2350 Hosts Community Christmas”***

We had a wonderful Christmas event serving 11 families, that were made of 42 children and 22 adults. Coolidge-Florence donated over \$14,000 worth of food baskets, clothing, quilts, gifts, money, effort, time and love!!!

**Submitted by:** Angela Shenk





## ***“Kingman Elks #468 Hosts Christmas Party for Veterans”***

On Dec. 20, 2019, Elks Veterans Chair went to “The Gardens” apartments, in the afternoon, where a few Veterans reside. Richard Joseph bought gifts for these Veterans with some funds from the Impact Grant. All had a very nice Christmas party at “The Gardens.”

**Submitted by:** Sarah Pleth, Newsletter Editor

Seated veterans are: John Banks, G. Stoll, R. Hough, W. Glasoe, and R. Hobbs. Standing is Richard Joseph, Elks Veterans Chair, and R. Hobbs. Roger Christianson, Elks Trustee and Membership Chair and Wayne Downs, also attended. Photo courtesy of Roger Christianson.



## ***“Kingman Elks #468 Hosts Hoop Shoot Competition”***

Kingman Elks Lodge 468 conducted the Hoop Shoot on Dec. 14 with participants from several participating schools. Contestants were in three age groups: 8-9; 10-11; 12-13. PER Erin Moore chaired this year’s Hoop Shoot.

**Submitted by:** Sarah Pleth, Newsletter Editor

AGE Group 8-9 Boys and Girls: Center boy & girl won 1<sup>st</sup> place! Joseph Bjerke, Vince Querta, Addy Divis, Isai Balderama, and PER Erin Moore standing behind them.



10-11 yrs. Age Group: Boys and Girls: The little guy, Evan Meins, won 1<sup>st</sup> place and Lena Montoya in White won 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Photo: Evan Meins, Teegan Kite, Brennon Whataname, Lena Montana, Savannah Carley and PER, Erin Moore.



12-13 yrs. Age Group: Boys and Girl: Daerion Hinton, Jake Lander, Terrell Majenty, Allen Esparaza, Kasen Lingenfelter, Madison Hatchell. Kasen and Madison is standing with PER Erin Moore and won 1<sup>st</sup> place. All 1<sup>st</sup> place winners advance to Camp Verde, AZ to compete on January 11, 2020. If they advance again, then to Tuscon, Wickenburg, Chandler, Apache Junction, Las Vegas, and finals in Chicago, IL. Last year, Arizona Elks had one boy go all the way!



## ***“Kingman Elks #468 and Boy Scouts Entertain Seniors”***

On Dec. 8, 2019 Scouts Pack 468, with leadership of Terry Griffis, went to White Cliffs Senior Center and sang Christmas Carols for the seniors there. It was a great show!

*Submitted by:* Sarah Pleth, Newsletter Editor



On Dec. 15, 2019 Scouts Pack 468 had their Pajama Party and Santa Claus party at the Elks Lodge. Photos taken by Trustee & PER, and Scouts liaison Bill Riehle. Photo Submitted by Bill Riehle

## ***“Raceway Elks #2852 Donates Needed Clothing to MANA House Veterans”***

Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> Raceway Elk members went to MANA House (Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force) a transitional housing facility for Homeless Veterans and assembled clothing racks and shelves donated by Raceway Elks Lodge #2852. They also helped to organize the clothing placed on the many racks. Raceway Elks is proud to help and to offer support to our local Veterans.

*Submitted by:* Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor

Pictured L to R: Pictured L to R: Frank Hylton, Al Albrecht, MANA House Volunteer, Mike Miller, and Chuck Waugh, ER.



