

# Arizona Elks News

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

September 2023



## “Thanks for Lending a Hand”

Brother and Sister Elks,

Not too bad a Summer, right?

As the temps cool, the kids are back in school, and we welcome our members and visitors back into full-swing Lodge activities.



September is upon us with September 4, for many, marking the end of Summer. So, it is time to get back to work and the tasks of community service and the honor of patriotic endeavor that uniquely mark our Order. Elks Patriotism Week, beginning on September 10, is a painful yet respectful reminder of the tragic loss we all sustained, individually and collectively, on 9/11 twenty-two years ago. We recall the horrific events of that day and the ensuing wave of patriotism across our great land. Grand Lodge has developed a Patriotism Week Proclamation for general use. I encourage all Arizona Lodges to download the Proclamation from the following web address:

<https://www.elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/files/patriotismWeekProclamation.pdf>

Have your local government official complete and certify the proclamation and post the proclamation in your Lodges for all members and guests to view. Finally, take a moment to recognize our Gold Star Mothers on the last Sunday in September. We owe a debt of gratitude to the mothers that have endured the ultimate sacrifice of a son/daughter in defense of our great nation.

Speaking of veterans, I received two formidable entries to the Grand Lodge Float Riding Contest from Arizona veterans. Best of luck to Coast Guard veteran Judi Beischel, Past Exalted Ruler, and current Exalted Ruler of Fountain Hills Lodge #2846 and to Army veteran Bruce Van Den Eng, Past Exalted Ruler, and current Exalted Ruler of Casas Adobes Lodge #2663.

I and my Vice-Presidents Sue Krausman (South), Hersh Eaton (North), JeRay Bellon (East) and Hank Thonnard (West) are in the process of visiting all Arizona Lodges. We are proud to have the opportunity of visiting with you, your Officers and members and listening to your marvelous stories of membership and service. Please remember that we are also there to lend a hand in most any facet of Lodge operation, without repercussion, if you desire. Please feel free to consult with any of us, regardless of the request.

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**AEA Newsletter**  
**Submission deadline:**  
**19 September 2023**

aeanewsletter  
@arizonaelks.org



**Arizona Elks Association**

**Mid-Year Meeting**

**20-22 October 2023**

**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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The October Convention, scheduled for the days of October 20-22, 2023, will soon be upon us. You will find a fillable form, for your ease in completion, at [arizonaelksassociation.org](http://arizonaelksassociation.org). Completed forms and checks are due to Past State President Lee Schwein no later than September 20, 2023. Grand Lodge Area 7 Public Relations dynamo, Patrick Akes, and his charming wife, Deserie, will be our guests. Patrick, in collaboration with our AEA Public Relations and Membership Committees, is planning a blockbuster breakout session. Also, Grand Lodge Area 7 Business Practices Committee member Janet Leuer will be covering among other things, the major changes coming with respect to FRS (Financial Reporting System). Please remember that any Elk in good standing may register for and attend this Convention and all its sessions.

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Arizona Elks Major Projects Mid Year Raffle. The Kawasaki TERYX side by side is a great prize. Please help us support our Youth Camp, our \$2.5 million dollar commitment to Steele and the youth of our communities.

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

Thanks for Lending a Hand!

Fraternally,  
Al Kayal, President  
Arizona Elks Association

## "From the AEA Secretary"

Members All:

An updated listing of all Members information will be sent to our webmaster monthly and a complete digital copy of the Directory will be sent to all each month as well. Please check if you have submitted any changes to make sure they have been recorded. If you have any information that needs updating, please send an email to [secretary@arizonaelks.org](mailto:secretary@arizonaelks.org) and it will be in the next month's Member listing. There are plans to just send a list of changes as well but that will be coming with next year's Directory.

If you need anything such as flyers, notices of upcoming events, etc. sent out to the membership please send it to me and we'll get it emailed.

For all AEA Officers and State Chairmen – please remember that a copy of the report you plan to give at the Mid Year Convention in October is due to me by Thursday, October 12th. This should be in Microsoft Word format – please no .pdf files.

Any questions or concerns please let me know. Stay healthy and travel safely.  
Regards

Charyll McKean  
AEA Secretary/Executive Director  
Arizona Elks Association

## *“News From Yuma Lodge #476”*



The DGH Law Firm of Yuma was awarded a certificate for the "Fly the Flag". Pictured is Attorney at Law Shawn Garner and Exalted Ruler Mike Burnet. Picture submitted by Becky Burgess.



The New Life Pregnancy Center is the AEMP Community Rewards Recipient from Yuma Lodge #476. Funds purchased diapers, wipes and formula. Pictured is Director Adriana Mrofka with Exalted Ruler Mike Burnet.

**Submitted by: Mike Burnet**

## *“Prescott Lodge #330 Supporting Our Veterans”*

On June 26, 2023 The Veterans Services Chairs, Bill and Carole Dean, delivered 60 bedding sets to U.S. Vets Liberty Pointe facility purchased with a \$2000 Spotlight Grant. They furnish bedding to each homeless Vet coming in to their location. This bedding remains with the Veteran as they progress through the program.

