

Arizona Elks News

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

April 2021



"Elks Are Meant to Serve!"

Greetings Members:

By the time you read this article I am sure you will have heard that there is going to be a Convention in May. Hoorah. This will be on Saturday May 15th and Sunday May 16th. This is going to be entirely different than any other May convention. I will explain a few of the details so you will not be surprised. First I would like to Thank PSP Lee & Sunday Schwein. They have worked extremely hard to make this convention happen, so the next time you see them please offer your thanks and support for all their efforts.



Inside this edition:

AEA President's
Message 1-2

Local Lodges
Charitable and
Community
Contributions 3-6

Elks Training 7

AEMP News 8

Grand Lodge
Convention 9

Grand Lodge News 10

The actual convention will be three days, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday with business sessions on Saturday and ending on Sunday with the installation of new officers. The registration desk will be open on Friday May 14th, from noon until 5:00 pm, Saturday May 15th from 7:00 am till 1:00 pm and on Sunday May 16th from 7:00am until 8:00 am. You should have received your registration form so please fill them out and return it in a timely manner. **This year it is going to be mandatory for all Exalted Rulers and Lodge Secretaries to attend the convention. The Leading Knights are not required to attend this convention. Repeat, the Leading Knights are not required to attend this convention.** The reason being is that we are, at this time limited to 125 members allowed at the business meetings. Hopefully, this will change by May. This is not to say that you should not fill out a registration form if you want to attend the convention.

Saturday May 15th the business session will consist of two parts, the first starting at 8:00 am until 11:00 am and then adjourn for lunch and reconvene at 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. **There will be a roll call of lodges at the 8:00am and 1:00 pm sessions. Please plan to attend both sessions.**

Also, there will be a dinner on Saturday night May 15th, and the theme is the Fifties and Sixties so dress will be casual or in accordance with the theme.

Because of restrictions there will not be a First Ladies Luncheon, but JoAnn will host the hospitality room for the spouses to enjoy coffee and danish on Saturday May 15th from 9:00 am until 10:30 am.

Hospitality Room will be open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and will be monitored for entrance during the convention. Check as hours may vary.

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.

A caution to all State Chairperson, this is a shorten convention so I will ask you to turn in a written report and limit your oral report as we will be pressed for time. As you will see by the agenda time is of the essence, reports are informative and important, but we must also respect all the committees for reporting convenience.

Ritual Teams will perform on Friday at a time yet to be determined. State Chairman Al Kayal will notify the teams of their times to compete.

AEMP will still entertain the "Exalted Rulers March" on Sunday May 16th, so please stay in the session and support all the work that has been accomplished during these critical times, bring your checks to drop in the basket.

I will close with I hope this finds everyone safe, happy, and healthy. Please try to attend the convention and see old friends and renew some acquaintances.

God Bless our troops, God Bless our First Responders, and God Bless everyone.

Faternally

Rich Botkin, President

Arizona Elks Association

"AEA First Lady JoAnn's Message"



Greetings: There is a lot going on in the association at this time. We will have a convention in May . It will be held on May 15th and 16th. I will not have a lady's luncheon due to the time restrictions, however I will host a spouse's coffee and danish on Saturday May 15th between 9 & 10:30 am. We will also have a fun night dinner and the theme will be fifties and sixties. I will be sending out more information concerning these events. I'm so happy that we will be able to have something that the members can attend and greet each other again.

President Rich and I have been traveling to as many lodges as we can, but due to safety and precaution features put unto place, we are limited as to our travels. So, if we show up at your lodge it is just to say hello and have some conversation with the members present. Please stay safe and hopefully we will see you in the near future.

JoAnn Botkin

1st Lady of Arizona



Elks Care - *Elks* Share

“Casas Adobes Elks #2663 Hosts Hoop Shoot Contest”

On 3 March 2021, our lodge held our Hoop Shoot at the Carden School near our lodge. The shoot was originally scheduled for January 13th but was moved to today by the school's request due to COVID-19 concerns. Twenty-Four students participated with eleven lodge members.