## ***“Bullhead City Elks#2408 Hosts Hometown Hero Dinner”***



Bullhead City Elks recently held an awards dinner to honor our areas first responders. With over one hundred in attendance and the Mohave HS girls soccer team serving, we awarded four deserving men with a plaque in remembrance of the occasion. From left are Bullhead City Firefighter Kenny Read, Mohave County Sheriff Deputy Wilbert Jones, Bullhead City Peace Officer Corporal Brian Morin, Ft Mohave Mesa Firefighter Derek Stephenson and Elks Americanism chair Melanie Beaver. Each has earned the respect of their agencies and has made a significant impact on our community.

*Submitted by:* Terri Frear-Frank, Public Relations Chair



## ***“Raceway Elks #2852 Supports Community Sports with Gratitude Grant”***

During the year 2019-2020 Raceway Elks Lodge #2852 received a **Gratitude Grant for \$2500** from Elks National Foundation that contributes to the communities to help support community programs. Raceway Elks presented a check of \$625.00 each to the four following Youth Organizations: Litchfield Park Boy Scouts Troop 90; Phoenix ARC Elite girls’ basketball team; Agua Fria Pompom’s cheer squad and Agua Fria (HOSA) Health Occupation Students of America. The money will be used to purchase and replace camping equipment, help with travel expenses to cheer competitions and leadership conferences and help with uniforms.

*Submitted by:* Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor



## ***“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Shop with a Cop Breakfast”***

At the recent Hometown Heroes banquet which the Bullhead City Elks held to honor our first responders, Police Corporals Brian Morin and Andrew Sevillano surprised us and presented the Exalted Ruler Marsha Haddick and husband Roy with a certificate of appreciation for the Elks hosting breakfast at 5:30 am for the 100 kids or so over the years for the “Shop with a Cop” yearly December event. Shown are Morin, ER Marsha Haddick, Roy Haddick and Sevillano.

*Submitted by:* Terri Frear-Frank, Public Relations Chair



## ***“Jerome Elks #1361 Student of the Month Awards”***

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Jerome Elks Lodge #1361 presented Student of the Month Awards to one seventh grade and one eighth grade student from Clarkdale-Jerome School. These students were chosen by the teachers of the school to be the January recipients of these awards. Each student was provided a free dinner at the lodge for themselves and their families, as well as a \$10.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card. Immediately following dinner, the students were honored with their awards.

**Submitted by:** Charyll McKean, Jerome Lodge #1361 Public Relations Chair



## ***“Sun City Elks #2559 Has Horse Race Named After Lodge”***



A race held at the Turf Paradise horse race park in Phoenix was named after the Sun City Elks #2559 as recognition due to our many charitable acts in the community. Turf Paradise routinely names races after our Lodge. The day included a buffet of beef brisket, turkey, salads of various types and a large table of delightful, calorie filled desserts, with over 90 Elks in attendance.

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

Pictured: Elk members, Jockey, owner, trainer and of course the winning horse “Purely Political”, pose in the winners circle at the Turf Paradise race track in Phoenix, Arizona.

## ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Veterans Committee on the Move”***

Recently members of our Veterans Committee took a road trip and filled the closets of the “Vets Only” Transitional home on Grand Avenue in Phoenix. The first delivery was 12 extra large plastic bags, one box and 2 laundry baskets of men’s clothing of jackets down to socks and shoes and everything in between. A week later we had the same amount of clothes plus suitcases for women. Later we delivered about 21 extra large plastic bags of both men and women clothes.

Next stop will be to the “Paralyzed Veteran’s of America, Arizona Chapter in Phoenix to donate a wheel chair and bathroom equipment. Our next donation of women’s clothing will be to “dress for Success. We at Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 our very proud of all the time and work our Veterans Committee does for the Veterans.

**Submitted by:** Nancy Baker, Tiler



## ***“Coolidge-Florence Elks #2350 Host Drug Awareness Awards”***

This year's drug awareness theme was 'Life does not rewind, choose life not drugs' and we received some amazing essays and posters.

The first place winner from each grade received a check and a certificate for their achievement.

