# Arizona Elles News

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

September 2021



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AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
25 September 2021

aeanewsletter@arizonaelks.org



# "Be Proud of Elkdom"

To all AEA Members,

My husband Tim and I have been making it a point to visit as many Arizona Lodges as possible unofficially, as well as, of course, making our assigned visits. To date we have visited many lodges, and what a welcome we received at all of them! Surely a testament to the hospitality of our Arizona lodges. We went unannounced and were treated to lots of great

conversation, tours of the lodges and just had a great time. We will be continuing our unofficial visits until we visit most, if not all of the lodges. I want all the members to know that our State Association always stands ready to assist you in any way possible – just let us know if you need something.

I would like to offer condolences to Mary Snyder and her entire family on the passing of Dan Snyder, PSP. What a loss he is, both personally and to our State. He will be sorely missed and will always remain in our hearts.

As most of you know, there was bad flooding in Gila Bend, and the Gila Bend lodge stepped up to help residents and businesses with cleanup efforts. Several West District lodges also sent donations of supplies and money to help. So kudos to all for showing once again that "Elks Care, Elks Share".

Of membership, as of August 23<sup>rd</sup>, we have gained 1558 members and lost 478 for an overall gain of 1080, and that's an outstanding accomplishment. However, we still show 2617 delinquents, giving us a net loss to date of 1537 members. We also have 601 candidates awaiting initiation – so please, please, let's get those candidates in and bring our numbers way, way up. Keep up the good work! The goal this year is to have a membership gain.

We hope that you are all planning to attend our Mid-Year Convention at the DoubleTree in Tempe, to be held from October 15<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>. Applications were sent to each Lodge and are also available online at arizonaelksassociation.org.

Continued on page 2.

ARIZONA ELKS ASSOCIATION 2021-2022 STATE OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT:

Charyll McKean

#### **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:**

West: Mike Weishan

#### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

South: Sue Krausman

West: Stephen H. Whitney

North: Roy Haddick

#### **SECRETARY:**

Peter K. Gillespie, PSP

#### TREASURER:

Alane Asp

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

South-1 Year:

Alfred R. Skorupski, PSP

East- 2 Year:

John F. James, PSP

North- 3 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

West- 4 Year:

Vacant

South-1 Year:

Richard "Rich" Botkin

#### **SERGEANT AT ARMS:**

Bruce C. Van Den Eng

**CHAPLAIN:** 

Marsha Haddick

TILER:

Jo Ellen "Jody" Knapp

#### **INNER GUARD:**

Hank Thonnard

ASST. SEC / TREASURER:

Sara McQuality

#### **PHOTOGRAPHER:**

Jan Casacchia

#### **ORGANIST:**

**Hugh Dixon** 

# "Be Proud of Elkdom"

Continued from page 1.

Remember – photos from all of our events are available to all Elk Members by logging on to the Arizona Elks website and clicking on "Members Documents & Manuals" and then "AEA Photographs 2021-2022". This link is also at the very bottom of the "Committees" page as well. Our AEA Photographer, Jan Casacchia, traveled to Grand Lodge to take photos there, so those are also available to all.

All lodges should have received visitation requests from either a Vice President or myself. If you have not already done so, please be sure and respond so all the visits can be set up and completed in a timely manner.

I hope all of you stay safe, both health wise and in your travels, and I look forward to seeing all of you at the October Convention. Please be advised the dates in our Directory are incorrect – the Convention dates are October 15<sup>th</sup> thru October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Remember -- Be Proud of Elkdom

God bless everyone – until next month - - - - -

Regards,

Charyll McKean

**AEA President** 



AEA Mid-Year Convention 15-17 Oct 2021 in Tempe, AZ

AEA Annual Convention 11-14 May 2022 in Tempe, AZ

#### "Bullhead City Elks #2408 Donates to Tri-State Military Moms"

The Bullhead City Elks are happy to present \$1,000 to the Tri-state Military Mom's for the building of the U.S. Marines Navy Corpsmen Memorial to honor Navy corpsman Dustin K Burnett and all twenty four fallen Arizona Navy corpsmen since WWI. The hope is that the unveiling will be on Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>. These funds were raised at the recent 12<sup>th</sup> annual Memorial Day Chili Cook-off chaired by Lecturing Knight Sussie Stillabower.

