

Arizona Elks News

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

August 2023



"Thanks for Lending a Hand"

Brother and Sister Elks,

I approach you this month with an unusual sense of urgency. Although anxious to relate the activities and accomplishments of our great State at the recent Grand Lodge Convention, I am urged to inform you of a fast-approaching deadline of which many may be interested in hearing. For the second year running, Grand Lodge will be entering a float in the New Year's Day Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, California. The float's theme is Chimes of Liberty/Protecting Our Future. And, to borrow a phrase... **GRAND LODGE WANTS YOU!!** You see, Grand Lodge is seeking six members (Veterans and/or Active Military) of the Elks to represent Elkdom and the six branches of our military (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard) to ride on the 2024 Elks USA Float in the Rose Parade in Pasadena, California. My sense of urgency comes in the fact that the deadline to answer this call to action is August 4, 2023. So, if you are a Veteran or Active Military and would like to throw your hat in the ring, please submit a current color photo in your military dress uniform along with a brief resume to me, your Association President, for consideration by August 4, 2023. All submissions for float riders will then be submitted by email to the California-Hawaii Elks Association for processing by August 11, 2023. All submissions will be reviewed by the Grand Lodge Selection Committee and the six riders, and their Sponsors will be notified shortly thereafter. Please note that presently there is no AEA budget for expenses related to this travel. It will be up to individual winners to undertake the costs of related travel and/or solicit such support from their Lodges, etc.



Now, on to the Grand Lodge Convention! Minneapolis proved to be a great host to this event and, aside from reports of scattered illness, it appears a great time was had by all. As promised, the Arizona contingent had favorable seating and made its presence known often as more than several awards came its way. Congratulations to all, as follows:

5-Star Award, State Association Website
 5-Star Award, State Association Newsletter
 Membership - 6th Place, Membership Rate Increase
 Membership - 3rd Place, Membership Number Increase
 Eleven O'Clock Toast Contest, West Division, 1st Place
 Eleven O'Clock Toast Contest, National Final, 2nd Place
 All-American Lodge, Division III, Top 10
 All-American Lodge, Division III, 3rd Place
 All-American Lodge, Division IV, 2nd Place
 All-American Lodge, Division V, Top 10
 All-American Lodge, Division V, 3rd Place
 All-American Lodge, Division VI, Top 10
 All-American Lodge, Division VI, 1st Place
 5-Star Award, State Major Projects

Bear Carlile, Sierra Vista #2065
 Shawnee Carlile, Sierra Vista #2065
 Jerry Ingram, Chandler #2429
 Jerry Ingram, Chandler #2429
 Randy Sterling, Phoenix #335
 Randy Sterling, Phoenix #335
 Tucson #385
 Page #2498
 Sierra Vista #2065
 Chandler #2429
 Casa Grande Valley #1957
 Sun City #2559
 Phoenix #335
 Arizona Elks Major Projects

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September 2023

AEA Newsletter

Submission deadline:

19 August 2023

aeane newsletter

@arizonaelks.org



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**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION
2023-2024
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Al Kayal

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

South: Susan Krausman

VICE PRESIDENTS

North: Hershel "Hersh" Eaton

East: JeRay Bellon

West: Hank Thonnard

SECRETARY:

Charyll McKean, PSP

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

North-1 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

South- 2 Year:

Joe Riley, PSP

South- 3 Year:

Richard "Rich" Botkin, PSP

East-4 Year:

Jimmy S. Davis, PSP

North- 5 Year:

James R. Cassacchia, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Alejandro "Alex" Arroyo

CHAPLAIN:

Brad Lucas

TILER:

Travis Napolitan

INNER GUARD:

Taleen Carpenter

ASST. SEC / TREASURER:

Roy Haddick

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Karen Koble

MUSICIAN:

Ira Cohen

"Thanks for Lending a Hand"

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Kudos to Linda and Jerry Grimes for a first-rate Hospitality Suite. Thanks to the new District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers and respective Lodges for their assistance in "manning" the Hospitality Room needs. And a special thanks to the select few (you know who you are) that day-in, day-out provided that extra, unsolicited support that made the room management a little easier for Linda and Jerry.

Brenda and I were happy and proud to represent Arizona in the receiving line at the Southwest Cocktail Party and Dinner and I have never been prouder to be an Arizona Elk as you all cheered me on as I paraded and proudly waved that great Arizona flag. Thanks for your support.

Now it is time to get back to the business that has propelled this Association, this State, to the top of Elkdom. The youth of our communities, the Veterans, our First Responders, and many, many others need our help, our support now more than ever.

Our new District Deputies (Mike Duran - North, Larry Hamel - South, Brian Gorski - East, Larry Bodwell - West) are scheduling their August Clinics. These will be posted to the AEA calendar. Please note that the Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, Trustee Chair, Lodge Secretary and Lodge Treasurer are required to attend. District Committee Chairs are also required to attend and report on their respective committees. Only the District Deputy may provide a direct waiver of attendance with a valid excuse.

