

Arizona Elks News

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

November 2023



"Thanks for Lending a Hand"

Brother and Sister Elks,

What would we do without our fantastic AEA Meetings Committee?? Surely this committee is one of our most underrated, underappreciated and hardest working committees of all. The 109th AEA Mid-Year Convention is over but the memories linger of a well-run, fun-filled, thought-provoking, emotion-tugging weekend. All was possible because of this committee led by Ed and Janet Leuer, who did so much to save the convention in Lee Schwein's absence. Another first aid award goes to Cheryl Gillespie who has assumed and administered the Secretary's position quite capably. Thank you to the Committee Chairs. Your reports were concise, thoughtful and informative. Please remember to transmit copies of your reports to the AEA Secretary. We also had some incredible breakout sessions on Veterans, the Grand Lodge Financial Reporting System and Public Relations/Membership (It's Greaaaaaaat to be an Elk). Thanks to all who supported the Spouses' Luncheon. I understand it was a great time. Congratulations to Brenda. I am so proud of her. Finally, to all of you, thanks for your support.



On an incredible note, the Exalted Rulers' March generated approximately \$90,000 in donations for the Arizona Elks Major Projects and the raffle for the Kawasaki side-by-side netted approximately \$30,000. Your generosity in donated funds and time makes operation of a pristine Youth Camp possible and help to make our \$500,000 annual commitment to the Steele Research Center a reality. Your response to Brenda's special project request resulted in stacks of new diapers and a box full of gift cards. Thanks for your generous response.

Now, back to business. As we enter the last months of our calendar year, it is time to reflect and cherish the many great things in our lives and thank God for His great gifts. Thanksgiving is a time of joy, a celebration of our abundances, and an opportunity to share and make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than we. I applaud the Arizona Lodges and their members who will make the sacrifice of the donation of food to those less-fortunate individuals and families. Thanks for Lending a Hand.

Many Lodges in the last weeks of October have already honored, or in the month of November will soon honor, a segment of our population that is neglected, underappreciated, and often, abused...our First Responders. As an Elk, Law and Order Night is my favorite event of the year. We do so much for our youth, for our communities, and for our charities that the opportunities are rare that we have the chance to say thank you...thank you to a segment of our population-our First Responders-who, like our Veterans, sacrifice their safety to ensure ours. If you have a chance to attend Law and Order Night at your Lodge, do so...it will not be your last. Let's let our First Responders know that, despite the generally cool public sentiment, there will always be warm support in the Elks.

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Next AEA Newsletter submission deadline:
19 November 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:

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"

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As long as there are veterans, we will never forget them. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has a long and rich history of supporting our veterans. It is something as small as wearing red on Friday to the donation of a hospital facility, the first in a long line of hospitals established and maintained by the Veterans Administration. On November 11, Veterans Day, we honor our veterans. Whether it be a sponsored shopping spree, a hosted dinner at the Lodge, or a bingo game at the Veterans Home, let's get out there and make life a little easier, a little more fun for those who gave so much to you and I. Remember that our service to them began when their service for us ended.

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. Brother Hersh has hit a little bump in the road health-wise and can surely use a prayer or two. In the meantime, we all are helping him out in the visitation process. 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.

Don't forget to supply evidence of our substantial and many accomplishments for publication to this AEA Newsletter, to the Grand Lodge Magazine, and to local news.

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

"Lake Havasu #2399 Helps Cadet Program"

At the Elks Lodge Law and Order Night, Exalted Ruler Paulette Nanteau presents Lake Havasu Police Chief Troy Stirling \$500 for their Police Cadet Program.

Submitted by: Eva Fox



"Chandler Lodge #2429—Ten Years in Dictionary Program"

This year marks the 10th anniversary of instituting the dictionary project at the Chandler Elks lodge. The goal of this program is to assist all students in becoming good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and resourceful learners by providing them with their own personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. Educators see third grade as the dividing line between learning to read and reading to learn. The Chandler Elks distributed Spanish to English dictionaries to five Chandler Elementary Schools: Galveston, Hartford, San Marcos, Bologna and Shumway Elementary schools. The Chandler Elks purposefully selected these schools that are in need of actual books since the students are less likely to have tablets or computers at home. A total of 384 dictionaries were distributed this year. Bringing our total over the last 10 years to 3819.