*Submitted by:* Angela Shenk

Pictured left to right Essay Winners Clare Cora and Delilah Goodin (not pictured Eninaka VanHecke) and Poster Winners Mikaela Martinez and Savannah Reece (not pictured Ainsley Smith), with Drug Awareness Committee members Kathy Gibson and Wanda Smith



## ***“Coolidge-Florence Elks #2350 Awards Outstanding Students”***



Congratulations to our 2nd Quarter District Scholars!! These high school juniors excelled in their academics and extracurricular activities for the 2nd quarter of the 2019-20 school year. Each student received a certificate and a check for \$100.

*Submitted by:* Angela Shenk

Pictured left to right: Valeria Casteneda (Florence High School), Kai Portillo (Poston Butte High School), Justyna Marsh (San Tan Foothills High School) and Ethan Hodge (Coolidge High School) with Angie Schenk Scholarship committee chairmen

## ***“Bullhead City Elks#2408 Auxiliary Hosts Chocolate Festival”***

The Bullhead City Elks Auxiliary hosted the annual Chocolate Festival that drew over one hundred people throughout the day. As you walked in the door the aroma of robust chili was in the air, but as you neared the table lined with many varieties of chocolates, the overwhelming smell of chocolate took over. There were also thirty five plus raffle prizes to look over to see which one they would want to win along with the big raffle for 50 Arizona scratchers which all were donated. After you had your fill with chocolate it was time for a bowl of chili to balance your taster! The committee chair shown is Karen Magrum dress as a clown carrying her stuffed dog, Cocoa.

*Submitted by:* Terri Frear-Frank, Public Relations Chair





## ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Hosts Polar Plunge AEMP Fundraiser”***

The Annual Elks “Reason for Freezing” Arizona Elks Major Project (AEMP) **Polar Plunge** fundraising event was held on January 1.

The festivities began with a parade of the contestants in their costumed regalia. There were cash pledges made for all the contestants in every category of the contest. Outdoors, at poolside the sunny Phoenix afternoon was a balmy 66 degrees and the pool was a frigid 50 degrees. There were six intrepid swimmers who braved the water in search of the Best in Class Belly Bomb Flop, King and Queen Competition, whom raised more than \$500 from their pledges. Jeff Allen in his mermaid outfit was voted King and Abby was voted Queen. A 50/50 raffle raised \$266 for the charities. The amount raised was well over \$1,000.

Thanks to all for your benevolent donations, the volunteers who prepared and served the food, the contestants who jumped into the pool and most importantly your participation in the fun filled freezing festival.

*Submitted by:* Nancy Baker, Tiler



## ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Spotlights Veterans Homelessness with Spotlight Grant”***



The Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 applied for and received a Spotlight grant of \$2,000 on behalf of our Veterans Committee. The grant was used to purchase \$800 of supplies for “Arizona Stand Down” which is a program of the Arizona Housing Coalition.

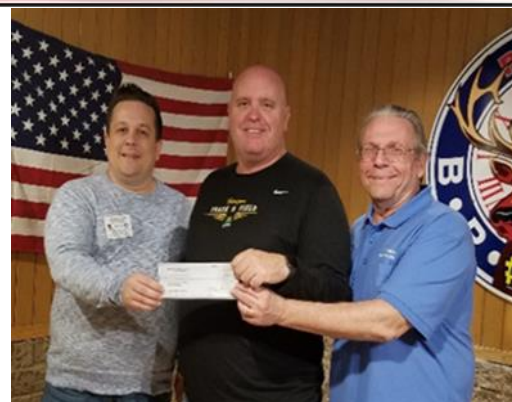
The remaining \$1200 was used for a separate endeavor in which donations were made to the Veterans Transition Home, Our Lodge was able to give several containers of women's and men's clothing and 2 small kitchen appliances.

*Submitted by:* Nancy Baker, Tiler

## ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Presents Track Team with Community Rewards Donation”***

A check for \$1,000 was awarded to the Horizon High School Track program in January. The funds were provided by AEMP Community Rewards program as recognition of our Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 per capita contribution participation. This is the third such check presented by our Lodge in the last year, having donated to the North Phoenix Cadets Program and the Boy Scouts Troop #607 previously.