Submitted by; Bruce C. Van Den Eng, Exalted Ruler



Eleven lodge volunteers made this event happen. Many thanks to (from left to right): Nick Barnes, PER Don Baker, Dena Kern, PER Marv Thompson, PER Ursula Woods, Murray Thompson, PER Bruce C. Van Den Eng. Not pictured, Tammy Miller, Al Stark, Denise Stark, and Shea Hinchey.



24 students and 11 lodge members participated in the event at a local charter school.



“Casas Adobes Elks #2663 Receives Award”

On 3 March 2021, the Casas Adobes Lodge was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Laguna Elementary School. The school appreciated the hard work the Lodge has done regarding the Clothe-a-kid, Hoop and Soccer shoots, and Christmas dinner in a box.

Submitted by; Bruce C. Van Den Eng, Exalted Ruler



Pictured is Laguna Elementary Principal, Alan Schmidt and Lodge Exalted Ruler, Bruce C. Van Den Eng

“Flagstaff Elks #499 Host COVID-19 Vaccination POD”

On Wednesday, 3 February 2021, the Flagstaff Elks Lodge #499 opened it's doors to host a COVID-19 vaccination pod. The Lodge and event was featured in a full length article in the Arizona Daily Sun. For more information and details, please visit the Arizona Daily Sun website.

Submitted by: Jerry Grimes, SDGER



People wait in a line that stretched out into the parking lot at the Elks Lodge Wednesday morning at a newly opened COVID-19 vaccination site run by Flagstaff Medical Center.

NAH opens community clinic for eligible groups

KARLYN OLSON
Sun Staff Reporter

On Wednesday morning, the Elks Lodge parking lot was lined with masked community members who arrived throughout the morning and early afternoon for the first COVID-19 vaccination appointments at Northern Arizona Healthcare's community vaccination clinic.

NAH staff at the clinic were able to vaccinate 250 eligible community members Wednesday and have plans to administer 1,000 more doses by the end of the week.

The team is capable of administering 500 first doses and 500 second doses of the Moderna vaccine every day. For now, though, as a result of limited vaccines allocated to Coconino County, NAH has been providing 250 per day. Because of the condensed schedule this week, the team plans to vaccinate 500 individuals both Thursday and

Friday, but unless vaccine allocations to the county are increased, NAH will likely continue at the 250 vaccines per-day rate starting next week.

"We realize that we don't have as much vaccine as we'd like, but I think it's important even with the amount of vaccine we have to do what we can with what we have and get vaccines in arms as quickly as possible," said NAH Chief Quality Officer Dr. John Mouglin.

The clinic is currently open on weekdays and eligible individuals as specified by Coconino County can sign up for appointments on the NAH website. New appointments open Friday afternoons, but fill quickly. All 1,250 appointments for this week were booked within five hours.

Members of the Phase 1b priority group — those age 65 and older, education workers and

NAH Community Vaccine Clinic

Northern Arizona Healthcare's community vaccine clinic at the Elks Lodge, 2101 N. San Francisco St., is available only to individuals eligible for the current phase of vaccination, according to Coconino County. Appointments are required and can be made at the NAH website: www.nahhealth.com/covid-19-resources/covid-19-vaccination-info. NAH and the Elks Lodge are unable to accept phone calls to schedule appointments. Only

Individuals with appointments and medically necessary caregivers are permitted on site.

Individuals are asked to bring identification and proof of employment (if eligible for the vaccine due to occupation), and, if possible, to dress in layers over short-sleeved clothes, which make for quicker vaccinations.

Updates to the groups eligible for vaccination and additional Coconino County vaccination sites are posted at www.coconino.az.gov/2547/Vaccine-Info.