Submitted by Taleen Carpenter

“Yuma Lodge #476 Donates Flags for Burial or Cremation”



Exalted Ruler Mike Burnet presented a donation of 85 flags to Robert Vigil for a local mortuary for disposal. When approved by family members of the deceased, a flag is placed on the heart prior to cremation or burial.

Submitted by: Mike Burnett

“Pies From Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 to Community Food Bank”

From Pie sales at the Elks Lodge dinners, the Elkettes donated \$500 to the Havasu Community Health Foundations Food Bank.

In the photo from left to right are Elkette members Dottie Toppin, Pie Chair Lisa Nutt, with HCHF Food Banks Mike Lunderborg.

Submitted by: Eva Fox



“Prescott Lodge #330 Shows Northern Hospitality to VP-East”



Vice President-East JeRay Bellon and his Lady Nita are greeted by Officers of Prescott Lodge #330.

On Saturday, September 16, 2023 Prescott 330 had three events at the Lodge. The POW-MIA Memorial Service, AEA State Vice President visitation, and Hawaiian Luau.

The POW-MIA Service went extremely well and our guests JeRay Bellon and his Lady Nita were very impressed with our protocol and the events of the evening. We received very high scores for protocol. The Luau was great success. Everyone enjoyed their meal and the festivities.

A big thanks go to Loyal Knight Gerri Runge and Lecturing Knight Jim Guiles for putting on the event and the kitchen staff for the meal. And, of course, all who helped out as well as all who attended.

Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr

“Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 ‘Officer-of-the-Year’”

Exalted Ruler Paulette Nanteau presented the Officer of the Year award to Corporal Brent Skancke of the Lake Havasu City Police Department, along with Chief Troy Stirling.

Submitted by Eva Fox



“District Deputy Visit at Tucson Lodge #385”



On September 26, 2023, South District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Larry Hamel (center) visited Tucson Elks Lodge #385 with his Esquire Alex Arroyo (left), both from Wilcox AZ Lodge # 2131 Also pictured is Tucson Elks #385 ER Curtis Winters.

Submitted by John Aceves

“Bullhead City #2408 Distributes Dictionaries”

On Thursday, October 12th, and Friday, October 13th, Student Dictionaries Chair Cheri Horvath and PER Terri Frank distributed dictionaries to third-grade students at Topok, Black Mountain, and Yucca Elementary Schools.

Submitted by: Debbie Cantrill



“Soccer Shoot at Ajo Lodge #1576”



Some of the participants and Ajo Elks #1576 volunteers following the September Soccer Shoot.

Pictured from left to right: Carmen Alva, Kristano Alva, Kaden Clemente, JD Robles Jackson, Williford, PER James Antone, ER Diana Ahlm, Youth Activities Chair Bridget Rendon, Marlene Hinman, Ajo Recreation Center Supervisor for Pima Co Erik Ecker, DW Lesko, Nyah Flores, and Anabel Calles.

Submitted by: Marlene Hinman

“Prescott Lodge #330 Uses Spotlight Grant to Help Homeless Vets”

On September 15 & 16, 2023, the U.S. Vets held the 17th Annual Yavapai County Stand Down to benefit homeless veterans at their Liberty Pointe campus. The Stand Down offers homeless veterans a one-stop place to collect resources from U.S. VETS, the Prescott Va and other veteran advocates and non-profit agencies.

The Prescott Elks Lodge #330 participated in this event to contribute time and money to Veterans in need. Elks Lodge Veterans Services Chairs Carole and Bill Dean not only shopped for the clothing and toiletries donated but also delivered them and volunteered to man the registration booth. These loyal Elks members have donated so much of their time for Veterans they serve.

Ten boxes of clothing and toiletries were brought to the Stand Down, including T-shirts, underwear, razor blades, winter jackets, socks, sweatsuits, shirts, pants and hats through generous donations by our Elks members with a contribution from the Spotlight grant of \$300.