*Submitted by:* Nancy Baker, Tiler



Pictured: Thom Strupp, ER – Mike Gleason Head track and cross-country coach at Horizon High School and Al Kayal, PER,PDDGER



## ***“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Hosts Special Needs Event”***

Catalina Mountain Elks hosted a movie outing for about 45 young adults with special needs and 30 caretakers from the Jewish Community Center. ER Gloria Cisneros, Loyal Knight Alane Asp, and Trustee Steve Asp accompanied the group. Everyone also received a snack courtesy of the lodge. The Past Exalted Rulers Association provided the funds for this event.

**Submitted by:** Pat Cox, Public Relations Chair



## ***“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Christmas Shopping Spree Makes the News”***



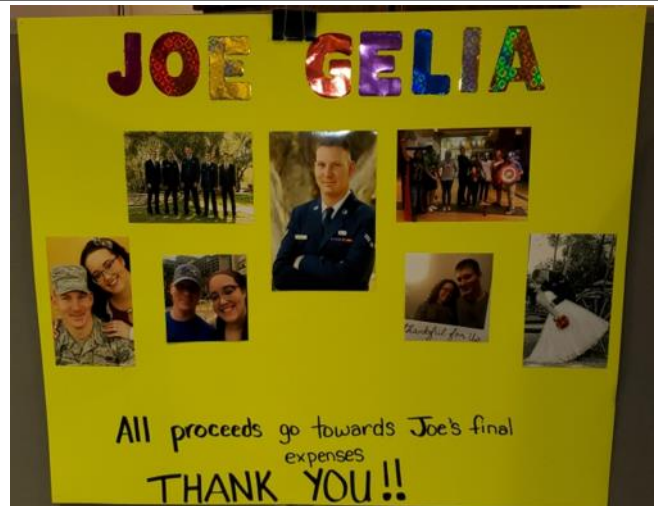
The Scottsdale Elks Lodge #2148 was deatured in a large News spread for their Annual Children's Shopping Spree. To read the entire article, please go to:

[https://www.scottsdale.org/city\\_news/elks-lodge-delivers-christmas-in-spite-of-school/article\\_4522de6a-210b-11ea-8241-47a3f175a311.html](https://www.scottsdale.org/city_news/elks-lodge-delivers-christmas-in-spite-of-school/article_4522de6a-210b-11ea-8241-47a3f175a311.html)

**Submitted by:** Ronald Wilson, PDDGER West District Newsletter Chairman

## ***“Tucson East Elks #2532 Hosts Fundraiser for Servicemember”***

On Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> Tucson East Lodge 2532 was honored and blessed to host a fundraiser for a complete stranger. Joe Gelia, a graduate of Rincon University High School and former Wildcat joined the United States Air Force after completing one year at University. While on active duty, in August 2019, the 23 year old was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and underwent 5 months of chemotherapy. This diagnosis came just 2 weeks before the family had planned a gender reveal/baby shower. The shower was held as planned but at the hospital so that Joe could attend. Unfortunately someone had other plans for Joe, his unborn daughter, Scarlett, and his wife, Angelique. Scarlett was born stillborn but Joe got to hold his daughter for a little while before saying goodbye to her. Joe continued to fight hard but his body was tired and it was time for him to rest. Joe joined his daughter forever on December 17, 2019 just four months after being diagnosed.



Within one day of his passing plans were set in motion to help Joe's widow. Within two weeks numerous donations had been made to help with the fundraiser. Dinner was donated and cooked by officers and members. The outpouring of love for a stranger was truly amazing. The hearts of Joe's friends and family swelled with gratitude, while trying not to break anymore than they already had. Tucson East Elks showed a widow, parents and friends what Elks do and lived up to the motto "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." The love Angelique felt that day was especially meaningful as it was the day that Scarlett would have come into this world. Because of the generously and benevolence of Tucson East Lodge officers, members and family, \$3,695.00 was raised to help Angelique pay for medical bills. As Elks we helped someone breathe easier that day and for days to come.