Submitted by; Terri Frank, Public Relations



Pictured L-R: President of Veterans United, Dick Patzold, Tri-state Military Mom's Treasurer Sue Trani, and Janet Gagnon Secretary, Stillabower and Elks Exalted Ruler Deb Cyrus.

# "Raceway Elks #2952 Hosts Hawaiian Luau for Charity"

ALOHA!!! On August 14, 2021, Raceway Lodge #2952 held its annual Hawaiian Luau, all proceeds to go to our Scholarship program. There were 38 in attendance 4 non-Elks and 34 Elks, with these hard times thangs are looking up at the lodge with more members attending lodge Events. The Lodge raised \$640.00 plus a 50-50 drawing that gave another \$67 for a total of \$707.00 for scholarship. There was a Hula dance contest and best dress, we also raffled off a basket of goodies for ENF. All who attended enjoyed good food and lots of fun with Music by the Tune Twisters.

Submitted by: PDDGER Willie Buttrum, PR Chairman

Pictured: Jose Cordero and Mary Snyder hula dancing



# "Payson Elks #2154 Hosts Flag Raising Event"

On Tuesday, August 10th the Payson Elks along with the City of Payson, the Tonto Apache Tribe, the Lions Club, VFW, American Legion Post, along with City and State dignitaries, raised an 8 X 12 American Flag at the site of the Elk sighting. Many were present as Payson Mayor Tom Morrissey, presented other guest speakers, our Honor Guard, and a very patriotic flag-raising ceremony. Representing the Payson Elks, was Exalted Ruler, Dana Smith, and Art Schaier, Veterans Services.

This flag overlooks our wonderful city of Payson and can be seen throughout the town. It is a constant reminder of the joint venture the town has with Tonto Apache Reservation, Payson Elks, and other Patriotic Groups in Rim Country.

Submitted by; Kat Zeisse







#### "Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Donates to Athletic Booster Club"

The Elks Lodge donated \$400.00 to the Lake Havasu HS Athletic Booster Club. The Booster Club supports the athletic programs, coaches, and athletes at Lake Havasu High School.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News Team



Pictured L-R: Exalted Ruler Chuck Fox, Booster Club President Judy Tassie, Booster Club Secretary Teri Romer and Lodge Youth Activities Chair PER Debbie Herd.

#### "Chandler Elks #2429 Donates AEMP Rewards to Boys & Girls Club"

The Chandler Elks Lodge #2429 used our reward for the Boys and Girls Club of the East Valley. This will help them purchase supplies for the club, sports, & fitness program and the education and self-esteem enhancement program. This will also help the boys & girls club stay open and give back to our community. Our Exalted Ruler Jesse Rogers and our DDGER Dennis Appel presented the check to the boys & girls club director Sonia Smith.

Submitted by: Dick Garlic, Lodge Newsletter Editor



Pictured L-R: Exalted Ruler Jesse, DDGER Dennis, Isabel, Eric, Ayanna, Luis, Atzel, Ldilonie, Cayden and Lyla (Boys and Girls Club).

#### "Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Donates to Gila Bend Lodge

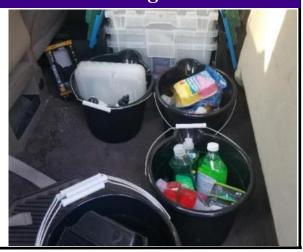
In August the town of Gila Bend was hit with flash flooding that did damage many homes and businesses. Their local Elks lodge #85 is assisting the community with recovery. The Lake Havasu City Elks lodge #2399 is donating \$500 to the Gila Bend lodge along with \$400 from the Elkettes to help them with the project. Speedy recovery in our thoughts.

