

Arizona Elks News

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

August 2024



“Spreading the Joy”

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AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
24 AUG. 2024



Have I got great news for every one of you! In recognition of the Arizona Elks charitable activities, Lori Stratton and Lori Castro, from the Steele Memorial Children's Research Center, nominated US for the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Southern Arizona Chapter Outstanding Foundation of the Year. They collected letters from Arizona Department of Veterans Services describing the many things the Elks do for the veterans; Amphitheater High School and Tucson 385's Bike-in-a-Box; Impact of Southern Arizona Extoling Catalina Mountain 2815's support of the Food Bank; the Gonzales Family writing about how the Hoop Shoot Program is so important to their daughter Gabriella; Vitalant Blood Donation counting how many pints of blood were given for people throughout Arizona; and Special Olympics totaling contributions from 2008 to \$50,000.



One area not included, but should have, would be the many children's organizations impacted by the Jack C. Warter Youth Camp in Young. The kids are given the opportunity to unplug and experience a part of Arizona, city life cannot provide. I remember going to 6th Grade Camp to this day. Hikes, crafts, chores, talks, meeting new people who were important at that time. Smelling pine trees bring back those memories. The Youth Camp continues to do this for our future Elks. These children will always remember sleeping in a cabin and eating smores while sitting in front of a fire. And they will remember we made that possible for them.

These letters were in addition to what we Elks already do to help with pediatric research (three endowed funds supporting physician-scientists; renovating space for education; providing students with white lab coats and scrubs; funding the confocal microscope; assisting in creating a lab for pediatric transplantation research; and helping with premature infant outcome).

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**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION 2024-2025
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Sue Krausman

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

North: Larry Carver

VICE PRESIDENTS

South: Rocky Davis

East: Steve Like

West: Ron Wilson

SECRETARY:

David Dean

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

South -1 Year:

Joseph H Riley, Jr. PSP

South – 2 Year:

Richard Botkin, PSP

East – 3 Year:

Michael Weishan, PSP

North -4 Year:

James R. Casacchia, PSP

West– 5 Year:

Al Kayal, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Shawnee Carlile

CHAPLAIN:

Giorgio Phillips

TILER:

Casey Hackett

INNER GUARD:

Anna Mineer

ASST. SECRETARY:

Gary Parsons

ASST TREASURER:

Angela Buso

ORGANIST:

Ira Cohen

“Spreading the Joy”

Continued from Page 1

These things are a result of the money you give each year. We cannot forget the many items donated for the Steele pediatric patients. So many of YOU sat and crocheted or sewed blankets, cloths, and caps. Let’s not forget all the time Tom and Judy Miller took to organize and deliver books and toys during and after conventions. Now we have another project headed by Diane Skorupski and her minions at Catalina Mountain 2815. Many Lodges are sending jewelry to her for sorting, cleaning, and boxing so these children can present their mothers, Grandmothers, and aunties with a gift on Mother’s Day and Christmas. The Steele Memorial Children’s Research Center is only part of our Major Projects, but what a part!

As our friends become our fellow Elks, let them know about our many charitable programs. Encourage adding a contribution to our Major Projects and Elks National Foundation when paying our annual dues. Then get them involved in the Children’s Shopping Spree, veteran visitations, blood drives, food bank collections, Hoop and Soccer Shoots, camp cleanups, I can go on with our projects. This is why we are the Southern Arizona Outstanding Foundation.
GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

If you have not heard yet, our Membership Chairman Giorgio “George” Phillips out of Mesa-Buckhorn has been working with the Phoenix Rising Soccer Team. Giorgio worked very hard to get the Arizona Elks publicity on the jumbotron during the August 24, 2024, game against North Carolina. To be on the jumbotron, Elks need to attend. We should all wear our Elks shirts and make noise. Contact Giorgio and buy tickets for \$25. This type of publicity is always good. **GO ELKS!**

Do you like the Arizona Cardinals? How about the Washington Commanders? The First Gentleman was born in Washington, DC and has a lifelong commitment to cheering for the Washington football team. We are excited Giorgio also contacted the Arizona Cardinals office regarding tickets for Elks. If we have a certain number of Elks buying tickets for the September 30 game, we will be mentioned on their jumbotron too. Tucson East 2532 is renting a bus for about 50 people. How many are coming from your Lodge? It is always fun to be loud and proud when we are mentioned. Of course, we need a lot of Elks attending to get noisy.