**Submitted by:** Megin Goetz, Lecturing Knight

## ***“Tucson East Elks #2532 Hosts Blood Drive”***



Pictured: Barry Deslatte as he donates precious life-giving blood

On Thursday December 26<sup>th</sup> Tucson East 2532 Elks, hosted a blood drive for the American Red Cross. This event was spearheaded by Megin Goetz, Lecturing Knight. Upon arrival Red Cross members along with few Elks turned the Wapiti room in a medical blood draw facility. At 10 am check in and registration began. Soon members and family arrived and waited for their turn to donate much needed blood supplies. Did you know that 1 Pint can save 3 lives? At the end of a long day I'm very proud to say that 21 pints were donated in addition to 2 pints double red (Power Red) \*.

**Submitted by:** Mary Shaffer, Public Relations Chair

\*For those who aren't familiar with the term double red (Power Red) here is the American Red Cross explanation.

During a Power Red donation, you give a concentrated dose of red cells, the part of your blood used every day for those needing transfusions as part of their care. This type of donation uses an automated process that separates your red blood cells from the other blood components, and then safely and comfortably returns your plasma and platelets to you.

With just a little extra time at your appointment, you can donate more red cells and increase your impact on patients in need.

**Who it helps:** Red cells from a Power Red donation are typically given to trauma patients, newborns and emergency transfusions during birth, people with sickle cell anemia, and anyone suffering blood loss.



## ***“Sun City Elks #2559 Supports Veterans in Need”***

Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, was a good day for the Elks, our community and our Vets as items donated by the Sun City Elk members, their families and friends, were delivered to the CASS center (Central Arizona Social Services). On this day, with the assistance of Dale Blomker, a Veterans committee member, they delivered shirts, slacks, robes, shoes, jackets and suits for the total of \$1,500. The estimated value of donated items thus far this fiscal Elk year (April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, exceeds \$460,000. That number includes; scooters, walkers, wheelchairs, and other big ticket items, in addition to clothing.

After leaving the CASS center, the Sun City Elks drove over to the Phoenix, state fairgrounds, where a “Stand Down” event was taking place. The Sun City Veterans Committee, headed by Gary Drumheller, the Elks Arizona State Veterans Chairman, using a \$2000 ENF CIP Grant, donated \$953 in food to the workers setting up and cleaning up the arena for the “Stand Down. The Elks Veterans committee visited the “Women Vets exhibit”, where they made another donation of \$700 in gift cards to the “Women Vets Organization”.

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



Pictured: 1) Gary Drumheller, AEA Veterans Chair, and Dale Blomker veterans committee (2) Veterans receiving donated items, (5) L-R: Dale Blomker Eks Veterans Committee; Gary Drumheller, AEA Veterans Chair; Gabe Forsberg, Retired Women Veterans Section Chair and Shane Green, Veterans Stand Down Alliance.

## ***“West District Hosts Leading Knight Clinic”***

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Hank Thonnard held the Western District Leading Knight Clinic on January 11<sup>th</sup> at Raceway Elks Lodge 2852. All the Leading Knights from the 11 Western District Lodges were in attendance. After the clinic hamburgers and hot dogs were served and there was a blind draw shuffleboard tournament. It was a day filled with fun and everyone had a great time.

**Submitted by:** Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor



Pictured: Leading Knights from Western District Lodges

## ***“South District Hoop Shoot”***

On January 4th, 2020 the South District Hoop Shoot was held at the Boys and Girls Club. Chairman Joe Jablonski and the volunteers from all over the South District did an outstanding job. The results are as follows;

In the 8-9 year old girls division pictured R to L in 2nd place Aryana Mendez Tucson #385 and in 1st place Leilani Ramirez Green Valley #2592.

