

Arizona Elks News

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

September 2020



"Elks Are Meant to Serve!"

Members All,



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I hope this finds you healthy, happy, and safe. Things seem to be happening around the state and the country. Violence and vandalism seem to dominate the news every day and peaceful demonstrations seem to be interwoven with agitators and looters. We must believe that this is just a small percentage of the honest hard-working people that continue to make this country a refuge of freedom and greatness.

As JoAnn and I traveled throughout the state and met with and talked to many members we have witnessed many acts of kindness, friendship, and helping hands extended to members and the community who needed assistance. Every district has performed remarkable in answering the call to duty in helping their fellow man. Even though they are going through tough times themselves they have risen to the task. We have built ramps for disabled veterans, made huge contributions to the food bank, checked on your neighbors and members who may have needed assistance or to make sure they were alright. You have visited veterans in their homes and help feed the homeless and less fortunate. You did this while you were attempting to maintain your lodge and membership.

I have come to conclusion that while I attend meeting and clinic I find myself not only in a room full of dedicated elks but in a room full of heroes. Thank you for keeping our order alive and well. This is what the world needs to know about the heroes that face the world every day and say bring it on.

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

aeanewsletter
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Continued on page 2.

**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION
2020-2021
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Richard "Rich" Botkin

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

North: Charyll McKeon

VICE PRESIDENTS

West: Val Bianchino

East: Jerry Ingram

South: Jack Baillargeon

SECRETARY:

Peter K. Gillespie, PSP

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

North-1 Year:

Leland "Lee" Schwein, PSP

South-2 Year:

Alfred R. Skorupski, PSP

East- 3 Year:

John F. James, PSP

North- 4 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

West- 5 Year:

Dan Snyder, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Larry Pratt Jr.

CHAPLAIN:

Beverly Swanty

TILER:

Gloria Cisneros

INNER GUARD:

Dale Blomker

ASST. SEC / TREASURER:

Roy Haddick, PDDGER

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Dwayne Cunningham

ORGANIST:

Hugh Dixon

"Elks Are Meant to Serve!"

Continued from page 1.

Let me lay to rest a few of the rumors that are going around. The Mid-year convention is all but cancelled. Unless a sudden change in the state restriction are lifted then it is just not going to happen. The annual golf tournament in September is cancelled. Other plans were in the works but again restrictions force us to reconsider those efforts.

Right now, I am in the process of rewriting the Vice Presidents visitation instructions. Vice Presidents visitations are normally social events involving meeting with committees reporting on community projects. Some Lodges are not even open. I want them to meet with the Trustees, Board of Directors, and House Committee. Find out what is going on in these lodges. We need to find out your financial condition, and how is your membership doing. We need to know how we can help you. Believe me, I can assure you have my total support, you have the support of the Association anytime day or night. These are uncertain and unprecedented times; we must not accept the future as a defeat to our organization. This is the time to step forward and take a positive stand. Support and manage your Lodges day by day, week by week and month by month to make it work. Use all the volunteer help you can, they are an asset to your Lodge and club. I promise I will not lose a lodge this year. Not on my watch. Please remember I will support your efforts and you may contact me at any time.

God Bless our troops.

God Bless our First Responders

God Bless America

"Elks Are Meant to Serve!"

Fraternally,

Rich Botkin
AEA President

“Sun City Elks #2559 Sells Golf Cart to Raise Honor Flight Funds”

Wednesday, August 5th 2020, was indeed a very hot day, but that did not stop two members of the Sun City Elks lodge Veterans committee from making a short trip for a donation to the Sun City Elks honor flight program by Elk Member Pat Hutchinson. The intent was to sell the cart to raise money to donate to the Honor program, however the cart needed maintenance.

Gary Drumheller, the Elks State Veterans Committee Chairman and John McConnell, a good mechanic, went along to inspect the cart to determine the type of repairs that would be needed to get the cart running. The golf cart needed a new battery, fuel pump and carburetor because of its in use for so long.

The Sun City Elks Lodge Veterans committee donated the funds used for the parts that John needed to bring the cart up to standard for it was sold. The hard work paid off and another Vet will soon be rewarded with the Honor Flight Trip.