Submitted by; Eva Fox, Lodge News Team

#### "Buckeye Elks #2686 Donates to Gila Bend Lodge"

On Saturday, August 14, the town of Gila Bend experienced unprecedented flooding. Knowing that the residents of Gila Bend have a great need, our Lodge worked with the Gila Bend Elks Lodge to gather donations for those needing help. With less than 24-hour's notice, our Lodge members raised \$1,175 in monetary donations in addition to the following supplies: buckets, cleaner, detergent, garbage bags, mops, paper towels, phone chargers, pillows, rakes, shovels, soap, socks, sponges, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and underwear.

Submitted by; Leatta McLaughlin, Board of Trustees member



#### "Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Donates to Swim Team"



On August 23rd the Elks Lodge donated \$300 to the Lake Havasu Stingrays Swim team. Havasu Stingrays Swim Team (HSST) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, established to develop the character traits, technical skills and intense desire necessary for maximum realization of each individual's potential.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News Team

Pictured are ER Chuck Fox, Head Coach Wes Sinclair, Assistant Coach Amanda Maltos and her son, and PER and Youth Activities Chair Debbie Herd.

#### "Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Donates to Southern Arizona VA"

On August 11, Exalted Ruler Alane Asp and Veteran's Committee Co-Chair Bob Kielsa PER Presented the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System Hospital with a \$2,314 worth of clothing and toiletries. The donations were given to Leilani Kirchn.

In addition, they presented a patriotic quilt to Kelly Laurich, Fisher House Director. The quilt will be used in one of the bedrooms at the house.

Submitted by: Jim Beregi





#### "Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Hosts Free Swim Event"

On the 31st of July the Elks Lodge #2399 sponsored the Free Swim for 400 guests at the conclusion of the Health Inoculation Fair. The Elks served pizza, water, and played "Let's Talk" a self esteem building activity.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News Team







Pictured L-R: Exalted Ruler Chuck Fox, Lead Trustee Jim Travis, Leading Knight Paulette Nainteau and her husband Leo. Inner Guard Joyce Bradley, Lecturing Knight Tom Bradley, PER and Youth Activities chair Debbie Herd and member Debbie Horton.

#### "Casas Adobes Elks #2663 Attends Tucson Veterans Stand Down"

Casas Adobes #2663 spent the last two months gathering hygiene items and packaging them for the recent Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans (TVSV) Stand Down in Tucson. Our Veterans Chair Mary Shaffer is a member of this worthwhile group and attended zoom meetings every Friday for several months to plan this event.

Our Lodge received a Certificate of Appreciation for our monetary donation, hygiene kit donations and participation at the (TVSV) Stand Down. We are very proud that our help was instrumental in making this Stand Down successful for our veterans. The unofficial count of veterans served is 109 at this one day event.

Submitted by: PER Mary Shaffer, Public Relations Chair



L to R Chaplain Ursula Woods, PER and Lecturing Knight Linda Seggie-Saunders fill more hygiene kits



An unknown veteran selects undershirts & other items in the clothing store area. Casas Adobes #2663 donated the blue bags



Chaplain Ursula Woods, PER hands a hygiene kit to an unknown veteran



L to R Secretary Don Baker, PER presents Certificate of Appreciation to Exalted Ruler Carolyn Smith, PER

#### "AEA Contests and Due Dates"

2021-2022 Drug Awareness Program Dates

Theme for all Contest's will be "The Best Me Is Drug Free"

Poster Submissions Due

08 November 2021 to District Chair

28 January 2022 to State Chair

Americanism Essay Contest 2021-22 Criteria and Rules

**Lodge Submissions** 

15 Dec 2021

**District Submissions** 

31 Jan 2022

**State Submissions** 

28 Feb 2022

**Grand Lodge Submissions** 

31 Mar 2022

Americanism Brochure and Mini-Brochure Contest
Due Dates are as follows:

**Lodge Submissions** 

15 Dec 2021

**District Submissions** 

31 Jan 2022

**State Submissions** 

28 Feb 2022

**Grand Lodge Submissions** 

31 Mar 2022

2021-2022 Important Hoop Shoot Dates

**Soccer Shoot: Pending Dates** 

**District Competitions** 

08 Jan 2022 East District, Chandler, AZ 29 Jan 2022 West District, TBD 22 Jan 2022 South District, Tucson, AZ 15 Jan 2022 North District, Camp Verde, AZ