On July 27, 2023 with the Lodge members generosity, 240 T-shirts, 132 pairs of boxer briefs and 110 pair of socks were provided to the Veterans Northern Arizona Medical Center. All of these were requested by the VA as they have an ongoing need for these items.

**Submitted by: Bobby Knorr**

## *“Winslow Lodge #536 Hosts ‘Nation of Patriots’”*



On July 29th the Winslow Elks lodge #536 had the honor of hosting the Nation of Patriots. They are a group that provides Veterans with financial assistance. We served lunch to between 60 & 70 bikers who take the American flag across country.

**Submitted by: Maggie Sanchez**



## *“Catalina Mountain Lodge # 2815 Welcomes Back Wheelchair Athletes”*

On July 22, 2023 the Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Veterans Committee held a Welcome Back Luncheon for the Paralyzed Veterans Association Wheelchair Athletes. At the luncheon our Veterans Committee, in combination with our PER Association, gave each athlete \$600 for a total of \$3000 towards their expenses for competing in this year's competition.

**Submitted by: Jim Beregi**

Pictured left to right: Joe Chitty and Bella, Coach Scott Strzyzewski, Steve O'Brien, Sam Shivers, Pam Foley, Steve Hymers, and Paul Cartter.



## *“Sun City Lodge #2559 Puts ENVSC Freedom Grant To Good Use”*



Arizona's triple-digit summer heat hasn't slowed Sun City Elks Lodge service to community veterans. Elk member donations and purchases made with an ENVSC \$1,000.00 Freedom Grant, were delivered to Glendale Methodist Church veterans' encampment, and to USVets men and women transitional living facility.

**Submitted by: Vicki Way**

Pictured:

2nd & 3rd from left, Elk-member volunteers Yvonne and Terry Cook next to USVets Activities Director, Josh Young with USVet residents.

## *“Phoenix Lodge #335 News”*

In June and July, the Phoenix Elks Veterans Committee delivered donations to local veterans through the Arizona Paralyzed Veterans. We donated \$1,800 of clothing, bedding and toiletries for distribution. In July, \$800 donations of wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and a knee scooter were donated by Elk Bill Boyer.

On August 7, the Elks Public Relations Committee hosted a table at our neighboring school, Archway North Phoenix. The Elks team supplied information on upcoming kids' and family events and all the community service activities we perform. We handed out over 20 new applications. Archway hosts the Phoenix Elks' Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot.

On Saturday, July 29, 2023, we gathered at our Lodge to celebrate a significant achievement, the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Tyson Speck. To commemorate Tyson's Eagle Scout achievement, the ceremonial flag from the Lodge was presented by Randy Sterling, PER, while the U.S. Capitol flag, bestowed by the Americanism Committee, was presented by Larry Bodwell, PER.

**Submitted by: Linda Thompson**

## **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

## ***“Payson Lodge #2154 Donations to Rim Country Health and Rehab”***

On August 4th, Payson Elks Lodge #2154 donated \$780.00 worth of items to Rim Country Health and Rehab to be used for their bingo prize cart.

Submitted by: LuAnn Frost



Pictured left to right: Kim Riley, Lodge Trustee, Jennifer Foster, RCHR Director of Marketing, Brenda Bishop, RCHR Director of Activities, and Dana Smith, Lodge Exalted Ruler.

## ***“Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 Rummage Sale for Steele Center”***



Catalina Mtn Elks Lodge #2815 held a community rummage sale. Which raised \$2,253 for the Elks Major Projects benefitting the Steele Childrens Research Hospital. Over a thousand items were donated.

Submitted by: Jim Beregi

## ***“Back-to-School Donations from Sun City Lodge #2559”***

Sun City Elks Lodge #2559 used its \$3000.00 ENF Grant and Elk member donations to provide back-to-school supplies for three elementary schools within its community. Collaborating with school administrations, the Elks compiled “wish lists” of supplies for students, the nurses’ offices, special education classrooms, and the music department. Cartons of nutritional snacks rounded out deliveries Elks made to each of the schools.

Sun City Elks “Back-to-School” project is one of many ways “*Elks Care – Elks Share*”. Members volunteer and give generously, to invest in the future of students.

Submitted by: Vickie Way



Pictured Left to right: Elk Member and School Project Chair Jan Lewis, Peoria Elementary School Staff Gloria Herrera, Principal Brenda LoPresto, and Kim Mendez.



## ***“AEMP Golf Tournament”***

# **SHOW LOW ELKS LODGE #2090** **2023 STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT**

## **Birdie Ranch Golf Course September 9, 2023**

Two-person scramble, blind draw for score at the end



7:00 am Registration

8:00 am Shotgun Start



\$85 per person includes golf, range, and lunch.

Food, raffles, and awards at the lodge following golf.

