

# Arizona Elks News

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

October 2023



## "Thanks for Lending a Hand"

Brother and Sister Elks,

Please join me in a private moment of silence as we fondly recall the memories of our departed Elks leaders Lee Schwein, Past State President, and Charyll McKean, Past State President. Unfortunately, we often fail to fully appreciate the place an individual has in our lives until the very moment that he/she is taken away from us. The AEA Mid-Year Convention is scheduled to take place on October 20, 21, & 22. I know I will be looking for Lee to step up to the mike to announce the Convention registration numbers and .... he won't be there. I know I will be looking over to the sidetable for Charyll to make her various announcements and .... she won't be there. We will sorely miss the energy, the professionalism and the leadership. Our prayers and affection go out to Sunday, to Tim, and to their families. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Ed & Janet Leuer who seamlessly picked up the pieces and ensured the conduct of this Convention. And we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Cheryl Gillespie who has been appointed to fill out the Secretary's term of office.



In Lee's and Charyll's honor, we are planning a busy, enjoyable and fun convention. Brenda is planning a "Spooky" theme for her luncheon and our project is for the Steele Research Center as we request donations of \$5 and \$10 gift cards as well as disposable diapers, sizes 2 and 3. 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.

October is a time to focus on Drug Awareness. Introduce the Drug Awareness Poster and Essay Contests to your local schools, prepare your application for your nomination to the annual Enrique Camarena officer of the year contest, distribute and wear red ribbons during Red Ribbon Week (10/23/23-10/31/23), sponsor a Drugs Take Back Day on 10/28/23, host a Trunk or Treat, and distribute Drug Awareness materials (a great opportunity for a visit by Elroy). Find some ambitious new members, download the Drug Awareness manual for them and turn them loose. We must do everything within our power to extend the umbrella of protection over our youth as the challenge to live drug-free is greater and greater.

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Next AEA Newsletter  
submission deadline:  
19 October 2023

aeane newsletter  
@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:**

Cheryl Gillespie

### **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"

Continued from page 1

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.

You are likely reading this article in our great AEA Newsletter, the editor of which is Dave Dean from Sierra Vista Lodge #2065. I have asked that this newsletter be forwarded to each Lodge Secretary and that it be emailed to all members listed in our Directory and that each Lodge Secretary email it to all Lodge members. Lodge Public Relations individuals, please forward your articles and pictures to Dave at [aeaneewsletter@arizonaelks.org](mailto:aeaneewsletter@arizonaelks.org) for publication.

We are in the last hour of opportunity to get your tickets for the Arizona Elks Major Projects Mid Year Raffle. The Kawasaki TERYX side by side is a great prize and there is a significant cash option. The vehicle will be on display at the October Mid-Year Convention. 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

## "Tucson Lodge #385 Soccer Shoot Winners"



Tucson Lodge #385 held a Soccer Shoot Competition on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at Booth-Fickett Magnet School. Seventeen participants in the 8-9 and 10-11 age groups kicked 15 shots for score. The following first place shooters will advance to the District Shoot on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Sonoran Science Academy East in Tucson.

In addition, Elks Drug Awareness pamphlets were handed out to all attendees.

Genesis Jarvis  
Blake Wendler  
Olivia Esparza

Girls 10 & 11	Score 55
Boys 8 & 9	Score 56
Girls 8 & 9	Score 48

The support of Zach Roth from the RSL Southern AZ soccer organization made this event happen. A big thank you goes out to the following volunteers who helped make this competition a large success.

Susan Trecartin  
Curt Winters  
Diane Winters  
Richard Bernard

Joe Riley  
Katrina Sharp  
Mike Lessley  
Pam Burns

Submitted by: John Aceves



## *“Bear Sighting’ at Prescott Lodge #330”*



Captain Richard Martin accepts donation of teddy bears from Melissa Emery of the Prescott Elks Lodge #330. The Prescott Elks Lodge created a new community project of collecting teddy bears for first responders to hand out to children who need a hug!

Members and the community are invited to contribute a bear for this worthy cause. They can be dropped off in the Elks Lodge lobby.

**Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr**

Photo left to right: Captain Richard Martin, Melissa Emery

## *“Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 ‘Elkettes’ Donate to Softball League”*

The Elkettes of Elks Lodge # 2399 donated \$1500 to the Band of Brothers for their Veterans softball league. Funds came from the Elkettes concert series. In the photo from left to right are Concert committee members Nancy Levine, Sheri Sanderson, and Cindy Ritter. Receiving check is Stacy Lee with the Veterans Outreach Program and the Band of Brothers along with Elkette Concert Committee Chairperson Eva D. Fox.