**State Competition** 

12 Feb 2022 in Apache Junction, AZ

**Regional Competition** 

26 Feb 2022 Las Vegas, NV

**Elks National Competition** 

30 Apr 2022 Chicago, IL

#### All American Lodge Contest - Contest A

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler to receive (postmarked) no later than March 15th, 2022

State Chairperson to receive (postmarked) from DDGER no later than April 1st, 2022

State Chairperson to mail to Grand Lodge on April 15th, 2022

**Community Service & Image Brochure Contest** – Contest B

District Chairperson to receive submission no later than March 7th, 2022

AEA Judging date: April 13th, 2022

# "AEA Golf Tournament"



State Golf Tournament Saturday September 11, 2021 8:00 am Shotgun Start at Silver Creek Golf Course

\$75 per person (includes lunch back at the lodge)

This tournament is a 2-person scramble. Scores will be handicapped.

\*\*\*2-person teams will be randomly paired with another 2-person team, and the scores will be added together to get a final score for the tournament. \*\*\*\*

Prizes will be given to 1\*-5th place.

Immediately after the tournament, there will be a putting contest. Entry is \$5 per person, and you will be allowed 2 putts. The winner will get half of the proceeds raised.

Scorecards will be brought back to the lodge, where lunch will be served. Please join us there for awards, raffles, and auction items!

\*\*This event has limited space. Please register as soon as possible to reserve your team!

Registration will begin at 7:00 am. Pre-payment is preferred, but not required. If you are paying the day of the tournament, it will be cash or check, ONLY- no credit cards. If you are pre-paying, please make checks payable to: Show Low Elks Lodge #2090 and send checks and this form to Gregg Boyce PO Box 3846 Show Low, AZ 85902

For questions about this tournament, please contact

Gregg Boyce 928-52I-2254 or greggboyce@hotmail.com.

Player 1:	Handicap:
Player 2:	Handicap:

All proceeds from this tournament will go to Arizona Elks Major Projects-Steel's Children's Research Hospital and Jack Warter Youth Camp



# "2022-2023 Grand Lodge Convention Intend to Attend"

# Intent to Attend Atlanta Georgia Grand Lodge Convention Georgia "On Our Minds" July 3 – July 6, 2022

City	Zip
me	
Lodge #	
3397 Monte Moro Street Kingman AZ 86401	
Cell: 928-727-5925	Home: 928-692-563
nukid@npgcable.com	
	Lodge #  Lodge #  ted. Reservations will be on a fireturn no later than January  Jerry Grimes 3397 Monte Moro Street Kingman AZ 86401  Cell: 928-727-5925

## "Grand Exalted Ruler Acceptance Speech"

Submitted by: Ronald Wilson, AEA Public Relations Chairman

Grand Exalted Ruler Ryan and 1st Lady Stacey, Past Grand Exalted Rulers, members, friends, and families. I very much humbly and proud to accept the office of Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America for the fraternal year 2021 - 2022. You know we did not here alone, and I would like to name some of the folks who have helped and supported Amy and me along the way.

I extend our thanks to all of Area 8 for your support and I extend special thanks to all the past presidents of Idaho, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, and Washington. I would also like to thank Steve Meier, Ed Sanman III and Mary Williams for heading up my EAGER committee.

The state of Idaho may be small, but I guarantee, we are mighty. Lord knows I have tried your patience on many occasions, but the faith and confidence you have had in me, and my abilities is second to none. Without your help and support, there is no way that we would have achieved what we have achieves here today. Special thanks go out to Idaho Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Del Miley for making the motion for my nomination and thanks also goes to out to Idaho State President Chuck Roberts foe seconding the motion.

Throughout my Elks career have had wonderful opportunities to travel to other state and expand my Elks family. Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Montana the way you have accepted Amy and I is completely unbelievable. We have had many different sponsors in the beginning, but I always felt like you were family. I also offer my thanks to Grand Esquire Frank Palladini and Tampa Florida Lodge # 708 for receiving and storing all the materials needed for this convention.