Veterans Services Chairs Bill and Carole Dean

Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr

“Students-of-the-Month Honored by Bullhead City Lodge #2408”



On Wednesday, October 11th, The Bullhead City Elks Lodge honored four students in its "Student of the Month" program. These students were voted "Student of the Month" by their fellow classmates.

Pictured left to right: Exalted Ruler Mike Swain, Students of the Month Sofia Escobar (Senior, MALC), Adam Martinez (Senior, MALC), and Student of the Month Coordinator Kathy Honse. Missing from the Ceremony were Edurdo Valderrams (Senior, Mohave High School) and Mi Hyun Choe (Senior, Mohave High School).

Submitted by: Debbie Cantrill

“Future Elk Recognized for Patriotism at Show Low Lodge #2090”

At a Show Low Elks Lodge meeting on August 30, Brenda Kinghorn, Treasurer of the VFW Auxiliary 2364, presented Kaezlie Holt a certificate of appreciation and photo for patriotism shown by the 4-year old at the August 23 Elks meeting. Kaezlie leads the Pledge of Allegiance at Show Low Lodge #2090 almost every Wednesday evening during its fundraiser night. Both of her parents are members of Show Lodge Lodge and Brenda Kinghorn is the spouse of a Show Low Elks Lodge member.

Submitted by: Renee Higgenbotham

Pictured left to right:
Exalted Ruler David Whitmore, Jr., Kaezlie Holt,
Brenda Kinghorn, and parents Mandy and Kevin Holt.



“Gold Star Riders Hosted by Flagstaff Lodge #499”



On Monday, September 18th, the Gold Star Riders arrived at the lodge on their annual journey across the country honoring Gold Star Families. On this trip they are honoring one family at the Veterans National Cemetery in Bellmont and one family here in Flagstaff. The families are presented with a Memorial Plaque of Distinguished Service to acknowledge their service members sacrifice and to remind each family their fallen service member has not been forgotten.

The Veteran's Committee hosted the 14 riders with a Steak dinner, they then camped for the night in our grand room and had breakfast hosted for them the following morning by our Flagstaff Elk Riders before continuing on their journey. The riders were very thankful for our Lodge's hospitality.

Submitted by: Kathleen Cothrun

“Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 Appreciates Response Team”

At the Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399 Law and Order Appreciation Night, Civilian Emergency Response Team (CERT) Team Leader Bob MacMillian received a certificate in appreciation for the team's dedication, commitment and service to the Lake Havasu City Community. They also were presented a check for \$500 from the Elks Lodge for their organization.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured left to right:
Exalted Ruler Paulette Nainteau,
CERT Team Leader Bob MacMillian,
and Fire Chief Pete Piafus.



“What's Happening at Tucson Lodge #385”



On September 13, 2023, the Lodge 2nd Wednesday Ladies Bunco night donated \$211.00 toward the Lodge #385 Clothe A Child Community Activities program.
Thank you, Bunco Ladies!



The "Three Amigos" making their famous chef salads (24 of them) for recent group meeting in the Lodge room. Trustee/PER Jim Sanford, PER Bob Holyoak and Trustee/BOD Director Wayne Burns.

“Bullhead City Lodge #2408 Participates in ‘National Night Out’”

Bullhead City Elks were well represented at National Night Out. Pictured from left to right are Scott Wheaton, Drug Awareness Chairperson Cassie Wheaton, Kathryn Cornelison, and Exalted Ruler Mike Swain.

Submitted by: Debbie Cantrill



“Search and Rescue Receives Plaque from Lake Havasu City #2399”

At Lake Havasu City Lodge # 2399’s Law and Order Night, Captain Mike Beets accepts a plaque for his team in recognition of the courageous efforts and life saving actions in assisting the Lake Havasu City Sheriff Department.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured left to right:
Exalted Ruler Paulette Nainteau,
Search and Rescue Captain Mike Beets,
and Sheriff Doug Shuster.