It costs \$1,200 to send each Vet on this trip, which includes air fare, lodging, and transportation, but is entirely free to the Vet. Thus far, the Sun City Elks Lodge has sent over 70 Vets on Honor Flights.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Sun City Elks Veterans Publicity Chairman

Pictured: Pat Hutchinson sits on the passenger side of her late husband's golf cart.



“Yuma Elks #476 Celebrates Flag Day”

The Yuma Elks 476 raised this banner in July to tell the community of our accomplishments in putting them first.

Submitted by: John Fuller



“Phoenix Elks #335 Hosts Special Father’s Day Ritual”

Our Annual Father’s Day Picnic was not held this year due to the pandemic, however our Lodge held a special Ritual in the Lodge room to honor Father’s Day.

It was appreciated that some of our Past Exalted Rulers stepped in to substitute for Officers that could not be present that afternoon. Thank you to all those who attended this special event.

Submitted by: Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

“Jerome Elks #1361 Donates \$2,000 to Bread of Life”

On July 28th, 2020 at the food bank sponsored by Bread of Life in Camp Verde, the Jerome Elks Lodge #1361 located at 100 S. Broadway in Clarkdale, Arizona presented a \$2000.00 check to Executive Director Jeremy Embry of Bread of Life. The presentation was made as all the volunteers got ready to help those waiting in line for food baskets. In 1994 the founders of the Bread of Life grieved for the many people in their community going without food. As a result, the mission started and continues from that compassion for the hungry. The Bread of Life Mission is a Christian distribution mission dedicated to serving people of Camp Verde and surrounding communities. They are committed to serving both the spiritual and physical needs of anyone in need. There is NEVER a cost to the individuals they serve. Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, they provided food assistance for an average of 200 people weekly, over 400 on holidays. With the COVID-19 Pandemic, their numbers have skyrocketed. They have served nearly 5,000 neighbors per month since March 2020.

Submitted by: Charyll McKean, Public Relations Chair



Picture 1) first row from left to right, Erick Lyles, Mazzie Jasman, Mike Conerly, Leah Embry, Jeremy Embry, Tom Meredith, Haddie Beaman, Kathy Heltzels, Fay Celmer, Barbara Harrington and Elks Exalted Ruler Tim McKean. Second Row (Left to right): David Baugher, Noah Green, Tina Beaman, Emma Beaman

Picture 2) first row from left to right, Erick Lyles, Mazzie Jasman, Mike Conerly, Leah Embry, Jeremy Embry, Tom Meredith, Haddie Beaman, Kathy Heltzels, Barbara Harrington and Elks Exalted Ruler Tim McKean. Second Row (Left to right): David Baugher, Noah Green, Tina Beaman, Emma Beaman and Fay Celmer.

“Tucson Elks #385 Donates to Sunnyside Every Child Foundation”

On 18 August 2020, Exalted Ruler Matilda Lopez presented a \$500 check to T. Emmerson, Tucson AZ Principal of Sunnyside Sierra School in support of the Sunnyside Every Child Foundation

Submitted by: John Aceves



“Casas Adobes Elks #2663 Delivers 43 Kitchen-in-a-Box Kits to Veterans”

On 11 August 2020, the Casas Adobes Elks Lodge #2663 delivered 43 "kitchen-in-a-box" sets (and six toasters) to the HUD-VASH program administered by the VA. The HUD-VASH program places homeless Veterans in their own home via the Section 8 housing program administered by the Dept of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Sadly, the VA, HUD nor any other federal government entity provides the things needed to establish a household. For the last 5 years our lodge has been providing household items to the HUD-VASH program with funds from ENF Freedom and/or Spotlight grants. This year we managed to get awarded both grants which gave us \$4500 to spend on the Veterans.

Each "kitchen-in-a-box" set contains 93 items commonly used to prepare, cook, and eat a meal. There are pot and pans, a skillet, dishes and flatware for 4, glasses, cups, a complete knife block, potato peeler, can/bottle opener, cutting board, strainer, mixing bowls, plastic storage containers, and a myriad of serving utensils.

Submitted by: Bruce Van Den Eng, Exalted Ruler



“Phoenix Elks #335 Hosts Fourth of July Picnic”

Our Annual Fourth of July Picnic was a little different this year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Face masks were required when moving around the lodge and social distancing was encouraged by all attending.

The volunteer cooking team braved the seasonal temperatures to grill hot dogs, hamburgers, and roasted corn on the cob. Chef Mary McCoy and her team of kitchen volunteers prepared and served salads of all kinds, beans and snacks all prepared by volunteers.