Special thanks also go out to Past Grand Exalted Ruler James Damon and his wife D.J. who were unable to be with us here today. When he asked me to start this journey a year ago, it was a complete honor to serve Mr. Damon who now serves emeritus. Past Grand Exalted Ruler Roger True stepped up and took over as cosponsor and is now our sponsor and has help me continue down this path. I will never be able to repay him and his wife, Marilyn, for the friendship and mentoring they have given Amy and me over these last 25 years.

I would be really remiss if I didn't mention another sponsor from Washington and that is the late Past Grans Exalted Ruler Frank Garland and his wife Polly. I would also like to thank Past Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Luhr and his wife Barbara.

I can honestly say that each and every one of these Past Exalted Rules behind me has helped mold me in some way or another along the way and I thanks each and every one of you for the wonderful conversations and helpful advice you have all given me. My gratitude goes to Grand Secretary Brian Platt and his wife, Sue, as well as to all his staff. You have helped Amy and me through this process and have been a part of making this a great experience.

Now, I better move on to my family. I would like to start off with my oldest brother, Randy, then we will move over to my other brother, Butch, and his wife Teri and Butch's daughter, my niece, Sarah. I also have with me today my sister, Cheryl, and her daughter, my niece, Molly and Moll's friend Grace. Also with me today are my daughter, Cassie and her companion, Jason, and of course my two grandkids, Clark, and Karson. My son Justin, and his companion Brooke, are here today and so are Amy's adopted mom, Debby, and her husband, Ron. Next I have my mom, Ruth,. Mom, I would not be here today if it weren't for everything that you have helped me through my entire life.

## "Grand Exalted Ruler Acceptance Speech Continued"

And lastly, I want to thank my fantastic, wonderful caring best friend and the love of my life for more than thirty years, Amy. Through my entire career in Elkdom, she has been my rock. I never could have accomplished any of this if we had not done it together, and I'm looking forward to this next journey.

I am missing two very important individuals who are no longer with us, my father Justin, and my brother Devon both of whom were Elks members. Though they are gone, they are not forgotten and are with all of us every day.

My theme this year is Meeting the Challenge. The development of this slogan was the result of careful thought on the part of my team. Our goal was to come up with a slogan that would fit the times that we all had to deal with this last year. This year has been like none other in history of our Order and our communities need us more than ever. By continuing our work, we can become more invested not only in our youth and Veterans programs but in our communities as well. This will in turn help us grow and prosper and become stronger than ever as we continue moving forward into the future. This is not an easy path, and it is going to take hard work, dedication, and a little humility. I know that to all of you in attendance here today, this is preaching to the choir. You all have more care for this organization, for your state and for your Lodge than anyone can imagine. It is now our challenge to go back to our local lodges and lead by example to get the rest of the members excited and to rally around what we do to continue down this path of success.

Some might say we stand at a crossroads today, but I am not one of those individuals. We all face our own daily struggles, but how we choose to tackle these challenges is how we define ourselves. The true test of one's character is how they act in the face of diversity and how they treat others when they have nothing to gain. It is time to put aside any and all differences that we may have, because membership is the lifeblood of our Order. We had a small gain in membership a couple of years ago and we were well on our way to another gain, but we all know that COVID-19 hit us pretty hard and prevented that from happening. But with the new billing system and some hard work by all of you, we should be able to get back on track for a gain this year. I for one would like to get back over that one-million-member mark again and just keep growing. We have the tools and Lord knows we have the talent to conquer any obstacles that get in our way.

Some of our Lodges have struggled financially this year, and for that reason I have decided to keep the Elks National Foundation commitment at \$4.80 per member. I know this seems like a lofty goal;, but as we have seen in prior years, no matter what the state of affairs is, the Elks Care - Elks Share commitment to the Elks National Foundation is second to none and I am confident that we will continue not only to meet this goal but to exceed it as we always have done in the past

I cannot express the pride and joy that you all have given Amy and me and how honored we are to serve as the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady of one of the oldest and largest fraternal organizations in the United States. We are both looking forward to visiting each one of your states to see firsthand the great things you all do to keep meeting the challenge.