“Sun City Lodge #2559 Elks Riders Hold Elktoberfest for AEMP”



First Lady Laura Galchutt, Exalted Ruler Marty Galchutt, and Secretary Mary Cox

The Elks Riders of Sun City Lodge #2559 held their first annual Elktoberfest on September 29 to raise money for Arizona Elks Major Projects. A poker run with over 90 motorcycles was held and ended back at the Lodge for a lunch of burgers and bratwursts. There were prizes awarded for the best hand and worst hand of poker, and the best lederhosen competition was won by Exalted Ruler Marty Galchutt.

A 50/50 raffle was exciting with the winner donating 100% of the winnings back to AEMP! A silent basket auction was also held and raised over \$5,000 for AEMP.

The event was well attended with over 230 guests/members. We handed out over 40 Elk membership applications and we are hopeful that we will see some new membership to our lodge. Everyone danced the night away to rock and roll provided by local band Mojo Rats!

Submitted by: Vicki Way

“Annual Veterans Breakfast and Shopping Trip at Sedona #2291 ”

On Saturday, September 9, 2023, Sedona Lodge #2291 had the privilege of taking 12 Veterans to Black Bear Diner in Cottonwood, Arizona for breakfast. Each Veteran was able to order whatever he or she wanted and we were able to get to know each of them and hear stories about their service. It was a wonderful time and everyone enjoyed the breakfast and conversations. Once everyone was finished with breakfast, we headed over to the local Walmart. Each Veteran was then paired with a Sedona Elks sponsor and was allotted a little over \$200 each to spend. The Veterans and their Sedona Elks sponsors were briefed on what could be purchased and when they needed to return to the check out register. The Veterans selected food, clothing, tools, personal items and small appliances to make their lives and homes a little better. A great time was had by all and the Sedona Elks made these Veterans' lives a little more comfortable. It would not have been a success without the help of our Sedona Elks volunteers!



Submitted by: Rick Kimberly

“Tucson Lodge #385 Hosts Riders Honoring Fallen Soldiers”



On September 21, 2023, Tucson Arizona Elks Lodge #385 was honored to host the tribute to fallen Soldiers Memorial Torch Motorcycle Riders.

This group of Patriots are out of Eugene Oregon and for the past 14 years they have traveled across America Visiting Gold Star Families to honor their loved one lost in the defense of our Country. This was their first time in Arizona.

In addition to the traveling motorhome used by the group, which contains names of the soldiers lost on display, they tow a Lit torch on a special trailer that stays lit throughout their 22-day mission. Warren Williamson leads the group who comes from all over the country on motorcycles. The Tucson Elks Lodge #385 had a great dinner to celebrate with them and two Gold Star families who joined. There was a short ceremony when Lodge #385 accepted the lit torch for care and then returned it back to the group. It was a wonderful evening.

Submitted by: Richard Bernard

“Lake Havasu City #2399 Committees Team Up to Support Fair”

The Past Exalted Rulers, Elkettes, Drug Awareness, and Youth Activities committees created 1300 candy bags to be distributed during the Fall Fun Fair in Lake Havasu City.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured left to right:
Program Director Sarah Ross,
Youth Activities Chair Debbie Herd,
Program Director Leslie Murray,
and Exalted Ruler Paulette Naintau.



“Sun City Lodge #2559 Participates in G.A.I.N. Night”



Puppeteers – Trustee
Kurt Baker and First Lady
Laura Galchutt

The Sun City Elks Lodge #2559 participated in the annual City of Peoria's G.A.I.N. Night (Gathering Arizonans Involved in Neighborhoods) on Saturday, October 7th, 2023. The event is designed to bring all the Peoria, AZ community together promoting our safe and family friendly city. The Elks handed out Drug Awareness Literature. Elroy the Elk was present along with a puppet show on the dangers of smoking. The booth was also interactive by holding a cornhole game with prizes handed out. Exalted Ruler Marty Galchutt and his lady, Laura, generously donated a bicycle to be raffled.

Submitted by: Vicki Way

“Prescott Lodge #330 Teddy Bear Program Continues”

During the month of September, the community and Elks members donated 81 teddy bears for donations to first responders to distribute to children in need!