In the Boys 8-9 year old pictured L to R in 3rd place Carlos Hoyos Douglas #955 2nd place Isaac Codova Green Valley #2592 and in 1st place Abdelbasit Adam Tucson #385



10-11 year old girls pictured R to L Estreya Lopez Tucson #385 took 3rd place and Kora Sainz Douglas #955 was the runner up and 1st was Hayden Schellhorn Green Valley #2592.

10-11 year old boys pictured L to R 3rd place Hassan Adam Tucson #385 2nd place Isidro Hoyos Douglas #955 and 1st place went to Nate Huber Green Valley #2592



*Continued on next page:*



## ***“South District Hoop Shoot– continued”***

On January 4th. 2020 the South District Hoop Shoot was held at the Boys and Girls Club. Chairman Joe Jablonski and the volunteers from all over the South District did an outstanding job. The results are as follows;

12-13 year old girls pictured R to L 3rd place Mackenzie Weber Ajo #1576 2nd place Nikaiya Banks Tucson #385 and 1st place Chloe Cicerro Green Valley #2592

12-13 year old boys pictured L to R 3rd place Nathan Peck Catalina Mountain #2815 2nd place Malin Lewis Ajo #1576 and 1st place Miguel DiCochia Tucson #385



**South District Hoop Shoot Volunteers**



Also pictured are AEA State President Dan Snyder Raceway Lodge #2852 Joe Jablonski South District Hoop Shoot Chairman Tucson #385 and Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District

Article and pictures submitted by Gregg Boyce

## ***“North District Hoop Shoot”***

On January 11th the North District held their District Shoot at the Camp Verde Middle School. Gregg Boyce the acting North District Hoop Shoot Chairman can't thank all the volunteers enough for giving up their time to make this shoot a great success. Also big thank you to Jerome Lodge #1361 for hosting the event. The first place winners will advance on to the State Shoot on February 15th in Apache Junction. The results are as follows;

8-9 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Katelynn Lamone Page #2498 2nd place Clara Irvine Holbrook #2450 and 1st place Nalani Chee Winslow #536

8-9 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Koldan Files Chino Valley #2842 2nd place Rashad Smith Show Low #2090 and 1st place Jacoby Chee Winslow #536 (The Chee's that took 1st in boys and girls are twins)



10-11 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Taylin Puhuefvaya Winslow #536 2nd place Wasiiva Lewis Jerome #1361 and 1st place Kmanii Hinton Payson #2154

10-11 year old boys L to R; 3rd Keo Ivins Show Low #2090 2nd place Preston Ross Page #2498 and 1st place Zion Velasquez Sedona #2291



*Continued on next page:*



## ***“North District Hoop Shoot– continued”***

The first place winners will advance on to the State Shoot on February 15th in Apache Junction. The results are as follows;

12-13 year old girls R to L; 3rd Kylie Francis Winslow #536 2nd place Kenadi Stuart Show Low #2090 and 1st place Maya Francisco Holbrook #2450

12-13 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Kynoe Honwyte Jerome #1361 2nd place Texas James Show Low #2090 and 1st place Esias Passmore Winslow #536



**North District Hoop Shoot Volunteers**



Good luck to all Champions at the State Shoot.

Also pictured are Jerry Grimes SDDGER, PSP and Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District President Dan Snyder was unable to attend due to other obligations. He did send his well wishes to all.