Finally, the District Deputies and the AEA President/Vice-Presidents are in the midst of arranging and making visits to the Arizona Lodges. Please cooperate with them in making their visits as complete and productive as possible. Remember, Black or White Hat, we are here to Lend a Hand.

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Arizona Elks Major Project Mid-Year Raffle. The Kawasaki TERYX side by side is a great prize.

May God bless our troops, our first responders, our families and all of you.

Fraternally,

Al Kayal,
President
Arizona Elks Association

"DDGER August Clinics"

North District

Saturday, August 12 10:00 AM Payson Lodge #2154

East District

Saturday, August 19 9:00 AM Apache Junction Lodge #2349

South District

Saturday, August 26 10:00 AM Tucson East Lodge #2532

West District

Sunday, August 27 10:00 AM Gila Bend Lodge #2089

“Phoenix Lodge #335 Holds Honor Flight Reunion Lunch”



“We closed out a fantastic spring 2023 flying season with a 3-trip reunion lunch on Saturday! Our Veterans & their families shared great memories & fellowship. A big Thank You goes to [Phoenix Elks 335](#) for hosting & providing lunch to 150 in attendance. Elks Lodge #335 also donated \$4,000 to Honor Flight Arizona for future flights! Thank You to our Veterans, families, guardians, volunteers & leadership & we'll be flying again starting with our 100th mission in September!

Submitted by: Heather Leal

“Casas Adobes Lodge #2663 Present Scholastic Awards”



Left - AEA Essay Contest Honorable Mention award to Marquise Busch from Carden of Tucson Charter School



Right—Casas Adobes Certificates of Scholastic Excellence to high school seniors, Delaney Whaley and Jordan Dean

Submitted by: James Ciacomino

“Catalina Mountain Lodge Donates to Local Food Bank”

A month-long food drive focused on canned tomatoes, Elk Lodge members donated 323 pounds of product to the Impact Food Bank of Southern AZ.

Submitted by: Jim Beregi

Pictured are Jan Trudeau community activities chairman and Cody Wilkinson, Impact Food Bank coordinator.



Inaugural Elks Pin Show / Exhibit

Contact Gus Noble for table(s)

Home: 602-354-4306

Cell: 602-799-5560

Saturday, September 30

10:00 AM until 2:00 PM

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335

14424 North 32nd Street

Phoenix, AZ 85032

Come display your collection / duplicates

See other collectors & their pins

Buy - Sell - Trade

"Lodges Throughout Arizona Celebrate Our Nation's Birthday"



Page Elks Lodge #2498 showed their true colors of red, white and blue with their float in the Page Independence day parade.

Submitted by:
George Siebrecht



Tucson Elks Lodge #385 hosted 17 Veterans from the Tucson VA Blind Rehab Center to a Fourth of July celebration with "brat" dog, hamburger, corn on the cob and dessert. Pictured: Members Linda Kinnerson, Peggy Jo Miskimen and Martha Megerle engaging with Veterans.

Submitted by: John Aceves



During the Yuma Lodge #476 4th of July celebration the Special Olympics brought their singing group "Circle of Friends" to sing a few patriotic songs for our Elks and their families to enjoy.

Submitted by: Mike Burnet

"Buckeye Lodge #2686 D.A.R.E.s to Keep Kids Off Drugs"



For the first time in many years, Buckeye Elks Lodge Member Jeannie Stacy conducted a DARE program with kids from the Village Community and Recreation Center on July 27, 2023. Prizes were awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3d place winners of the poster contest. Brochures and coloring cooks from National DAP and DEA were passed out. A lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, and macaroni and cheese was served to all attendees.

Submitted by: Leatta McLaughlin

"Miscellaneous Photos From Around Arizona"



On July 22, 2023 Prescott Elks Lodge #330 and Quilts of Valor member Melissa Emery presents a beautiful quilt to Air Force Veteran Walt Campbell. Thank you for your service Walt.



Coolidge-Florence Lodge #2350 donated \$250 from Children's Charities to support the Florence High School football program. This money will be used to purchase equipment for the team. Pictured: Tyler Potter, graduate, former Florence football team member and MVS scholarship winner.



Esteemed Loyal Knight, Mike Breed promoted Drug Awareness with coloring books for the children at the 4th of July Celebration at the Yuma Lodge #476.

"Information and Veterans News"



Did you know?

NEXTGEN UNIFORM SERVICES IDENTIFICATION CARD. The Department of Defense is phasing out and replacing old nonactive duty cards with the next generation ID card (which are more durable and have enhanced security features) by 2026. Join us at the October 21st Retiree Activities Day (RAD) to get a new ID card or to find the closest ID card office and/or make an appointment, go to: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> Your closest ID card location may not be at Luke AFB so make sure you enter your address or zip code to start

your search. We recommend making an appointment as walk-ins can face significant wait times. The RAO staff is available to assist you with the process over the phone or if you come to the office, we can make an appointment for you.

