

# Arizona Elks News

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

October 2020



## *"Elks Are Meant to Serve!"*

Members All,



### Inside this edition:

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

**Local Lodges  
Charitable and  
Community  
Contributions** 3-10

**AEA ENF Update** 11

**Elks Training Update** 12

**Grand Lodge News** 13

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

aeanewsletter  
@arizonaelks.org

Well the summer months are gone and not a lot has improved. We are still in the wondering stage of what comes next. The only thing I can tell you is we need to stay strong and get through this together. I assure you that every elk in the state is working to get their lodges back in respectable order. There is nothing new happening in the state. As everyone expected the October Mid-Year convention has been cancelled and nothing is planned until after the first of the year. We are trying to put together a mini convention event in each district and having all lodges in that district attend. Will let everyone know when it becomes a reality.

I attended the Past State Presidents meeting and found it highly informative. They finalized the budget, picked the next Vice Presidents for next year, and covered a host of other topics. I received the Grand Lodge Newsletter and would like to share a few of the subjects that were presented in the letter as I know not everyone receives it.

Our Grand Exalted Ruler Paul R. Ryan wrote a good article on the new FRS and your lodge budget. With every lodge doing half the business it normally should do then your budget should reflect just that. If your lodge is functioning at half the income then your budget should be based on that figure. If it is out of whack then your Board of Directors/Trustees need to take a serious look at it. Adjust where needed based on your lodge's financial needs for the rest of the year.

Simple math! You cannot spend what you do not have! Be realistic when you are making your budget adjustments in October.

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.

Membership, I know everyone is doing as much as possible when it comes to membership. Rick Gathen, Grand Lodge PR, and Membership Marketing Manager has come up with three new campaigns for membership recruiting. "New Generation of Elks", "Join The Herd", and "Charity with Friends for Those We Love". For more information on the new campaigns, visit [virtualmanuel.elks.org/](http://virtualmanuel.elks.org/) social-shareables. This is the first phase of recruiting campaigns coming in 2020. This is geared to recruit younger members.

Just for your interest, your State President, along with the officers of Tucson East 2532 now have clean shaved heads. This was done by Tucson East Lodge #2532 as part of a fund raiser for AEMP. They raised over \$ 10,000 dollars.

I will close with please keep healthy, happy, and safe.

God Bless our First Responders- God Bless our Troops and God Bless America

Rich Botkin, President  
Arizona Elks Association

## *"AEA First Lady JoAnn's Message"*



Well hot weather is still here and doesn't look like it is letting up.

Rich & I have been trying to visit as many lodges as possible during these uncertain times. I have been talking to the ladies of the lodges just to find out what is happening on their side if the lodge activities? There are still a lot of good things happening with members and the community. I still have not decided on my benefit project as there are so many worthy causes that need help. I will let you know as soon as I decide.

Hope this finds everyone safe and healthy.

With regards,

JoAnn Botkin, 1st Lady  
Arizona Elks Association

## ***“Tucson East #2532 delivers \$2,500 Freedom Grant to Fisher House ”***

Tucson East was proud to deliver \$2,500 Freedom Grant to Fisher House. We originally planned on providing meals to those residing at Fisher House while their loved ones received care at the VA Hospital however, COVID 19 changed our plans. We will be returning soon to cook meals and help-out when restrictions are lifted.

*Submitted by;* Mary Shaffer

Pictured: L to R: Kelly Laurich, House Manager Fisher House & Brigid Sherbo, Veteran's Committee Chair



## ***“Tucson Elks #385 ”Donates to Children’s Reading Program”***

Tucson Elks Lodge #385 donates \$665.00 in children reading books in Sunnyside.

*Submitted by:* John Aceves



Pictured L-R: Treasurer D. Gnuschke and Tucson Sunnyside Principal Sierra 2-8 School, T. Emerson September 1, 2020

## ***“Arizona East District Elks Hosts AEMP Fundraiser”***

Saturday, October 17, 2020

**Chandler Lodge #2429**  
**1775 W. Chandler Blvd.**  
**Chandler, AZ 85224**

**For more details contact**  
**Brian Gorski**  
**(cell) 480-696-9215**  
**Exalted Ruler**  
**Chandler Lodge #2429**

*Submitted by:* Terry Mickelson





## ***“Casa Grande Valley Elks #1957 Donates Beacon Grant to Food Bank”***

Casa Grande Valley Elks Lodge received \$3500 from the Elks National Foundation Beacon grant which would provide the items that families tend to go without because of lack of funds. Casa Grande Food Bank purchased a large shipment of paper towels, toilet paper, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, hand soap, toothpaste, and deodorant which will be distributed by the Casa Grande Food Bank. This is just the first of two large shipments.