**Submitted by: Eva Fox**



## *“Casas Adobes Lodge #2663 Supports Local Schools”*



PER Mary Shaffer presents dictionaries to students at Laguna elementary School. Registrar Christy Travers looks on.



PER Mary Shaffer presents dictionaries to students at Carden School of Tucson. Pictured is teacher Ms. Nichol



ER Bruce Van Den Eng presents a \$1000 AEMP Community Rewards check to Carden School Principal Bree Livengood. Eugene Moore looks on.



## *“Lake Havasu Lodge #2399 Supports Disabled American Veterans”*

The Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 Yacht Club donated \$525 to the London Bridge Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter #27. Funds came from the Yacht club's Pentathlon.

**Submitted by: Eva Fox**

From left to right in photo are: DAV Commander Donald Bittenbender, Yacht Club Member and Pentathlon Chair Deborah Haines, Yacht Club Commadore Sheryl Koesterer, and yacht club member and Pentathlon Chairman Steve Miller.



## *“Payson Lodge #2154 Helps Local Senior Center”*



On September 8th, Payson Lodge #2154 presented four lateral filing cabinets and one standard filing cabinet to the Payson Senior Center. Due to the size of the cabinets, we presented them with photos. We also gave them a check for \$1,547.32 for their Meals On Wheels program.

**Submitted by: Lu Anne Frost**

Pictured from l-r: Kelly Brooks, Director of Operations, Payson Senior Center, Kim Riley, ENF Chair, Dana Smith, Exalted Ruler, and Meals on Wheels Coordinator Julie Miller.

## *“Sedona Lodge #2291 Hosts Labor Day Barbecue”*

On September 4, 2023, the Sedona Elks Lodge #2291 held a Labor Day BBQ which included sliders and hot dogs and all the fixings. Live music was included by Javelina Highway featuring Bert Campbell (a member of our Lodge), Dale Caddell and Joey Cruz, all musicians from the popular local group Toucan Eddie. This group performed at our Memorial Day BBQ and was back by popular demand. Funds raised will be used to support our local charities.

**Submitted by: Julie Spector**



## *“Casa Grande Lodge #1957 Distributes U. S. Constitutions”*

In honor of Patriots Week, September 11th through September 17th, the Casa Grande Elks Americanism Committee distributed 1200 pocket U.S. Constitutions to Casa Grande Union, Vista Grande, Mission Heights and Santa Cruz High Schools for their freshmen.

A 2005 federal law requires all public and private schools that receive federal money to have an educational program on the U.S. Constitution on Sept 17th of each year. This requirement provided the perfect opportunity for the Elks Americanism Committees to help schools and students celebrate our heritage! Thanks to Robert Dodson, Dick Atkins and Grover Ramsey for delivering the booklets.

**Submitted by: Donna Johnson**

## ***"Fishing Derby at Prescott Lodge #330 a Huge Success"***



On August 31, 2023, The Prescott Elks Lodge held its First Annual Veterans Fishing Derby. It was a great success! The Fishing was good! Prizes were awarded for largest and smallest fish and youngest and oldest Veteran. Each Veteran that attended received a goody bag and special Elks pin commemorating the First Fishing Derby.

Many volunteer Elks members were there to help out. Jimmy John's restaurant donated 45 box lunches. US Vets provided coffee and the Lodge provided donuts and water along with all of the fishing supplies. Many thanks to Elks members and the community who donated both money and equipment for the Fishing Derby. Also thank you to Elks Lodge member Melissa Emery and Veterans Services Chairs Bill & Carole Dean, who created this first event with more to come.

Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr

## ***"Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 Supports 'We Honor Veterans' Program"***



The Elkettes of Lake Havasu City Elks Lodge #2399 donated \$500 to The Hospice of Havasu "We Honor Veterans" Program. It provides a small ceremony, certificate, pin, plaque and patriotic wrap for the Veterans in Hospice. The donated amount comes from pie sales at the Elks Lodge during the dinner hours.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

In Photo from left to right are Elkettes Karen Ford and Lisa Nutt with Community Outreach Director Michele Gardia.

## ***"Patriotism Week, Flag Retirement, and Special Olympics at Yuma Lodge #476"***



Exalted Ruler Mike Burnet of Yuma Lodge #476 receives a Proclamation from Deputy Mayor, Chris Morris of the City of Yuma, for "Patriotism Week".



Yuma Lodge 476 MIA/POW Ceremony held on September 15<sup>th</sup> with the Flag Retirement Ceremony.



Yuma Elks provide dinner for Yuma Special Olympics after their swim meet.