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“Spreading the Joy ”

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Membership is so important to our Order. Giorgio brought back videos and material to use in the Districts and Lodges. He spent time going to the various seminars to gather as much information as he could. Now this information is in the hands of the District Vice Chairmen, on its way to the Lodges. Use all the tools to go out into your community, meet new people, and invite them to become an Elk. Just think how many more charitable projects we could do for our State if we had more members. I know we are shy, but it is always a wonderful feeling to have someone say thank you for help given without strings.

On a final note, if you see Jerry Ingram, PDDGER from Chandler Lodge, thank him for his hard work to get the Arizona Elks third in the Order in Membership. It was a great joy to watch him get his award in Austin.

Fraternally,

Sue Krausman, President Arizona Elks Association



Community • Friendship • Charity

join.elks.org



“Flagstaff Elks #499”

PLEASE READ!!! YOU JUST MIGHT SAVE A LIFE!!! LIVING LIVER DONOR NEEDED ASAP!

Our beloved Flagstaff 499 Sister Elk & bartender, Roxanne, is in need of a liver transplant to potentially give her a chance at living out her dream of a long and happy life with her husband Lloyd (our wonderful chef) and their families. What you might not know is that the liver is the only organ in the body that can regenerate itself, so that a donor liver can come from a living donor, who will regrow the donated portion (roughly 50-60% by mass) in a month or two.

Similarly, the recipient, whose diseased liver is completely removed and replaced with the donated portion, grows a new, healthy liver. While not without some possibility of risk to the donor or recipient, living liver donation is well established and usually very successful.

Every patient waiting for a donated liver goes on a list, but presently there is NO list of potential donors! Due to the nature of the living transplant process, a potential donor can direct their donation to an individual patient in need (Directed Donation) thus allowing that patient to go to the top of the list. It is an unfortunate fact that many patients on the list die before they get a new liver, but given the fact that there are potentially millions of living donors, this is something we can perhaps prevent in the future.

From the Mayo Clinic liver donation site:

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/living-donor-liver-transplant/pyc-20384846>

"The number of people waiting for a liver transplant greatly exceeds the number of available livers from deceased donors. Living-donor liver transplant offers an alternative to waiting for a deceased-donor liver. Having a living donor also allows the recipient to avoid some possible health complications while waiting for a transplant. People who have a living-donor liver transplant seem to have fewer medical problems after the procedure than those who receive a liver from a deceased donor. A liver from a living donor also has a longer survival rate. Most living liver donors are close family members or friends of the liver transplant candidate. However, some people choose not to direct their donation, so it helps someone they don't know."

"To be considered for a living-donor liver transplant, both the donor and recipient must undergo a thorough health and psychological evaluation at a transplant center. Separate transplant teams will care for the donor and recipient during the evaluation process and will discuss the potential benefits and risks of the procedure in detail. Matching of living-donor livers with recipients is based on age, blood type, organ size and other factors."

Basically, potential donors must match blood type with the recipient, be between 18-60 years of age and be in good physical and mental health. For Roxanne, she needs a donor with Type O blood (Rh + or - is not a factor).

If you or someone you know meets the basic qualifications and is interested in knowing more, please contact ER Dave Pulley or myself. We will have a direct medical contact with Roxanne's transplant team soon and will put you in touch with the doctors who can give more information.

Even if you don't match Roxanne's blood type, you can see there is a dire need for living donors, so if that interests you, please fill out the Mayo Clinic Donor Evaluation form at <https://mayoaz.donorscreen.org/register/now>

There can be no greater gift than sharing fully of oneself to save the life of another. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Bruce Baldwin, Trustee Chair 928-607-3415, bpoe499trustees@gmail.com

Dave Pulley, ER (928) 220-1361 dave@intermountainaz.com

“Flagstaff Elks #499 Celebrates 125 Years”

On July 6th , 2024 the Flagstaff Lodge held a party for members and guests to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Lodge #499 in Flagstaff, AZ. In attendance were 175 members, their families and guests. Since the party was so close to the 4th of July the lodge was decorated in traditional Red, White and Blue banners, balloons and table settings. Even dessert was red, white and blue cupcakes arranged like the American flag.