The Elks first realized this need in our community last Christmas when they were organizing Elks Christmas Food Boxes which included a present for each person in the family. These parents requested cleaning and hygiene supplies for the family in lieu of a personal gift.

Casa Grande Elks sought to remedy this need in our community. Working with fellow Elks who volunteer and manage the food bank and with the grant from the Elks National Foundation Elks, Casa Grande Elks will be able to assist all who visit the Casa Grande Food Bank with the needed items.

*Submitted by:* Donna Johnson, Lodge Secretary



Pictured left to right is Mike Darby, Elk member and Casa Grande Food Bank volunteer, and Chris Repass, Exalted Ruler, Casa Grande Valley Elks Lodge.

## ***“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Host Chili Cook-off Fundraiser”***

The eleventh annual Memorial Day Chili Cook-Off was postponed until Labor Day this year due to Covid-19. This event raises money for the veteran charities that the Elks support in our area. During the event our Lodge observed social distancing, wore masks, cookers wore gloves and the crowd was held to 65 people at the event which raised just over \$1,000 in spite of the conditions. There were nine cookers this year and the Elks plus guests paid \$5 each for the privilege of tasting and judging each chili. At the end of the day the votes were counted to reveal who won the coveted apron for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Winners from the event chairman Susie Stillabower, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner Terry Landaeta, 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Dan Barron and the 1<sup>st</sup> place apron was placed on Kathy Honse.

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

## *“Sun City Elks #2559 Presents Veteran’s Award”*

The Sun City Elks are noted for their hard work, love and devotion for our Veterans, and their giving, to those Vets is known nationwide.

At the last Sun City Elks Lodge business meeting, Gary Drumheller, Arizona Elks State Veterans Coordinator and Sun City Elks member, was presented with the 2020 Veterans Service Volunteer of the Year Award”. His award was based on his outstanding service to our Nation’s Veterans.

Each of the last 4 years, Gary has surpassed raising over \$400,000, in nonperishable contributions, and this last year he raised over \$430,000.

**Submitted by:** Val Bianchino, Veterans PR Chairman



Left: Jose Cordero-Torres, Sun City Elks ENF Chairman, (left) presents Gary with his Pin.

Center: Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Jerry Grimes, and Exalted Ruler Vicki Way

Right: Exalted Ruler Vicki Way, PER Bill Hudson, 2020 award recipient Gary Drumheller, AEA Veterans Chairman, and SDGER Jerry Grimes. \*Masks were removed for picture purposes only.

## *“Bullhead City Elks #2872 Receives Elk Antler Donation”*

Bullhead City Elks Trustee Ron Russell is a friend to Leading Knight Mike Schliskey of the Laughlin Elks Lodge #2872 when it was discovered that the Laughlin Elks did not have any elk antlers. They were instituted in January 2013 and didn’t have a meeting room they could call their own but were promised a set when they did have a regular place to meet. This was a topic of conversation at the Bullhead City Elks amongst a few members when Bill Machon said he had a set of antlers that his Uncle had and would gladly donate them to the Laughlin Elks.



Mochon’s uncle, Albert Machon member of the Lakewood Elks #1576, shot that elk over 50 years ago and the antlers hung in the Lakewood Lodge until Machon was given them upon his 50 years of Elkdom. Upon his death the antlers were given to Bill Mochon’s father, a member of the Westminster Elks Lodge #2346 and eventually became the possession of younger Albert “Bill” Mochon.



## *“Tempe Elks #2251 Hosts Kentucky Derby Fundraiser for Charity”*

The Tempe Elks’ third-annual Kentucky Derby Charitable Event did not look like it has in the past, but the result was just as exciting. Because of current restrictions, the Tempe Elks were unable to run their very popular (and funny) “people-horse races” as well as many of their other Kentucky Derby-related activities. Instead, in an effort to ensure social distancing, they resorted to other fun activities for all to participate in and enjoy – while raising money for Elks Charities.