**To register or for more information, call/text/email:**

**Brooke** at: [brookeleahabowers@gmail.com](mailto:brookeleahabowers@gmail.com) – 828-788-0987

**Gregg** at: [greggboyce@hotmail.com](mailto:greggboyce@hotmail.com) – 928-521-2254

Player 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

HDCP: \_\_\_\_\_ HDCP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Interested in Being a Sponsor?**

Hole Sponsor: \$100

Longest Drive Sponsor Men (2 available): \$250

Longest Drive Sponsor Women (2 available): \$250

Closest to the Pin Sponsor Men (1 available): \$250

Closest to the Pin Sponsor Women (1 available): \$250

Beverage Cart Sponsor: \$350

Vegas Hole Sponsor: \$400

To sign up or for information about these sponsorships contact

Brooke at: [brookeleahabowers@gmail.com](mailto:brookeleahabowers@gmail.com) or 828-788-0987



Net proceeds to go to AZ Elks Major Projects



## ***"Veterans News"***



### **Information and Veterans News**

Mary I Shaffer - Elks National Veterans Services

East District Chair - Tracy Cabell, 714 587-1070

North District Chair - Vacant

South District Chair - Linda Seggie, 520 499-6481

West District Chair - Chad Arruda, 480-338-7814 (New)

Did you know? The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. For VA In-Person & Virtual PACT Act Assistance—Veterans or survivors who need help filing a PACT Act claim can walk into a VA regional office to ask for help in person. ... A regional VA office may offer both in-person and virtual visits. VA staffers at the VA Benefits Hotline (800-827-1000) and VA Health Benefits Hotline (877-222-8387) can also answer questions to help veterans "file that claim and answer those specific questions for them," Richards said. —Excerpted from Military.Com August 17, 2023 Kaitlin Richards, assistant director in VA's Office of Policy and Oversight.



**Saturday, October 14, 2023**



**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**1 W. Firestorm Way, Glendale, AZ 85306**

This event provides ample opportunities for Veterans to access services tailored to their life experiences and needs in a central location. It has touched the lives of thousands of veterans since its inception!

Blood drive by:  
**vitalant**

#### **What services are offered?**

- Veteran & Spouse Job Opportunities
- MVD/Social Services
- Court Representatives
- Attorney Consultation
- Cardiovascular Heart Scans
- Dental Evaluations
- Flu Shots
- Veterinary Services
- Hair Styling
- Lunch provided
- Plus, donate at the blood drive!

Get more information online or Register as a  
VSO or Employer Hiring at  
**[www.GlendaleStandUp.org](http://www.GlendaleStandUp.org)**



## “Grand Lodge News”

### September: Start of fall, halfway point of Lodge year

Labor Day, the “unofficial end of summer,” is observed on the first Monday in September. In addition to marking the beginning of fall activities and sports, the holiday pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers. In honor of this national holiday, please accept my thanks for all you do for Elksdom. Your dedication truly exemplifies that *“Elks Care — Elks Share.”*

Our Lodge activities will once again move at a very fast pace. It is time to take a look at what the fall season means to us as Elks. September is the beginning of the District Deputy Lodge visits. These visits will provide a look into your overall Lodge operations. Be sure to plan for the visit with your Lodge board of directors by completing the audit items, building a self-inspection



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

checklist and all the other information needed by the DD. This will give you ample time to prepare your Lodge for a successful visit.

The end of this month will bring an end to the first half of this Lodge year. This is an excellent time to see how you stand with your goals for the year. Are you on track to meet those goals or are adjustments needed? By evaluating where you are now, you will be better prepared

to make those decisions.

The reopening of schools in your communities presents us excellent opportunities to encourage our youth. Supporting local sports programs and any youth-related activities are great ways to show your Lodge support and community spirit! Look into and apply for the many Elks National Foundation program grants. These grants are available to financially assist in your community partnerships with our youth. Remember, *“We Are THE Elks”* and we take pride in helping the youth of today grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

It is also a time to seek out your school guidance counselors and provide them with the applications to

Please see GER, Page 3

#### GER From Page 1

apply for grants that can aid students with much needed financial support. Please follow the Elks website for deadlines to apply for these grants. Don't wait; act quickly.

The Elks support Patriot Day on September 11 each year in memory and honor of all those who lost their lives during those horrific attacks, including the first responders and community members who sought to help the crash victims. The Elks have developed a Patriotism Week Proclamation that I encourage all Lodges across our great country to embrace. The proclamation is located in the Fraternal Committee section of [elks.org](https://elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/files/patriotismWeekProclamation.pdf) in a PDF format: [elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/files/patriotismWeekProclamation.pdf](https://elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/files/patriotismWeekProclamation.pdf).

Please take the time to download this very important proclamation. Have your local government officials place it on their agenda to recognize our freedom and to honor our nation.

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

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



## BEAR ESSENTIALS

Please drop a new bear for children who need a HUG. At the end of each month, they will be given to the local police department or sheriff or fire department.

**Prescott Elks Lodge #330**  
 Telephone: (928)772-8660  
 Address: 6245 E. 2nd Street, Prescott Valley AZ 86314