The buffet tables were loaded with pulled pork, hot dogs, hamburgers and all the sides to go with them. A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers who spent hours getting ready for the event.

Much fun was had by all with a corn hole tournament, horseshoes, games and raffles for fun prizes. Later in the evening the Karaoke machine came out for more amusing fun. Every one in attendance seemed to have a great time socializing together. ER Dave Pulley and Trustee Bruce Baldwin should be thanked for pulling a committee together to make this wonderful celebratory event happen.

*Submitted by:
Kathleen Cothrun*

District Chair North News

“Ajo Elks #2007 New Riders 1st Event”

The newly formed Ajo Elks Riders participated in the annual Ajo Fourth of July parade for the first time.



*Submitted by:
Marlene Hinman*

“Casa Grande Valley Elks #1957 Celebrate Flag Day”

Boy Scout Troops 948 and 919 assisted the Casa Grande Elks with their Flag Day Ceremony held on June 14. The Elks honor the flag each year during a special program describing the evolution of the American flag. The Father's Day Ritual was also held this day with a free BBQ lunch for Elk dads!



Submitted by: Donna Johnson, Secretary

“Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Elkettes Surprise a Pet Sanctuary”

The Elkettes of Elks Lodge # 2399 in Lake Havasu City donated \$500 to R&R Pet Sanctuary, an in-home sanctuary for elderly and special needs pets. Their mission is to provide a loving and comfortable home environment for animals that are less likely to be adopted due to their age or needs.

In the photo from left to right are Elkette Pie Chair Lisa Nutt, R&R Founders Richard and Rachel Crayne with Elkette Melinda O'Bradovith.

Funds donated came from Pie sales during dinner hour at the Elks lodge. The Elkettes donate to a local 501 (c) 3 each month.

Submitted By;

Eva Fox



Casa Grande Elks Riders

909 E. Florence Blvd Casa Grande, AZ 85122

POKER RUN

SEPTEMBER 21st 2024

Singles \$25 Doubles \$30 REGISTRATION 9-10 AM



LIVE BAND

MEAL \$7.00
FOR THOSE NOT RIDING IN THE POKER RUN
Join Us At
AFTER Party
4PM to 8PM

TO BENEFIT

FIRST RESPONDERS

Raffle Baskets
Live Auctions
50/50 Raffle

FULL ROUTE TBD
Start : CG Elks Lodge
Stop: CG Elks Lodge



CHANDLER ELKS # 2429

BENEFITS AZ ELKS MAJOR PROJECTS!



GOLF TOURNAMENT 2024
TWO PERSON SCRAMBLE
OAKWOOD GOLF COURSE
24218 S. OAKWOOD BLVD, SUN LAKES AZ 85248
[HTTP://CHARITYGOLFTODAY.COM/CHANDLERELKS](http://charitygolftoday.com/chandlerelks)

SEPTEMBER 21

OPEN TO ALL ELKS & PUBLIC
REGISTRATION 7:00AM
SHOTGUN START 8:00AM
BLIND DRAW FOR 1ST, 2ND, 3RD



\$100 PER PLAYER
(INCLUDES GREENS FEES & GOLF CART)

LUNCH INCLUDED @ CHANDLER ELKS LODGE 1775 W CHANDLER BLVD, CHANDLER

BRANDON/KAREN
313-706-0063
602-638-9335

ALSO SPECIAL CONTEST HOLES, AND RAFFLES.