## *“Tucson Lodge #385 Recognizes First Responders”*



ER Curtis Winters on left end with PER/Trustee/ MC Jim Sanford (in white shirt red tie). Recipients names not listed as some work under cover.

The Tucson AZ Elks Lodge #385 held its annual Law Enforcement/Fire Fighters 1<sup>st</sup> Responders appreciation dinner/event on September 14, 2023. There were representatives from the Northwest Fire, Golder Fire, and Tucson Fire Fighter departments as well as Law Enforcement from Arizona Department of Public Safety, University of Arizona and Tucson AZ Police departments, their family members and many Elk members in attendance. Recipients received a recognition certificate and a \$50.00 gift card to Albertsons grocery store.

Submitted by: John Aceves

## *“Lake Havasu City Lodge Youth Activities Supports Local Swim Team”*

Youth Activities of Elks Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City donated \$300 to the Stingrays Swim Team.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured are Coach Rich and Coach Victoria, the Swim team, Youth Activities Chair and Elks PER Debbie Herd and Exalted Ruler Paulette Nainteau.



## *“Sun City Lodge #2559 Remembers Our POW/MIAs”*



Using an ENSVC FOCUS Grant, Sun City Elks #2559 Veteran's Service Committee hosted 35 Veterans on September 15 at the Lodge's POW/MIA Remembrance.

Veterans from Ashley's Place, US Vets as well as a twice purple heart recipient with his veteran escort were greeted by a reception line of Elk members clapping and cheering a welcome. The filled dining room rose as the veterans entered and honored them with clapping and cheering. Five tables of eight lined the dance floor – each table was hosted by an Elk veteran and/or

veterans committee member was and decorated with patriotic placemats and napkins, a yellow ribboned candle, and a vase with a single rose in honor of those POW/MIA who sacrificed to ensure the freedoms of the USA. Veterans Service committee members handled their every request for dinner, beverages, and dessert. The Missing Man table recognized the five branches of military service with traditional symbols and included a display of 385 names of Arizona Elks missing in action.

Submitted by: Vicky Way

## *“Catalina Mountain PERs Donate to Local School Nurses”*



On Thursday, August 24, 2023, the Past Exalted Rulers' Association at Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 donated \$400 worth of bottled water, snacks, and Liquid IV supplies to the Coronado K-8 School nurses office.

Submitted by: Jim Beregi

Pictured left to right are: PER Doug Harpold, Jessica Levy Caliva, Lea Hagin, and PER Gloria Cisneros.

## *“Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 ‘Boosts’ Local Booster Club”*

Elks Lodge # 2399 donated \$600 to Lake Havasu City High School Athletic Booster Club.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured are PER and Youth Activities Chair Debbie Herd, Judy Tassie, LHHS Booster Club President and Elks Exalted Ruler Paulette Nainteau.



## *“Phoenix Lodge #335 Hosts 9/11 Ceremony”*



Pictured are: Diane Bodwell, Irene Ploski, Eileen Austin, Antler, Col. Richard Minor, Antlers Sydney Swanson and Tyson Speak.

On September 10, 2023, one day before the 22nd anniversary of 9/11, Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 hosted the Military Order of the World Wars and the 58th Massing of the Colors. This ceremony has its origins back to General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. On the Sunday nearest to 9/11 each year, we remember and honor all those who lost their lives in the terrorist and cowardly attacks of 9/11 and the ongoing war on terror. Antlers President Sydney Swanson opened the ceremony, performing a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, with many of the Antlers carrying flags during the ceremony. Colonel Richard Minor, US Army Retired, was the Master of Ceremonies for the 38th time. This will be Colonel Minor's last time as MC, and we thank him for his service and wish him well. Thank you, Antlers, from the

Phoenix 335 family. The Advisory Committee Chair for the Antlers is Eileen Austin. For the 3rd year, a big thank you to Irene Ploski for coordinating this event. Also, a big thanks to the Betty Fairfax HS Color guard, which presented the Colors. May We Never Forget.

Submitted by: Linda Thompson



## *“Gilbert Lodge #2848 - Americanism in Our Community”*

In August the Gilbert Elks Lodge #2848 presented new American Flags to the Gilbert Historical Museum and the Gilbert Public Schools Administrative Office replacing their weathered flags. The Americanism Chair also presented a Certificate of Honor to Bill Luke Santan in appreciation for flying the US Flag. The museum and the dealership posted the events on their websites, and Gilbert Schools voiced their pledge of support for the work of their local lodge and appreciation for the food pantries fine work within the schools.