The day began with a breakfast hosted by Major Projects with distanced seating available in multiple rooms within their Lodge along with take-out and pick-up options. ENF conducted their popular Lottery Ticket Board Raffle throughout the day. The Veterans Committee entertained participants all day long with their “Spin-to-Win” wheel. Scholarships held a 50/50 Raffle. And the Event Committee hosted a Kentucky Derby Hat Competition – with a \$50 prize.

Because of COVID concerns there was a small – but very mighty – crowd that day. Through the generosity of the members and their guests in attendance, the four charities raised a total of just over \$1,000 to be split among the groups. Exalted Ruler, Renarde “Ren” Clerx then surprised all when he offered his matching \$1,000 donation, also to be split among the four charities. “Authentic” (the Kentucky Derby winning horse) and his jockey may have felt they were the luckiest winners of all that day. As it turns out, the Tempe Elks community was the biggest winner!

*Submitted by:* Sheryl Filliater, Lodge Secretary



### ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Presents Scholarship Awards”***

There were approximately 40 students, parents, teachers, Elk members, Past Exalted Rulers and current Officers in attendance for the Americanism Essay and Most Valuable Student Scholarship awards. This was the first event of this kind since the Covid-19 pandemic began, and after weeks of safe food handling and other protocol being put into place in our Lodge. Special thanks to all those House Committee Members and volunteers who served a spaghetti dinner which was enjoyed prior to the awards.

This year's awards in total was over \$14,000. Thank you to those who contributed through the year. Americanism Chairman Kirby Everingham and Bill Johnson presented the Lodge's American Essay winners with three winners each from Division 1 (5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Division 2 (8<sup>th</sup> grade). Congratulations to Maxwell Kern, Benjamin Miranda, Ana Rassage, Vi Garza, Savana Greer and Adead Saiasi.

Our scholarship applicants of 30 young women and 10 young men produced ten winners. Diane Bodwell PER who is the Committee Chair presented these Scholarship Awards with one State Level and National Level Awards. The total of \$14,600 was given to the winners. Congratulation to all 10 winners.

**Submitted by:** Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

### ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Hosts Cowboy Day Fundraiser”***

At Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 we find all kinds of things to celebrate. National Cowboy Day held a fundraiser for the Children's Shopping Spree raising approximately \$1,200 for the kids.

A great cowboy meal was served followed by a Cowboy Jeopardy game managed by Nicole Beach and Thom Strupp PER. A Basket raffle, Damien Speck, Trustee made a hand-crafted Dutch Oven Storage Box that really helped raffle sales. A very successful 50/50 by Denise Floyd, our 50/50 Sales Queen. Handmade greeting cards were sold by First Lady Dawn Sterling and former First Lady Crissie Bos raising \$370 for the Shopping Spree.

Thanks to all the volunteers and all who attended who helped make this a fun and profitable event.

**Submitted by:** Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

### ***“Phoenix Elks #335 Hosts Labor Day Fundraiser”***

On September 6, 2020 a Labor Day Picnic was held at our Lodge. Volunteers grilled and served hamburgers, hot dogs and corn on the cob. Potato salad, macaroni salad, beans were also served. Of course, all the protections due to the Covid-19 pandemic were in place. Plexiglass barriers for the food, masks and gloves on the servers and masks were worn by all attending when moving about in the Lodge. Carol Brown, Esquire provided cookies for dessert.

A key raffle was held for a donated four burner Bar BQ gas grill. If you are not familiar with a key raffle. Tickets are sold for \$10; the purchaser receives a tube with a key inside. When they are called the key they have tries to unlock the chain wrapped around the Bar BQ. If the key fits the lock they are the winner. A lot of keys were tried before we found the winner. Randy Cain, PER was the thrilled winner of the grill.

A Basket Raffle was also held along with two 50/50's. Dawn Sterling, First Lady and Crissie Bos, former First Lady were selling their handmade greeting cards who donated the proceeds to the Children's Shopping Spree.

Karaoke hosted by Wayne was started at 3 PM and continued until 8:30 PM. A great time was had by all. Linda Thompson, Chairperson for the Children's Shopping Spree hosted the event. Linda would like to express appreciation to all the volunteers that made this a successful picnic.