There was a 50/50 raffle and many very attractive baskets that were auctioned off to enthusiastic bidders. Carol Brown our Lodge Esquire and her husband Joe, our Chaplain put together the raffle as well as other activities such as a “scavenger hunt” contest which proved to be very popular.

The Karaoke was fun and generated enough income to make it worthwhile. Tim Bos, Chair of the House Committee and House Committee members along with volunteers made it all happen. Thank you to all that participated and volunteered in this wonderful picnic event. We all look forward to the Labor Day Picnic.

Submitted by: Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Collects Pet Food for Shelter Animals”

The month of July and into mid August, Scottsdale AZ Lodge 2148 collected pet food and supplies for our local No Kill Shelters. Along with over 500 pounds of dog food, 150 pounds of cat food, blankets, treats, cat litter were all collected and donated to the Safe Haven Animal Rescue, Desert Trails, Pet Rescue and the Arizona Animal Welfare League. Members also contributed over \$500.00 in monetary donations to share with our furry friends

Submitted by: Debra Jo Clark, Lodge Secretary

“Chandler Elks #2429 Promotes The Change Project”

The Change Project prepares youth for college and. Students need to be armed with confidence, interpersonal and communications skills and more. Chandler #2429 works with The Change Project to help keep more youth in school and improve post-high school enrollment rates.

Chandler Lodge #2429 hosted an awards banquet, providing a meal and venue for the students and their families.

Submitted by: Terry Mickelson, Public Relations

“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Hosts Brunch to Raise Funds for Spree”

On Sunday, August 16,2020 Scottsdale AZ Lodge 2148 Children's Committee hosted a brunch to raise money for our Christmas Shopping Spree and other children charities. Following all local government guidelines and CDC safety guidelines. The committee was able to put on a delicious brunch and raise \$650.00 towards our Children Activities. Members not only enjoyed a great breakfast but donated additional monies to the cause.

Submitted by: Debra Jo Clark, Lodge Secretary

“Phoenix Elks #335 Veterans Committee Continues to Serve Veterans”

The Veterans Committee donated \$1,000 to the Cutrano AZ Troop Run charity. Through there vision the children of Arizona’s fallen and disabled heroes will have the opportunity through extra-curricular activities, to become upstanding members of the community. The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes such as educational and literary and purposes dedicated to supporting children in need in our communities.

The Veterans Committee is hosting a raffle for Silver Bars of 3 denominations to raise money. All proceeds from the sale of silver will be used to support Veterans in the state of Arizona. There is a great need of money to help Veterans with housing, medical needs, and meeting their everyday necessities. Tickets are available at the Lodge. We are looking forward to a great sale of tickets and hope you are a winner of a silver bar.

The Veterans Committee Greeting Card making ladies collected a total of \$95 during the 4th of July Picnic. They will be having a clothing drive for Veterans at the end of August for gently used clothing and household items to support the Veterans as they set up their own households.

The Veterans Committee is keeping busy and we are proud they are members of our Lodge.

Submitted by: Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Hosts Back to School Supply Drive”

August started the back to school drive for the Scottsdale AZ Lodge 2148. To date we have collected two car loads of supplies to donate to our sponsor school, Hirsch Charter School and more supplies are coming in daily. A 55" TV and rolling cart were also donated to the school from our members.

Submitted by: Debra Jo Clark, Lodge Secretary

“Chandler Elks #2429 Makes Masks for Safety”

Over the last six months making masks has been a way to help keep Veterans in our community safe and a way to help deserving charities. It all started with these questions from several people, “Do you make masks?” “Can you make me or a family member a special mask?” And so, it began...

Mask making fell into three categories:

First Category: A group of friends who enjoy sewing (who some are Elks, and some are not) made masks to donate to the Veterans in our community. 358 masks were made and donated through the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, 20 masks donated to the James Walton home and 25 masks donated to the nurses at Dignity Health, Chandler. All the materials and labor were donated by the generous ladies who did the sewing. Kay Beachy (Elk), Mel Smith (Elk), Kathleen Tubbs, Lorraine Larson (Elk), Vicki Solomon, Karen Shepherd, and Robin McQuaid.