Article and pictures submitted by Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director

## ***“West District Hoop Shoot”***

The 3rd District Shoot was held on January 18th, 2020 at the Vulture Peak Middle School in Wickenburg, AZ. Wickenburg Lodge #2160 hosted this event and they as always did an outstanding job. West District Hoop Shoot Chairman Lonnie Cline wants to say thank you to all the volunteers that showed up to help. The winners of each age group will now advance to the State Competition to represent the West District. The results are as follows;

8-9 year old girls L to R; 2nd place Aubrey Harris Raceway #2852 and 1st place Isabella Arriola Yuma #476

8-9 year old boys R to L; 3rd place Adrian Porchas Yuma #476 2nd place Damian Smith Wickenburg #2160 and 1st place Tyler Rhodes Raceway #2852



10-11 year old girls L to R; 3rd place Jaida Bosch Yuma #476 2nd place Niya Nsonwu Raceway #2852 and 1st place Haley Hernandez Wickenburg #2160

10-11 year old boys R to L; 3rd place Tanner Erwin Wickenburg #2160 2nd place Chase Miller Yuma #476 and 1st place Chase VanHooser Raceway #2852



*Continued on next page:*



## ***“West District Hoop Shoot-continued”***

12-13 year old girls L to R; 3rd place Alexa Standiford Parker #1929 2nd place Karla Borel Yuma #476 and 1st place Mia Brown Phoenix #335

12-13 year old boys R to L; 3rd place Hudson Field Sun City #2559 2nd place Thaddeus Nopah Parker #1929 and 1st place Tristen Rhodes Raceway #2852



### **West District Hoop Shoot Volunteers**



It should be noted that Tristen Rhodes shot 25/25 to become the 1st and only so far to do this. Good luck to all at the State Competition.

Also pictured are AEA President Dan Snyder, Lonnie Cline West District Hoop Shoot Chairman, Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District

Article and pictures submitted by Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District

## ***“East District Hoop Shoot”***

The 4th round of Districts was completed on January 25, 2020 at the Boys and Girls Club in Chandler. This means we are set for the competition at the State Shoot on February 15th, 2020 in Apache Junction at the Cactus Canyon Junior High School. In the 1st picture East District Chairman Dennis Appel along with his lady Deb are recognized for their accomplishment of having 100% participation from the Lodges in their District. Great job. Chandler Lodge #2429 hosted this event and Dennis wants to thank all of the volunteers that helped out. The six that will join us at the State Shoot are as follows;

In the 8-9 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Caedence Roth Chandler #2429 2nd place Emma Hall Casa Grande Valley #1957 and 1st place Savannah Magallanez Kearny #2478

In the 8-9 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Mason Jensen Mesa Buckhorn #2656 2nd place Nathaniel Sinteral Kearny #2478 and 1st place Alberto Bonilla Coolidge-Florence #2350



10-11 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Angelique Martinez Casa Grande Valley #1957 2nd place Ariana Arbizo Kearny #2478 and 1st place Samantha Wortman Apache Junction #2349

10-11 year old boys L to R; 3rd place David Cunningham Chandler #2429 2nd place Dayton Bond Mesa Buckhorn #2656 and 1st place Carson Rose Tempe #2251



*Continued on next page:*



## ***“East District Hoop Shoot-continued”***

12-13 year old girls R to L; 3rd place Rya Lagunas Kearny #2478 2nd place Addison Schattenberg Chandler #2429 and 1st place Brooklyn Neace Apache Junction #2349

12-13 year old boys L to R; 3rd place Kyler Frye Chandler #2429 2nd place Logan Rose Tempe #2251 and 1st place Benny Schlenske Casa Grande Valley #1957



### **East District Hoop Shoot Volunteers**



Good luck at State.

Also pictured Dan Snyder AEA President, Dennis Appel, East District Hoop Shoot Chairman. East District Vice President, Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District

Article and pictures submitted by Gregg Boyce, PDDGER, AEA Hoop Shoot Director, Vice President North District

## ***“Arizona Elks Major Projects News”***

Happy New Year! As most of you know, we have started the Diamond Club which is an exclusive club for monthly donors. By becoming a member, you will receive a certificate of appreciation, a commemorative pin exclusive to members, your name on our website, and recognition at all AEA conventions. I would like to recognize our current members and implore you to encourage members within your lodge to join. To join, head to [www.azelksmp.com/donate](http://www.azelksmp.com/donate) and sign up for the monthly recurring donation.