**Submitted by:** Nancy Baker, Public Relations Chairperson

## ***“Scottsdale Elks #2148 Hosts Labor Day BBQ for Children’s Charities”***

Scottsdale Elks 2148 held a BBQ on Labor Day to help raise monies for our children's charities. French's Meat Shoppe in Scottsdale donated hamburgers, hot dogs, and bratwurst, while members donated buns and other side items. We served over 68 dinners throughout the day and raised \$625.00 for our charities through a 50/50 raffle and proceeds from the dinners.

Scottsdale Elks 2148 donated 15 large (55 gallon) trash bags full of clothing and shoes to the Disabled Veterans clothing drive on September 15th, 2020. Thank you to the generous members who cleaned their closets to help us with this clothing drive.

**Submitted by:** Debra Clark, Lodge Secretary

## ***“Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Donates to Veterans Charities”***

The Elks Senior Bowlers donated \$750.00 to Marine Corps League Detachment 757 to be used to give assistance to Veterans within our community.

The Elks Senior Bowlers donated \$750.00 to Disabled American Veterans Chapter 27 to provide transportation and other services to disabled Veterans in our community.

**Submitted by:** Eva Fox, Lodge News Team

## ***“Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Elkettes Donate to Women of Willpower”***

At their September meeting the Elkettes of Elks lodge 2399 donated \$1000 to Women of Willpower.

**Submitted by:** Eva Fox, Lodge News Team



Pictured left to right: Connie Jones Secretary, Connie Alexander Executive Director, Women with Willpower. Elkettes President Vanessa Brewster is in a Red mask



## ***“Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Donates to Havasu Community Health”***

The Elkettes donated \$1,000 to Havasu Community Health Foundation, HCH is dedicated to the better health and wellness of the Lake Havasu Community by facilitating and coordinating appropriate health-related programs.

**Submitted by:** Eva Fox, Lodge News Team

Pictured from left Linda Seaver, Executive Director of the Havasu Community Health Foundation and Elkettes Sergeant at Arms Lora Godfrey.



## ***“Buckeye Elks #2686 Hosts Fundraiser”***

It was with great honor that Gary Drumheller, a Sun City Elks Lodge Member and the Elks Arizona State Veterans Chairman, passed forward the Veterans Volunteer of the year award, to a fellow Elk from Tempe Elks Lodge # 2251.

On September 1<sup>st</sup> Gary had been presented the Elks National Veterans Volunteer Service Award for 2019-2020, and with great pride, on September 15, 2020, he passed the award forward, to the Elks State Award winner, for the Veterans Volunteer service award for 2019-2020, Bill Santee.

Bill Santee is an 18-year member of Tempe Elks Lodge # 2251, located at 2320 S. Hardy Street in Tempe, Arizona, and has been an avid volunteer for Veterans Service almost from day one.

Bill is a Navy Veteran himself so assisting our nations veterans came easy to him. It is a project of love for him, as it is for Gary Drumheller.

To make it even more rewarding for Bill is the fact that his son Bill Jr. compiled all of the necessary paper work, listing all of Bill Seniors accomplishments, all without his father ever catching on that his son was doing this in his honor.

Bill Jr. closed the application with the words that, “His Father is His Hero”. We should all be so lucky.

The award was presented to Bill Sr. at a regular Lodge meeting and the presentation took Bill completely by surprise.

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

## *“Payson Elks #2154 Donates to Meals on Wheels and Homerun for Vets”*

Payson Lodge #2154 received the Beacon Grant and donated \$2,000 to Meals on Wheels, \$1500.00 to the Children's Shopping Spree. Payson Banner Hospital is opening a Staff Room for a place where their staff can go to a safe environment and relax. We donated snacks, sanitizing item, etc. to help them get started. On Friday, September 25th we invited Lance Porter, CEO of Payson Banner, and Debbie Stephens, Payson Senior Center, to our Friday night dinner to present them with these gifts. On the same evening, they donated \$250 to Homerun for Veterans.

*Submitted by:* Beverly Cunningham, Exalted Ruler

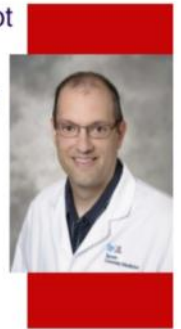


# STAY SAFE



# SUPPORT AEMP

Our physicians, staff and patients wear masks in the hospital and we have not seen transmission from patients to doctors and staff or vice versa. When you wear a mask not only are you blocking your germs from infecting others but you are also protecting yourself by blocking germs coming your way. If everyone wears a mask, germ transmission will decrease.