On September 30th, 2023 Elks member Millisa Emery distributed bears to Central Arizona Fire Station 53, Yavapai Casa for Kids, and the Yavapai Sheriff's Department (not pictured).

The mission for Yavapai Casa for Kids Foundation is to enrich the lives of current and former foster youth and support the Casa Program.

Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr



“Sedona Lodge #2291 Sock Hop for AEMP”



On Saturday, September 30, 2023, the Sedona Elks Lodge #2291 hosted a 1950's Sock Hop to honor our State President, Al Kayal, and his wife Brenda. We partied in 1950's fashion, serving burgers, fries, onion rings, root beer floats and ice cream sundaes. Music was provided by DJ Sound Events. The proceeds from this event were donated to Arizona Elks Major Projects, which are the Steele Children's Research Hospital in Tucson and the Jack Warter Youth Camp in Northern Arizona. A fun time was had by all!

Submitted by: Julie Spector

Pictured: AEA President Al Kayal and
First Lady Brenda, with Rick and Linda Kimberly.

“Phoenix Lodge #335 Exceeds Blood Drive Goal”

The Phoenix BPOE Lodge 335's October blood drive was a tremendous success. The Red Cross initially aimed for 25 units; thanks to our members' generosity, we surpassed that goal with a total of 30 units collected during our successful blood drive. We had a full roster of donors and even welcomed some walk-in donors from our Lodge. Esteemed Lecturing Knight Becky Simons (pictured) continues to coordinate this life-saving and life-changing event.

Submitted by: Linda Thompson



“Flagstaff Lodge #499 Donates Toward Historic Cabin Repair ”

Our very own Elks Lodge #499 has generously donated monies to repair the historic Veit Cabin next to Frances Short Pond. Lodge members Jim David and John Roberts organized a work day on October 7th. We were joined by Flagstaff's Scout troops and the Willow Bend Environmental Education Center.

Both the Frances Short Pond and the historic Veit Cabin would not exist where they are today if it weren't for the hard work of our fellow Elk - Jim David. Both the cabin and the pond combine to make an outdoor environmental classroom, a classroom that the nearby schools and the entire community enjoy with educational signs, public fishing, and the cabin serving as the auxiliary meeting room for groups to enjoy.

Submitted by: Kathleen Cothrun



Pictured left to right: Scout Leader Scott Boynton, Todd Lindquist; Scott Rogers, David Cornet; Charlie Lindquist; Wesley DeGraff; Garrett Degraff; Tommy Lindquist, Justin Scionti, and Sutton Boynton

“Gilbert Lodge #2848 ‘Kicks Off’ Soccer Shoot”



Gilbert Elks Exalted Ruler presented certificates and awards to all the winners and contestants.

Bright and early on September 30, 2023, seventeen school aged participants headed to the pitch (field) at Campo Verde High School to test their skill shooting soccer balls. Parents and family members cheered on their kickers while the judges and scorekeepers tracked points. Mike Carboni, the organizer for the shoot, would like to thank:

- ~ Adam Crang at Gilbert Youth Athletics for coordinating the event.
- ~ James and Megan Lefebvre of D1 Training for providing liquid refreshments, managing sign in, tallying scores, assistance with awards and everything in between; and all of the volunteers.
- ~ Judges - Don Sahadi and Larry Morrison.
- ~ Scorekeepers – Cara Dusek and Jodi Carboni.
- ~ Registration, Award Coordination, and handing out American lag pins. – Rokki Leonard (Kudos for coffee and donuts!), Virginia Morrison (Applause for photography!), working alongside D1 Training!

All pictures of minors are used with signed permission from parents or legal guardians.

Submitted by Jodi Carboni

“Soccer Shoot at Casa Grande Valley Lodge #1957”

Casa Grande Valley Elks held their free Soccer Shoot on Saturday, October 14 at the Cactus Middle School. Pictured are the winners of the divisions which will advance to the district shoot to be held October 28. Thanks to all the volunteers, parents, and students who participated in this event!