Stay up to date with local and national coronavirus coverage

■ **Resource center:** Find information on vaccinations and testing in your area. azdailyson.com/resources

■ **Email:** Sign up to receive daily pandemic roundups. azdailyson.com/newsletters
■ **Updates:** Read the latest news about COVID-19 in your community. azdailyson.com/coronavirus

Please see CLINIC, Page A6

“Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Elkettes Raise \$500 for Clothes Closet”

A check for \$250 was given to the Clothes Closet. Funds came from Sees candy sales November-December by the Elkettes.

With funds raised by selling Pie at the Elks lodge during dinner hours the Elkettes donated \$250 to the Clothes Closet.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News team



In the photo L-R: Elkettes President Vanessa Brewster, Pie sales Chairperson Eva D. Fox, Clothes Closet founder Christine Watson Buntmeyer and volunteer manager Cindy M. Keasey.

“Bullhead City Elks Lodge #2408 Donates Scooter to Veteran”

Recently Mr. Robert B Shue of Bullhead City, a veteran himself, had acquired a scooter and rack and no longer needed it but wanted to give it to a veteran who really needed it. Shue came to the Bullhead City Elks and gave it to the organization with those stipulations and the Elks agreed. Dan Barron, Lodge Secretary, checked with several other organizations and talked with some of the members and no one came to mind. However, Elk member Jerry Aucutt was in the Lodge one day and it was very apparent that Aucutt was the right guy for the scooter. Aucutt is a veteran and he is hard of hearing, can no longer drive, and has a hard time getting around.

Submitted by: Terri Frank, Public Relations

Pictured: sitting on his new scooter is Aucutt who is flanked by Dan Barron left, and right, Hubert "Beev" Beaver. Beaver and Ralph Morisse had picked up the scooter, rewired it, and delivered it to a surprised and grateful Jerry Aucutt.



“Raceway Elks #2852 Hosts 11th Hour Toast Contest”



Raceway had the honor of hosting the DDGER's January Leading Knight Clinic. Among the many events that were part of this weekend was a ritual contest featuring the delivery of the *11 O'clock Toast*. As the host Lodge, we were pleased to have our Leading Knight sign on as a participant. The contest was held at the Masonic Lodge adjacent to our Lodge and featured 8 participants. Having personally witnessed the contest I was pleased with the performance of all participants, however particularly proud of our Leading Knight.

At the end of the contest Brother John Stergutz's performance placed him in a dead tie with Diane Bodwell from Phoenix Lodge # 335. After a labored tie-breaking process, our Leading Knight was declared a second-place finisher and Diane Bodwell was awarded

first place. All of this notwithstanding, we are immensely proud of our Leading Knight, and ask that you join me in congratulating him for his performance both individually and as a representative of our Lodge. Well done John!!!!

Submitted by: Robin Cox, Newsletter Editor

“Casa Grande Elks #1957 Hosts Benevolent Events”

Casa Grande Valley, AZ #1957 held a Blood Drive Monday March 8, 2021 at the Lodge. There were 58 pints donated! Our next blood drive is scheduled for May, 2021.

Our Elks Riders donated \$1400 to our scholarship program March 10. A motorcycle poker run, raffles, and auctions were held to raise these funds.

A banquet to honor our First Responders was held on March 26, 2021 to honor individuals within our community who go above and beyond in their line of service. Honored were Officer Matthew Perry of the Casa Grande Police Department and Trooper David Rocha of the Arizona Highway Patrol.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson, Lodge Secretary

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Hosts Kids Expo”



Recently the Bullhead City Elks attended the Kiwanis' Kids Expo. Loyal Knight Kathy Honse and lodge Chaplain Terri Frank set up the Elks Drug Awareness booth and also they showcased the various events the Elks do for the youth of the community.

Submitted by: Terri Frank, Public Relations

Pictured Honse handing out Red Ribbons to a young family who was checking things out.

“Bullhead City Elks Lodge #2408 Student of the Month Awards”



Two seniors from Mohave Accelerated Learning Center are recipient of the Bullhead City Elks Student of the Month certificate.