**DR. NATHAN PRICE**

Assistant Professor, Infectious Disease,  
University of Arizona Department of Pediatrics

To purchase a mask in support of AEMP, or other items, please go to: <https://www.bonfire.com/org/arizona-elks-major-projects-inc-860003895/>

## *Message from our AEA Elks National Foundation Chairman*

### ***Support the Elks National Foundation (ENF) - Join the Fidelity Club***

The Fidelity Club is an automatic, regularly scheduled donation to ENF, from a bank account or credit card, taken monthly (minimum \$5) or quarterly (minimum \$15). The Fidelity Club is a very easy way for lodge members to support ENF as well as their lodge through the use of ENF grants, especially the Gratitude grant.

The Gratitude grant is awarded to lodges that have met the Grand Exalted Rulers Per-Member donation goal the previous Elk year. ENF has added two \$500 bonuses to the Gratitude grant recognizing member donations online and participation in the Fidelity Club.

A \$500 bonus if, 15% of lodge members donate a minimum of \$10.00 during the elk year and an additional \$500 bonus for lodge's that have at least 15% of their members enrolled in the Fidelity Club. Those lodges that have a 15% member participation in the Fidelity Club will receive both bonuses.

#### **To join the Fidelity Club use the following instructions:**

Create your user profile at <https://www.elks.org/>. Log in and follow the instructions below:

Click on the **Elks National Foundation** button located in the center of the red bar at the top of the page which will take you to ENF page.

Click the **Support ENF** button on the left side of the page that will reveal a drop down list and click the **Support** button that will take you to the support page.

Click the **Online Donation** button that will take you to the donation page.

Click the **Monthly Giving** button that will take you to the Fidelity Club page.

Click on **enf.elks.org/recurring** button that will take you to the on-line registration form for the Fidelity Club. Fill out the required fields, click the **Process** button at the bottom of the page, and you're done.

As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, there are only 170 Arizona Elks participating in the Fidelity Club and that equates to just .0064% of the 26,222 members in our state. We can do so much better. It's time to leave the days of yore and embrace the electronic age by donating to ENF on-line. It's quick, easy, and your lodge secretary will love you for it.

Bruce C. Van Den Eng  
State ENF Chair



## *Message from our AEA Elks Training Committee Chairman*

District Lodges.

Due to COVID-19 there have been no State Conventions. Which in turn, I have not been able to let each lodge know what their percentages were for the Elks Quiz #8. The percentages for each District Lodge are in the following and each Lodge with the top percentage have been sent their Award. The Elks Training Committee thanks each and every Arizona Elks Member for taking the quiz. We hope that you learned something out of taking the quiz and will continue taking the quizzes to help out your lodge and yourself. There are still lodges this year that have not taken the quiz, While you are staying home and not going out much, please, take a few minutes and go on the Arizona Elks Association web site and take quiz #9, and just maybe your lodge might win the award this year. Good Luck

William Buttrum, PDDGER  
AEA Elks Training Committee

### ARIZONA LODGES

#### QUIZ #8

| EAST               | MEMBERS | QUIZ # | PERCENTAGE |
|--------------------|---------|--------|------------|
| Casa Grande Valley | 605     | 11     | .02 %      |
| Tempe              | 385     | 17     | .05 %      |
| Apache Junction    | 766     | 4      | .001 %     |
| Coolidge-Florence  | 347     | 15     | .05 %      |
| Chandler           | 578     | 28     | .05 %      |
| Kearny             | 77      | 11     | .15%       |
| Masa Buckhorn      | 1475    | 8      | .01 %      |
| Pinal Mountain     | 198     | 4      | .02%       |
| Fountain Hills     | 109     | 16     | .15 %      |
| Gilbert            | 55      | 16     | .29 %      |
| District Total     | 4595    | 130    | .03 %      |

| NORTH          | MEMBERS | QUIZ # | PERCENTAGE |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| Prescott       | 680     | 4      | .01 %      |
| Kingman        | 589     | 6      | .01 %      |
| Flagstaff      | 445     | 1      | .01 %      |
| Winslow        | 252     | 18     | .08 %      |
| Jerome         | 226     | 8      | .04 %      |
| Show Low       | 739     | 20     | .03 %      |
| Payson         | 447     | 16     | .04 %      |
| Sedona         | 276     | 2      | .01 %      |
| Bullhead City  | 552     | 10     | .02 %      |
| Holbrook       | 125     | 8      | .07 %      |
| Page           | 289     | 12     | .05 %      |
| Chino Valley   | 111     | 4      | .04 %      |
| District Total | 4731    | 108    | .03 %      |