Enjoy your time here in Tampa. God Bless you all, God Bless the Elks and God Bless these United States of America

Fraternally,

T. Keith Mills Grand Exalted Ruler

# "Grand Lodge News"





Elks Care — Elks Share

# September tasks: GER class, notices, scholarships, awards

With summer coming to an end, now is our opportunity to offer events that give our Members activities and places to gather. Offer dinners once or twice a week and plan various activities that your membership can support and join. Start using these events to promote your Lodge for prospective Members as well as for contacting delinquent Members. It is never too early to start planning your future events.

National Patriotism week starts on Labor Day and runs through September 12. You still have time to download and have your city's mayor sign a proclamation for National Patriotism Week if you were unable to do so last month.



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

# MILLS

Exalted Rulers, remember the Grand Exalted Ruler class begins this month and runs through October. Let us make it a good one to continue "Meeting the Challenge." If you have not done so, visit elks.org. Look under the Grand Lodge Activities Committee. Then take advantage of the various forms and

certificates you can use through the year to recognize program participants and volunteers. Also, make sure to reach out to your committee chairpersons to ensure they are recording and submitting the information to the Lodge Secretary.

Lodge Secretaries, let this serve as a reminder to begin sending your sixmonth dues and delinquent notices. If your Lodge has not signed up for the Membership Billing System, check into it on elks.org (Membership Tool Kit, Lodge billing) or contact your Area Membership Chair. The cost savings to your Lodge will be significant. Further, once the notices have been sent,

Please see GER, Page 2

#### GRAND LODGE FRATERNAL COMMITTEE

#### How to win an Elks website contest

By GWEN B. PARKER Committee Member

The Fraternal Committee wants your Local Lodge website as well as your State Association website to exemplify the true spirit of Elkdom. Your website should always be up-to-date, be a great source of information for your Members, and cover all Grand Lodge programs.

All Fraternal Committee members are available to assist you should you need help, advice, or information. You may not necessarily be ready to enter in a website contest, but we all should want to continue to improve our websites, so they are the top go-to resource for Members.

The best websites should have these attributes, and the State and Local Lodge contest will be graded on the same criteria with points awarded in each area.

Content: This should contain up-todate news and information along with details about all programs. Some news is timeless, but some information needs to be fresh.

**Layout:** There should be a menu or table of contents. Various committees or departments should be easily accessible.

**Design:** Special presentation methods such as borders, shading, and color are a plus.

Graphics: Pop up windows and scrolling messages highlighting important

announcements help. Photographs and graphics keep users' interest.

Effectiveness in telling the Elks story: The website should prove to be useful to Members. It should also successfully tell the Elks' story to non-Members.

Local Lodges should enter the website contest for their respective state no later than October 1, 2021. Lodges in states not holding a state contest may send their application to their Area Representative on the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee (elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/roster. cfm). Lodges that have no website but feel like their Facebook page exhibits all these qualities may also enter. All pages and websites will be visited three times during the year by the Website Contest Administrator.

This contest is a great way to get your Lodge or State Association recognized nationally. It is always important to recognize those who do such a great job. This is also a way to get help for those who desire to improve their webpage. Please use the aforementioned guidelines to ensure your website and/or Facebook page is the best resource for Members and non-Members alike.

State Contest winners will be announced in the March 2022 issue of the GL Newsletter and the Lodge Contest Winners will be published in the April 2022 edition.

#### GER From Page 1

have your Membership and Lapsation Committee contact these individuals. You would be surprised what a little personal contact can accomplish.

The Elks Legacy scholarships also open this month on elks.org. Legacy Awards are available to children and grandchildren of Elks' Members. Check on-line for eligibility requirements. The Elks National Hoop Shoot turns 50 this year and it is also just around the corner. Now is the time to start planning your local contest. If your Lodge is involved with this program, thank you. If it has been awhile since your Lodge participated, now is a good time to start. Start small; choose one school in your area and bring your program back to life. If you need help, contact your District Hoop Shoot Director for assistance.

Finally, this is the time to submit your Lodge website for judging to receive the Grand Lodge 5-Star Award. State Association websites can also be submitted for judging as well. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate what your Lodge is accomplishing as well as advertise your Lodge to your community.