We will be debuting incentives for lodges with the most Diamond Club members very soon so be on the lookout!

### **Charter Members:**

Tim Woods	Frank and Eva Fieldhouse	Ken and Dianna Adams
Larry and Diane Bodwell	Lisa Rivers	John and Kathleen
Dan and Mary Snyder	John and Carol Fuller	Doucette
Gregg and Jeanne Boyce	Bob & Beth Duitsman	Paul and Verna Green
Al and Brenda Kayal	Roy and Marsha Haddick	Gail and Bruce Kragh
Diana Polk	Rich and JoAnn Botkin	Ira Cohen
Clem Brown	Shali Haas	Mary Shaffer
		Bob and Lisa Burns

### **Members:**

Barry and Shawnee Carlile	Phillip Shoaf	Darrell and Susan Smith
Clifford Sias	Jerry and Sandie Ingram	Thomas Strupp
Kathy Schellhas	Brian and Sheri Gorski	Grover and Deborah
David and Diane	Michael and Colleen	Ramsey
Gnuschke	Seeley	Lee and Betty Cook
Bruce Kather	Mike and Vicki Way	Jerry and Linda Grimes
Lawrence and Virginia	John Drury	Katie Murdoch
Morrison	John Holtzapple	Bruce Murdoch
Robert Bahr	Roy Nilson	Gloria Cisneros
Thomas and Teresa	Dan Bradshaw	
DiSisto	Ronald Wilson	

We have designed some new t-shirts and sweatshirts available for purchase to members and lodges. All proceeds benefit AEMP! Here is the link to purchase: <https://www.bonfire.com/aemp/>

Please share with your members! Thank you!

Katie Murdoch  
AEMP Executive Director

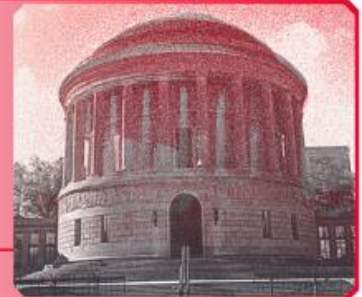






# Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

*Elks Care — Elks Share*



## Delinquent Members deserve a phone call

The end of the Lodge year is fast approaching. I hope that Lodges are contacting delinquent Members to find out what is going on, and how they can be kept as Members.

I strongly suggest that no Member should be dropped without some sort of initial personal contact, whether it be a phone call or visit, to really find out what is happening. Sometimes there are special circumstances that can be worked around. Whatever the reason for the delinquency, the person has been a part of your Lodge family and should be afforded the respect and fraternal concern given to all Members.

Even if a delinquent Member has decided for whatever reason not to continue his or her membership, please consider making the effort to find out why. There may be something going on in your Lodge that can be changed to avoid the loss of additional Members. Something to think about.



### Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

**ROBERT L.  
DUITSMAN**

February is possibly the most important month of the fraternal year. It is when the leaders of the Lodge are chosen. Every Member should take an interest in officer selection and attend the meeting. Then, elections are to be conducted. Unfortunately, there have been times when a very small percentage of a Lodge's membership have elected officers with a passion not shared by the majority. It behooves every Elk to take an interest in the election process and be a part of the decisions made. The future of the Lodge may depend on it.

If you haven't done so, please try to keep your Lodge website page on [elks.org](http://elks.org) up to date. Often times I've visited a Lodge page and found that officer listings were missing or no longer accurate. An outdated or inaccurate web page, especially one provided free through Grand Lodge, reflects poorly.

With only two months left in the fraternal year, now is a good time to plan for year end activities. Will there be an event to recognize senior Members who have achieved milestones in their Lodge membership? Are the new officers properly prepared for their coming year of service? All of these things, both fun and important, should be under consideration as the end of the year starts to come into focus.

Finally, to the Lodge Secretaries, please make sure to enter new Lodge directory information into CLMS2web so that correct listings can be available. It will save a lot of time later on.

## 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/>

## 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'

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