| SOUTH             | MEMBERS | QUIZ# | PERCENTAGE |
|-------------------|---------|-------|------------|
| Tucson            | 262     | 29    | .11%       |
| Douglas           | 163     | 3     | .02%       |
| Ajo               | 266     | 45    | .17%       |
| San Manuel        | 138     | 25    | .19%       |
| Sierra Vista      | 425     | 123   | .29%       |
| Willcox           | 513     | 2     | .01%       |
| Tucson East       | 555     | 63    | .12        |
| Green Valley      | 975     | 2     | .01        |
| Casas Adobes      | 387     | 37    | .10        |
| Catalina Mountain | 517     | 93    | .18        |
| District Total    | 4201    | 423   | .10%       |

| WEST             | MEMBERS | QUIZ# | PERCENTAGE |
|------------------|---------|-------|------------|
| Phoenix          | 993     | 42    | .05%       |
| Yuma             | 1760    | 11    | .01%       |
| Parker           | 380     | 35    | .10%       |
| Gila Bend        | 412     | 2     | .01%       |
| Scottsdale       | 447     | 1     | .01%       |
| Wickenburg       | 525     | 4     | .01%       |
| Lake Havasu city | 3680    | 42    | .02%       |
| Sun city         | 3298    | 5     | .01%       |
| Buckeye          | 213     | 12    | .06%       |
| Phoenix west     | 207     | 2     | .01        |
| Raceway          | 310     | 100   | .33%       |
| District Total   | 9256    | 257   | .03%       |





# Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

*Elks Care — Elks Share*



## Half is good... with parts of the budget

Is your Lodge only doing half with income? Well, it might be good but could be better. Is half where your expenses are? If it is, that is good, but less is better. This is the month where half is a target for your budget, but for everything else it is always good to give 100%.

I know it is hard to believe, but now is the time to take a serious look at your budget. I know the new Financial Reporting System (FRS) is informing your District Deputies and State Sponsors of what is happening, but it is you as a Lodge Member who should be looking at your budget and realize that your budget percentage should be at 50%.

Is something in your budget out of whack? Are you running way higher than 50%? Then your Board of Trustees/Directors should take a serious look



**Message from  
the Grand  
Exalted Ruler**

**PAUL R.  
RYAN**

at the budget and figure out what to do to make sure that it gets back in line, or how you will make it through the rest of the year. Now, if you are one of the Lodges that rely on your accountant to be doing this for you, then put someone in charge to have a conversation with your accountant and report back to the Lodge or your accountant.

So where is it good to give 100%? Membership! This year's GER Class

should be based on the motto, **Creating Momentum for the Future of Elkdome**. Get out there and recruit Members. But, recruit with the following things in mind:

- 1) The future of Elkdome relies on the age of our Members.
- 2) The future of Elkdome relies on future leaders.
- 3) The future of Elkdome relies on volunteers.

4) The future of Elkdome is dependent on us to create new and future Members. Give 100% to the best GER Class ever.

Another place to give 100%: ENF. This is ENF Month and with the raise in the amount of my goal to \$4.80, this is a great time to give 100%. How about giving 100% more than you did last year? This is the year to have an event

Please see GER, Page 2

## GER From Page 1

for ENF in order to recruit Members to become a part of the Fidelity Club. This is a club where a monthly donation is given to ENF. See how many Members are in your Lodge and then plan on doubling it—That is giving 100%.

This is the time for the Americanism Essay Contest. This year my goal is to get the Elks Magazine to publish the two winning essays. I've had many years of pressure from a Member in my state and I hope to achieve it for him. The student that writes it deserves the recognition, and we deserve to be able to read the winners.

Don't forget that Red Ribbon week is October 23-31. And now is the time to prepare for all of your veterans activities for the month of November. Lastly, our Hoop Shoot programs should now be ramping up and getting prepared.



**DRAWING IN OCTOBER**  
Don't miss out on your chance to win!

\*must be 21 years of age or older to win