**Submitted by: Jodi Carboni**



Left to right: Jodi Anway Carboni, Lodge Activities Co-Chair; Denise Lopez, Gilbert Museum Pres/CEO; Mike Carboni, Americanism Chair and Alan Ignatowski, Museum Volunteer assisting in picture on right.

Left to right: Dr. Shane McCord, Superintendent of Gilbert Public Schools, Mike Carboni; Louis Smith, District Campus Building Manager

Left to right: Brian Whitaker, Mike Carboni, Brian Slack, and Bill Luke General Sales Manager.

## *“Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 Puts ENF Grants to Good Use”*



The Lake Havasu City Elks Lodge combined three grants - Spotlight, Beacon, and Gratitude - to give a \$9,000 donation to the after school program for scaled and free tuition and field trips.

**Submitted by: Eva Fox**

Pictured are: Grant Administrator, PER Debbie Herd, Program Directors Sarah Roos and Leslie Murray, and Exalted Ruler Paulette Naintau.

## *“Bullhead City Lodge #2408 Students of the Month”*

On Wednesday, September 13th, Bullhead City Elks Lodge #2408 Honored its Students of the Month.

**Submitted by: Debbie Cantril**





## “Veterans News”



### Information and Veterans News

Mary I Shaffer - Elks National Veterans Service

ED Chair - Tracy Cabell	714 587-1070
ND Chair - John Roush	719 313-0565 (New)
SD Chair - Linda Seggie	520 401-3990 WD
Chair - Chad Arruda	480 338-7814 (New)

Did you know? At the AEA Mid-Year Convention there will be a Veterans Seminar? It is scheduled for 1 PM in the Tempe Room. We hope to have all the District Chairs and some of the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (VAVS) Hospital and State Veteran Home Volunteers for you to meet. We will highlight ways to serve our veterans and resources available. We will have samples of Craft Kits that are available for any Veteran Committee Chair to order. We also have samples of leather gloves and plain leather that can be only be ordered by an VAVS. All Craft Kits, Leather Gloves and Leather are available through Grand Lodge.



### HEALING OF MEMORIES WORKSHOP FOR VETERANS & FIRST RESPONDERS

*A safe place for participants to explore personal histories and gain insight and empathy for themselves and others.*

This Institute for Healing of Memories workshop is a response to the emotional, psychological and spiritual wounds inflicted by war, human rights abuses and other life-changing traumatic circumstances. This life-changing workshop is proven to help participants learn ways to overcome anger, loss, grief and guilt. Not only is it a step on the journey to personal healing, but also it contributes to the healing of interpersonal relationships.

#### RAVES FOR HEALING OF MEMORIES

*"I was finally able to release myself from the personal prison I had put myself into."*

*"This workshop is the master key to my healing & good health of mind, body & spirit."*

*"This was not what I expected... but exactly what I needed!"*

#### WHEN

**November 17 - 19, 2023**  
Friday 6:00 pm - Sunday 2:00 pm

#### WHERE

**Spirit in the Desert**  
7415 E Elbow Bend, Carefree, AZ 85377

#### COST

**FREE to Veterans and First Responders**

#### REGISTER

**Call (651) 687-9767**  
**Mike Wold,**  
U.S. Navy vet & workshop coordinator

#### COVID PROTOCOLS WILL BE FOLLOWED ENSURING SAFETY FOR ALL



**Linda Rich** has been a HOM facilitator since 2012 and chairs the board of IHOM-NA. As a social worker she has worked in a wide range of addiction treatment, mental health and medical programs. She served in military hospitals with the America Red Cross in Vietnam and the US. She believes deeply in each person's capacity to heal and to help others heal the wounds of the past.



**Pamela Cornwell Chambers** has been involved with HOM since 2017 and a facilitator since 2019. As a licensed clinician, Pam has worked with programs involved in child welfare, behavioral health, prevention of child abuse, early childhood mental health, and transitional care for elderly. Traumatic experience has been a common theme throughout her work, helping others recognize the impact experience has had on their life. Pam has witnessed firsthand the relief and healing that starts by sharing your life story with compassionate others.





## “Grand Lodge News”

### ENF grants allow Lodges to boost their benevolence

October is the birth month of the greatest program of our Order: **The Elks National Foundation (ENF)**, known as the “Great Heart of Elkdom.”

Established in 1928, the Foundation helps build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet the needs in areas where Elks live and work. The best source for the most current information about the ENF is the Foundation’s website at [elks.org/enf](http://elks.org/enf). Spend some time there. You’ll be amazed by what the Foundation is doing.