Submitted by: Terri Frank, Public Relations

Left is Angel Estrella who is interested in the construction field and Kaylee Ann Cozart is going to NAU to become a teacher.

“2021-2022 Elks Training”

Arizona Elks Association

Elks Care – Elks Share

[Leadership](#)[Member Login](#)[Arizona Elks Lodges](#)[AZ Elks Newsletter](#)[Calendar](#)[Committees](#)[Members Documents and Manuals](#)[Online Forms](#)[Links](#)[Arizona Lodge's in their communities](#)

Elks Training



To All Arizona Elk Members

In this time of need when we are doing our part to keep everyone safe and staying home why not take a few minutes and take the new #10 Elk Training Quiz. Just follow the instruction below.

INSTRUCTIONS

In your Browser put in arizonelksassociation.org, once it opens scroll down to Elks Training - click on the blue training Elks quiz #10, when it opens scroll down to Quiz #10 and click on your district. Fill in the information and take the quiz, when you finish question 10, click on submit. And you are done.

You might just be surprised to see how much you know and learn something at the same time. This new quiz will post on April 1, 2021. Yes, there is a new Quiz each year. This is a great Training Tool for your Officers and members of your Lodge.

William Buttram, PDDGER

AEA Elks Training State Chair

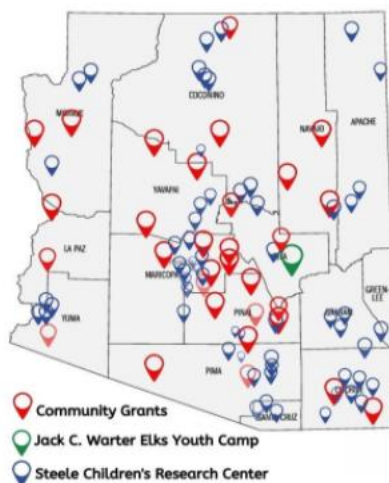
Arizona Elks

major projects

Making a world of difference, locally.

Did you know...

- Through community grants given to lodges, AEMP donates to youth organizations in communities throughout the state
- Our Youth Camp hosts children from all over Arizona
- The Steele Children's Research Center works with children all across the state thanks to our endowed chairs and continued support



**Arizona Elks Major Projects...
in YOUR community!**

Elks Youth Camp

• OPEN MAY - SEPTEMBER 2021 •

**BOOK YOUR
SPOT TODAY**

Our youth camp is **FREE** for youth groups to use! Don't miss out on your opportunity to explore the great outdoors!



BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

Our annual vehicle raffle has officially begun!
Support Arizona Elks Major Projects and enter to win this brand new off-road vehicle!

2021 Yamaha Wolverine X4-850



PURCHASE

1st Prize - Yamaha Wolverine X4-850
(14' trailer included)
2nd Prize - \$500
3rd Prize - \$300
4th Prize - \$200
5th Prize - \$100

Support AEMP in style!

Check out our limited edition shirts and support AEMP!



Looking for a way to support AEMP? We've got the answer for you!
These custom, high-quality shirts come in various sizes (including kids!), styles and colors. Inventory is limited so don't miss out!



Grand Lodge Attendee's 2021:

Just an update on the latest information concerning the Grand Lodge Convention scheduled for Tampa, Florida this July, Sunday, July 4th thru Wednesday July 7th.

We have been assigned the "Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel" as our official hotel for this convention. The Sheraton is located at 200 North Ashley Drive, Tampa, 33602. Room rate is \$112.00 plus tax, currently 14.5% which computes to \$128.25 per night. This rate also includes the "Resort Fee" which has been so common in the industry!

Opening ceremonies and all sessions will take place at the Tampa Convention Center, 333 South Franklin Street. Which is approximately ½ mile from our hotel.

Shuttle service will be provided to all Grand Lodge functions and Hotels housing the other State Associations. The shuttle schedule will be posted on the Grand Lodge website by the middle of June.