... Excerpt from the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) Newsletter at Luke AFB, July 2023 issue.

The Payson Lodge would like some help with this project. [POC is Art Schaier, 602-291-9922](#)

Our GOAL is to have every Branch of Military Service proudly flying from the top of the Tonto Apache Reservation for all of Arizona, Payson, and the Rim Country to enjoy. There will be a total of eleven flags representing each Branch of Service:

- United States • U.S. Army • U.S. Marine Corps • U.S. Navy • U.S. Air Force • U.S. Space Force
- U.S. Coast Guard • P.O.W. • U.S. Merchant Marine • State of Arizona • and the Tonto Apache Tribe

Payson is the Flag Capitol of Arizona and there are 7,000 veterans living within 50 miles of our town. Right now, we need patriotism more than ever! This flag memorial honors all past and present veterans and is non-political and non-partisan. The flags will remain up 24/7 and be lit at night.

Once we raise the funds for the rest of the flags, we will host another ceremony and there will be an "ARMY OF PATRIOTS" coming together to help with the event and celebrate patriotism. We are planning this event in conjunction with the Tonto Apache Tribe with the guidance of Tonto Apache Chairman Calvin Johnson, and many other organizations, Local and Community Leaders. Excerpt from Art Schaier email dated June 6, 2023.

There is a QR code for donating, and various other ways on how to contribute. Questions call Art Schaier, 602-291-9922.

RALLY AROUND THE FLAGS FUND

Our GOAL (in conjunction with the Tonto Apache Tribe) is to have every Branch of Military Service proudly flying from the top of the Tonto Apache Reservation for all of Arizona, Payson, and The Rim Country to enjoy. We have raised the three flags pictured and there are eight to go!



There are 3 ways to donate:

Make your check payable to: Payson Elks #2154.
Write Rally Around the Flags in the memo line.
Mail to: Payson Elks Lodge, 1206 N. Beeline Hwy.,
Payson AZ 85541

By credit card on our secure GoFundMe page:
<https://gofund.me/c92fd9de>

*You can also access our donation page by scanning the QR code:



Pay by credit card. Call the Elks 928-474-2572 and ask for Adrian between 9 a.m. & 2 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday.

Payson Elks #2154
is a 501(c)(8) non-profit.

Donate Now to Honor Veterans and Spread Patriotism!

“Grand Lodge News”

Community service builds foundation for our future

After being elected Grand Exalted Ruler at the convention in Minneapolis, Wanda and I are humbled and honored to represent our great Order this year.

We have truly been blessed by the aid and support of so many people throughout the years. We owe a great debt of gratitude to our family, friends, and to you, our Elks family. We say thank you, one and all, for everything.

My slogan for 2023–2024 is “*We Are THE Elks.*” I am sure you will be hearing more about this at your District Deputy Clinic this month.

As we travel the country, Wanda and I are committed to promoting our Elks programs like never before. It is our belief this will make our Lodges stronger and improve our image throughout our great Order.

We will be promoting community



**Message from
the Grand
Exalted Ruler
RANDY P.
SHOOK**

service programs throughout our travels. These programs build stronger communities while stimulating a response that motivates worthy members of the public to seek Elks membership. In this way, our community service builds the foundation for our future.

Successful Lodges of the future will create and develop local projects that will become signature accomplishments in the eyes of the community. In turn,

members of the community will see these projects mature over time and want to become involved.

If we work together toward our charitable pursuits and remain faithful to our programs, I'm confident we will soon see an increase in membership—not mere temporary gains, but a new era of growth where participation becomes commonplace.

A great source of funding for some community projects is the Elks National Foundation, known as the “*Great Heart Of Elkdom.*” The ENF helps build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet the needs in areas where we live and work.

The Foundation has allocated almost

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“Coolidge-Florence Lodge #2350 News”

The Lodge awarded \$500 scholarships to 11 graduating high school students. The lodge also hosted a dinner for all of the scholarship recipients and their families.

In other news, the lodge presented \$50 to 18 outstanding 8th grade students from 9 grade schools. The lodge also hosted a dinner for all of these recipients and their families.

In more news, the lodge presented \$50 to 3 district scholars for the 4th quarter, and \$100 to 3 overall district scholars.

Submitted by: Angela Schenk



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\$16 million for Lodge Community Service Grants. This grant program allows your Lodge to complete more for your communities. This is once again a way for you to show your communities that *Elks Care—Elks Share.*

Make the Elks presence felt in your community by using these grants. What is your Lodge known for in your community? What reputation would you like to have? Find that need in your community and get it done. This will ensure people in your community know that “*We Are THE Elks.*”

The support we provide makes the Foundation's work possible. The goal we have established for the 2023–2024 fraternal year is \$4.80 per Member. That is not much when you consider the outstanding achievements of this program.

Remember “*Elks Care—Elks Share*” and “*We Are THE Elks.*”

God bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.



Arizona Elks Association

Mid-Year Meeting

18-20 October 2023