I especially want to call your attention to the Foundation’s **Community Investments Program**. The Foundation has allocated nearly \$16 million for Lodge community service grants. This grant program allows your Lodge to complete more for your communities.



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

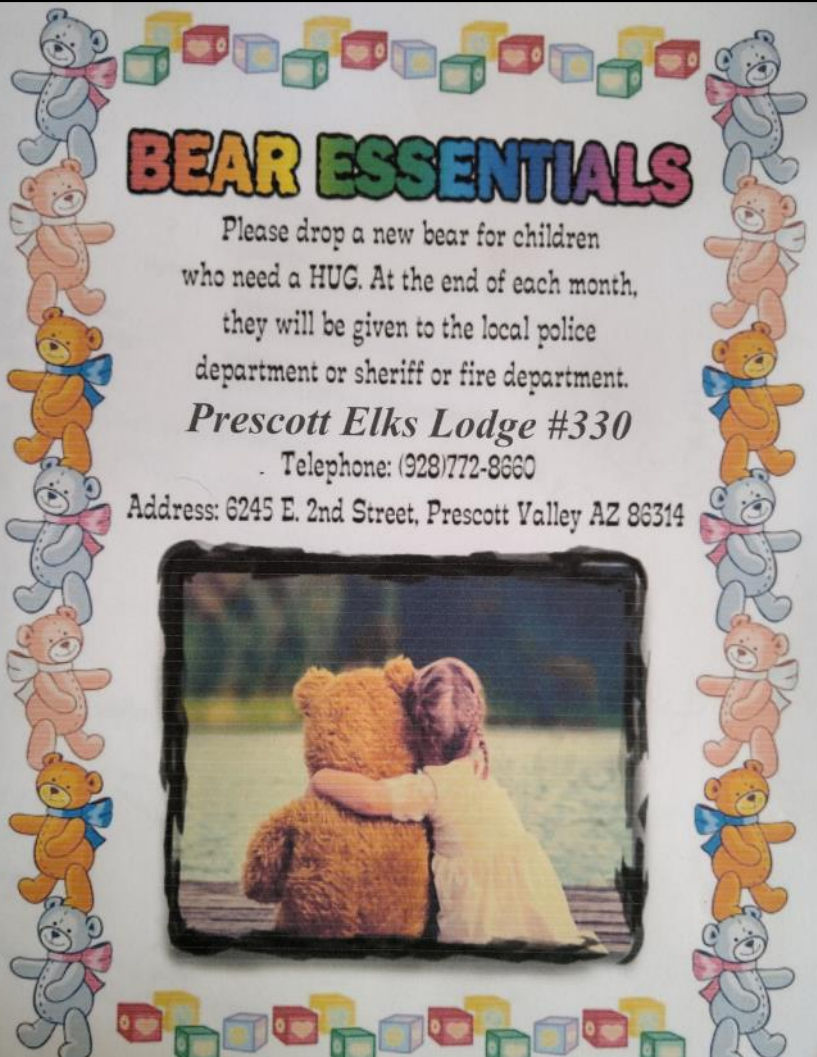
I urge all Lodges to take the time to educate yourselves about these grant programs. The Beacon, Gratitude, Spotlight, Impact, and Freedom Grants could be very helpful to your community. Each grant has a specific deadline to apply for funding. Find that need in your community and get it done with one of these grants. This will ensure people in your community know that **“We Are THE Elks.”** Other programs that ENF funds

include: Scholarships, youth activities, veterans service and remembrance, Elks Veterans Memorial maintenance, and much more. It is very important to let our Members know about the great work ENF does.

I challenge every Member of Elkdom to support the ENF. Be sure to tell new Members about all the incredible things the ENF makes possible on a local, state, and national level. The charitable, educational, and benevolent causes supported by the ENF are the most important financial contributions made by our Order and deserve the continued support of every Member.

**Red Ribbon Week** is the nation’s oldest and largest drug prevention program. Red Ribbon Week is celebrated


Please see GER, Page 3



## 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



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from October 23-31. There are many ways to celebrate. Have your local elected officials issue a proclamation, have your Members distribute red ribbons to schools, and encourage Members and friends to wear red ribbons.

The struggle to educate our youth about drugs and assist them in making informed decisions must be advanced at the community level. Our national, state, and Local Lodge Drug Awareness Programs encourage volunteers to **listen, educate, and mentor**, thereby letting our communities know that **“We Are THE Elks.”**

Finally, the Auditing and Accounting Committee should review Lodge books and report at the last meeting of the month.

October has the fall holidays of Columbus Day and Halloween. Trick or Treat. Please be safe.

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

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