Submitted by: Donna Johnson

Left to right: Exalted Ruler Kary Kerr, Nicholas Schreiber (U-8 boys), Savanna Schreiber (U-10 girls), Violet Goldberg (U-12), and Soccer Shoot Chair Chris Repass. Not pictured is Zaeda DeWolf (U-14 girls) winner.



“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)

Our Veterans Seminar at the AEA Mid-Year Convention was a huge success. Thank you to my District Chairs without whom this Seminar could not have been held. If you were unable to attend and have not yet receive your blue bag of information and a couple of craft kits don't worry. We will be contacting your Lodge Veterans Chair and making arrangements for delivery.

The Holiday season is fast approaching and now is the time to remember our Active-Duty Military and Veterans. Visit with a veteran in a VA Hospital or State Veteran Home. Drop off some Holiday goodies or buy a gift.

For our Active Duty Service Members, hold a card drive at your Lodge and mail them to: [Operation Christmas Cards For Our Troops](#). Beginning in early September, Operation Christmas Cards for Our Troops allows anyone who wishes to send cards to American service members to do so by submitting them by mail before December 5, 2022. You can send the Christmas cards to 714 Farmington Road West - Accokeek, Maryland 20607 as mentioned on USASOA's website. For security reasons, the USASOA requests that all cards are submitted without envelopes, bundled within a larger envelope or box labeled with a name and return address. Cards can range from store bought greeting cards with a handwritten positive message to handmade cards with holiday cheer for the soldiers. From there, USASOA staff and volunteers will then sort the cards and send them around the world to our deployed troops so that they reach them by Christmas Day. The USASOA stresses that letters mailed to them individually will not be mailed out and any cards meant for the troops must be bundled together without envelopes.

Another option is: [Military Missions, Inc.](#) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to deliver care packages and thank-you letters to U.S. soldiers deployed around the world. Each care package contains between 10 and 15 thank-you cards or letters, making them one of the most critical and in-demand pieces of the package. While cards are accepted year-round (writers are encouraged not to date their letters as they'll be sent throughout the year), **Holiday cards and letters are also accepted in the months of October, November and December. Military Missions reminds writers not to include envelopes or stamps and offers some tips for what to include in thank-you letters: words of encouragement, positive messages, informal talk about yourself and recent events. It is also suggested that writers avoid talking about politics or religion. Make sure your cards or letters for soldiers overseas do not contain glitter, as it can cause problems for the soldier receiving it. Letters should be addressed and mailed to Military Missions Inc., 3650 Boston Rd., Suite 138, Lexington, KY 40514, or dropped off there in person. To learn more about Military Missions, Inc.'s program, [check out their website](#).**

Short History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

“Grand Lodge News”

Elks remain committed to serving veterans in need

November brings to mind a couple of very special days. On November 11, Veterans Day, we honor our veterans, past and present. There are so many ways to say **thank you** to our nation's veterans. Hosting dinners in our Local Lodges, sending care packages, and participating in events at Veterans Administration hospitals are just a few ways.

The Elks are committed to their mission *“So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.”* The Elks National Veterans Service Commission takes that pledge one step further and promises to render aid to our nation's veterans and military members with a special focus on those in need. The ENVSC empowers local communities by giving them the resources to directly serve



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

veterans, military members, and their families.

The ENVSC supports a vast network of Voluntary Service Representatives, providing local outreach support to our veterans in need all over the country. This network is only successful because of the hard work performed by individual Lodge Members.

In 1946, the Commission formalized a commitment that was evident since

the earliest days of Elkdom to serving veterans. Though much has changed since then, the Elks' dedication to serve veterans and military members in need has never wavered. In VA Clinics, veterans' homes, USOs, homeless shelters, and elsewhere, thousands of Elks volunteers generously give their time, energy, and resources to serve veterans and military members each year. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, who are reminding our communities, ***“We Are THE Elks.”***

November 23 is Thanksgiving, a day for us to thank God for all the blessings that have been bestowed on each of us, our family, our friends, our Order, and our great country. It is also a day we ask for the blessings of God to guide

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**Arizona Elks Association
Annual Meeting
May 9-11, 2024**

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us and show us ways to help those who are less fortunate so we may make their life better, proving ***“Elks Care — Elks Share.”*** Happy Thanksgiving.