Opening ceremonies are on July 4th starting promptly at 4pm at the Convention Center. You must be pre-registered to attend this event!! Immediately following the opening a celebration event will take place with the "Party Crashers" for entertainment with food & beverages available for purchase.

Daily business session schedule:

Monday & Tuesday	8am – 12:00pm (estimated time)
Wednesday	8am – 11:00am (estimated time)

Again, we suggest planning on your arrival on Saturday July 3rd, or earlier to allow time to register and get a "*lay of the land*". Due to the time change you may want to consider departing on Thursday the 8th or Friday the 9th, to allow time to unwind after the convention. We will have the hospitality room open for those staying over the extra day(s).

The varying Committee Seminars will be scheduled on Sunday as early as 9am and following the General Sessions on Monday and Tuesday. These will be listed on the website after March 2021.

We hope that this information will be helpful as you look forward to celebrating during this Grand Lodge Convention. We know that many of you are looking forward to "getting out" and sharing *Elkdom* with your fellow members and families.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact us anytime.

Fraternally,
Jerry & Linda Grimes
Grand Lodge Coordinators



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care — Elks Share



Start the new Lodge year with a proactive mindset

Stacey and I can't believe that it has been nine months since this journey began for us. We feel that it has been an experience that has fulfilled us as Elks! Although our travels have been very limited, meeting all the wonderful Elks throughout this country during the trips that we have been able to make has been an absolute joy of our life.

So as we enter into the Elks New Year, this is a time to reflect on making sure you get your Lodge in order. Being able to be proactive rather than reactive will only help you and your Lodge in the long run. How is this possible? Start with making sure to have some of the following things in effect:



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

**PAUL R.
RYAN**

1. Review your bylaws and ensure that they are up to date and pertain to your Lodge's rules and regulations.
2. Check your house rules and make sure they are up to date and approved by your Judiciary member of your area.
3. Do a physical inventory of all your personal property and make sure that

you have enough insurance to cover it.

These are just a few items that need to be done in the beginning of the Lodge year. That being said, it is not just **your** responsibility. Involve your officers and your Board of Directors, too.

Lean on your best friend (Secretary) to make sure that you plan and cover everything. A good thing to also do now is to create a list for monthly "activities" — not just your charitable ones, but also your social ones. You should have a monthly event at your Lodge to keep Members involved, to raise funds to pay bills, and to help in the community.

We are so excited that the National Hoop Shoot competition will be

Please see GER, Page 4

Pre-registration for Convention opens in April

Online pre-registration opens April 1 with new distribution procedures being implemented in Tampa. Pre-registration will be the best way to avoid lines and

GRAND SECRETARY
Bryan R. Klatt

safely receive your credentials and other critical attendee information.

Pre-registration is available at elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm and runs through June 21.

The Elks National Convention Commission is working closely with the Tampa Convention Center and Visit Tampa Bay to plan for a safe and healthy Elks National Convention. Safety measures and plans are evolving, but are likely to include social distancing, attendee occupancy management, and personal mask use that is currently required in Tampa (tampa.gov/emergency-management/covid-19/face-covering).

GER From Page 1

happening. It may be a little different as it will be held virtually. It is also for the 2019-2020 competition winners for regional competitors and national winners that advanced. That being said, keep an eye out for the future: The 50 year anniversary celebration will be held in Chicago next year for the 2021-2022 season of Hoop Shoot. We all hope that we will have a normal Hoop Shoot for that season.

As you know my theme for this year is *Creating Momentum for the Future of Elkdom*. Younger Members need to take this into consideration: You are the ones that are going to continue the tradition that this organization has to offer.

Stacey and I are looking forward to continuing seeing the great Elks throughout the country.

Please make a donation to our charities and we will be happy to share a pin with you.



DIAMOND CLUB

Our camp is only free because of our generous donors. A monthly donation to AEMP comes with a commemorative pin, certificate of appreciation, and recognition on our website. Just \$10 a month can help us keep our camp open!