Second Category: Mel Smith and Kay Beachy (both Chandler Elks Members) designed and made Chandler Elks masks to match the EVAC (Elks Veterans Assistance Committee) Shirts we wear on Fridays to honor and remember our deployed troops. We sell at the Lodge and Lodge Events, proceeds all going to EVAC projects. 100 masks were made, out of those we donated to the lodge bartenders and kitchen staff for their good works. These masks are still on sale for \$10 each at the lodge, until we sell out. To date, have made over \$300 profit for EVAC projects.

Third Category: Kay Beachy, using fabric stock donated by her business Beachy Bags, made over 500 masks, and was able to donate \$800 to the Scripture Quilt Ministry and \$1400 to ENF for a total of \$2200 from mask purchases. Every person who has ordered masks, gets the design they want and knows their donation is going to worthy causes.

Submitted by: Terry Mickelson, Public Relations



"Americanism Awards"

Essay Contest Theme

"What Does Freedom of Speech Mean to Me?"

Division I - 5th & 6th Grades - from Phoenix #335 Ana Rassega

Division II - 7th & 8th Grades - From Chandler #2429 Helena Sherman

Americanism Lodge Brochure Contest

Division I - 1st Place Tucson #385
2nd Place Ajo #1576

Division II - 1st place Raceway #2852
2nd Place Sierra Vista #2852

Division III - 1st Place Tucson East #2532
2nd Place Casa Grande Valley #1957

No entries for Divisions IV or V

Division VI - 1st Place & Best Overall Brochure Lake Havasu City #2399

Firefighter of the Year

Engineer David Anderson, Surprise Fire-Medical Department - Raceway #2852

Police Officer of the Year

Officer Ashley Lewis-King - Chandler Police Department - Chandler #2429

Submitted by:

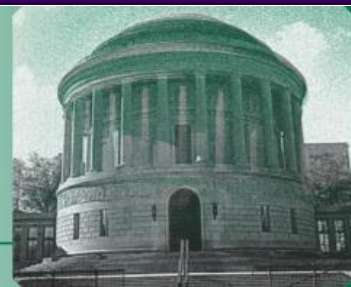
Grover Ramsey
AEA Americanism
Casa Grande Valley #1957

"Grand Lodge News"



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care — Elks Share



Upcoming events allow Elks to retain, recruit

This is the time of year to move the momentum for the future of Elksdom. Prepare your Members for what is coming next and create new ideas for the future. There are so many things just around the corner: GER Membership Class, ENF Month, Red Ribbon Week, Patriotism Week, Veterans Day... so many more.

Membership: Are you in line with your goals for the year? What? You didn't set goals!? Then start now and make sure that you are on top of **recruiting** and **retaining** membership.

This is a superb time to send invoices to your Members who have not paid their dues. The Membership Committee should contact those delinquent Members to ask them to become current. Let them know that the funds continue to help the Lodge do great things in the community. Then, ask them if there is anyone they know who would benefit from



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

**PAUL R.
RYAN**

becoming a Member of the Lodge and also would enjoy helping with community events and charitable get-togethers.

However, don't just **retain**; ramp up and get **new** Members in other ways. Hold an event and have each Member bring someone they know who is not a Member. Take a box of goodies to the police departments, fire departments, and sheriff's departments and tell them about our closed-door policies. Tell them how their job and their privacy is important to us.

As fall comes in, are you working out details for Lodge participation? It is a good time to organize and gather new ideas. Plant a seed for something new to be done each year, month, or week. It is a good time to organize old and implant new ideas to make sure that something is always happening at the Lodge.

This is a great time to make sure that the Lodge Secretary is keeping up with the charitable reports. If this is done on a regular basis then it is not a situation where you will need to try and remember what has happened. Send a notice out to all the Members and the Activities chairs so that you make sure to receive all the charitable hours recorded.

Coming right around the corner is Patriotism Week from September 7-13 and Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31. The GER Class runs for the month of



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October, so start making plans now and make this the largest GER Class ever.

ENF Month is also in October, so make as many events as possible to increase the ENF funds to meet the \$4.80 goal. Create another event to sign people up for the Fidelity Club—Wouldn't it be awesome to increase the amount of giving we can do by getting all Members to give just \$5 per month? Wow, now that is a number!



The health and safety of our members and supporters is of the utmost importance to us. Due to the uncertainty of the current pandemic, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our annual golf tournament scheduled for September 12-13.