Remember: ***“We Are THE Elks.”***

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

“Casa Grande Valley #1957 Enlists Patriots for Bill of Rights Program”



James Monroe and Dolly Madison
(a.k.a) Dick Atkins and Roxanna Phillips

The Casa Grande Elks are visiting the Casa Grande schools to distribute Bill of Rights booklets as well as increase the personal understanding of how the Bill of Rights affect them as citizens. Each student receives a name plate on their desk with a Congressional attendee's name on the tag. They are also supplied with a piece of parchment and a quill pen to take notes during the presentation.

Dick Atkins (AKA James Monroe) explains what the bill of rights are and goes over each of the ten amendments as Dolly Madison (aka Roxanna Phillips) writes them on the board. Elk members Dick and Roxanne also inform the students of the Americanism essay contest which is themed ***“What the Bill of Rights means to me?”*** Students are invited to enter the contest. Fifth through eighth grade students are eligible to enter the contest.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson

“Arizona Red Vest Order Form”

Arizona Elks Red Vest Order Form



Flashover Graphics

2425 Hualapai Mtn Rd Ste C Kingman, AZ 86401

928-718-6892

info@flashovergraphicsaz.com

Name:

Address:

Phone: Email:

Red Vest Bottom Pockets	S	M	L	XL	2XL	\$ 36.00	
Red Vest Bottom Pockets	3XL	4XL	5XL			\$ 40.00	
Name on Left Chest:						included	
Title/Lodge# on Right Chest:						included	

Red Vest Bottom Pockets	S	M	L	XL	2XL	\$ 36.00	
Red Vest Bottom Pockets	3XL	4XL	5XL			\$ 40.00	
Name on Left Chest:						included	
Title/Lodge# on Right Chest:						included	

Please Mark Delivery

Pick up - Jerry Grimes	Free	
Ship to Customer - USPS Priority Mail	\$ 14.00	

Payment

Cash	\$ <input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>	Make Checks Payable to: Flashover Graphics	
Check	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> /CK# <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>		
Credit Card#	<input style="width: 250px;" type="text"/>	Exp Date	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
CC Total	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	Signature	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 20px; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: -10px; left: 50%; transform: translateX(-50%); font-size: 8px;">SIGN HERE</div> </div>

“Grand Lodge Convention HOTEL Reservation Form”

Austin Texas Grand Lodge Convention HOTEL Reservation

“Everything is Awesome In Austin”

June 30, - July 3, 2024

Return This Form To Jerry Grimes By March 1, 2024

Please Print Legibly

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address: Please PRINT CLEARLY _____

Spouse / Significant Other Name _____

Number of Persons: _____ Room: King Bed _____ Two Double _____

Special Requirements: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date _____ Flying _____ Driving _____

Lodge Name _____ Lodge # _____ 2024 – 2025 Year Position _____

This is a Non-Smoking Hotel

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**Rooms Are limited.** Reservations will be on a first-come basis. Send reservation early.  
*All Rooms Require a Deposit - First Night's Stay \$158.00*

1. Room Deposit \$158.00 (includes tax) – Required \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. New Arizona Individual Trading Pin \$ 3.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Arizona Hospitality Room – (\$100.00) - Per Lodge - Exalted Ruler \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

**Arizona Elks Association**

Mail to: Jerry Grimes  
3397 Monte Moro Street  
Kingman, Arizona 86401  
928+692-5633 (H)  
nukid50@gmail.com

**Note:** You will not receive confirmation from the hotel. I will receive.  
a master list of confirmation numbers. Be assured if you send me  
your registration form by DEADLINE DATE (3/1/24) you will  
have a room reservation.

**Office Use Only - Please Leave  
Blank**

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Check # / Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Balance Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitality Room \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL FOR YOUR CONFIRMATION NUMBER**  
**ANY/ALL cancellations or changes in reservation MUST go through Housing Chairman**