“Sun City Elks #2559 Support Az State Veteran’s Home”

Elks National Service Commission’s pledge is “So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks will never forget them”. Undaunted by July’s three-digit temperatures, the Sun City Elks faithfully observed this commitment when they loaded up SUVs with coolers and cartons to travel downtown to the Arizona State Veterans Home (ASVH). Hosting an “Ice Cream Social” and joining in on a water transfer tattoo activity, the Elks created a fun morning among the residents. With Lodge member donations, and purchases made from an Elks Natl. awarded \$1,000 grant, boxes of supplies were delivered for ASVH’s “Wish List”. There were electronics, weighted blankets and bedding, new clothing, and Lego sets. The latter for improving fine motor skills and encouraging socialization. Volunteers are an important part of the Arizona State Veteran Homes. Individuals and organizations visiting the homes create a thriving hub of activity and social exchange with the veteran residents. Sun City’s Elk Veteran Service Committee members feel privileged to be a community partner to ASVH. Having an opportunity to positively impact veterans’ well-being and express gratitude for their sacrifices for our Country.

Submitted By; Ellie Jenkins, Chairperson Veteran Services

Pictured in photo on Left
Eldora Engebretson,
(AZ Veteran Hall of Fame Inductee),
and Ellie Jenkins
Pictured in photo on Right:
Eldora Engebretson,
Christian Griggs-ASVH
Recreational Therapist,
Ellie Jenkins, Gerry Berger,
Jennifer Huff and
David Courtney



Community • Friendship • Charity

ELKS

Break Barriers

LET'S SOAR
WITH 4 IN
2024!

Invite community leaders to join!

join.elks.org

“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

SD Chair - Linda Seggie.....520 401-3990

ENVSC Welcome Home Kit Guidelines (We are encouraging all Arizona Lodges to try to do at least one kit this year)

Many veterans moving from the street or a shelter enter their new homes with nothing. Elks can help by providing Welcome Home Kits of needed supplies to help these veterans establish their homes.

There is no single reason why a veteran is homeless. In addition to the complex set of factors influencing all homelessness – shortage of affordable housing, unemployment or job insecurity, health or family emergencies – a large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, which are compounded by a lack of family and social support networks.

Welcome Home Kit Overview

A kit is made up of an array of home supplies provided to a veteran moving into a new home, to help them with day-to-day living.

Generally, a kit will include kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, and cleaning supplies, items like bedding, dishes, pots, pans, towels, toiletries, cleaning supplies, laundry baskets & detergent, etc. **However, a kit may not include just one or two items.** Lodges are encouraged to work with individual veterans to coordinate kit supplies. For example, some veterans may prefer a coffee maker to a crockpot, or a toaster oven to a microwave.

If you would like to meet veterans' needs for larger items like refrigerators and furniture, or to serve a veteran who is not exiting homelessness, consider grant funding and local support.

Kits should be well-rounded and contain a variety of supplies; receipts for \$400 worth of several of the same item will not be accepted, even if requested by the VA, as this is not a kit.

All Lodges are eligible to participate in this program! There is currently no limit to the number of kits your Lodge can put together. It's all based on local needs and volunteer capacity.

Budgets

The ENVSC will reimburse up to \$400 per kit and up to \$600 per kit if that kit includes a bed. Here are a few more financial guidelines.

- We ask that beds not comprise more than \$400 of a single kit. Please contact us if this is a problem.
- Gift cards may not comprise more than \$25 of any kit. Please do your best to buy supplies to help ease the veteran's transition.
- Food may not comprise more than \$50 of any kit. Electronics should not comprise more than \$80 a kit. Please contact us if you have special circumstances.
- Items (such as furniture, appliances, pots/pans) may be used or donated if they are in good condition.
- Lodges will not be reimbursed for the value of donated items.
- Lodges will only be reimbursed for items with receipts.
- Lodges should submit receipts for reimbursement no later than 3 months from the time of purchase.

Application Process

Your Lodge submits a Welcome Home Kit reimbursement form at www.elks.org/vets and includes full receipts. Our office will then review and approve the application and send your Lodge a reimbursement check (dependent on eligible receipts). Checks are made out to the Lodge. Forms must follow all program guidelines. Expect follow-up for applications that do not provide enough information.

For the complete guidelines, visit elks.org/vets or contact the ENVSC Office at vets@elks.org or 773.755.4736

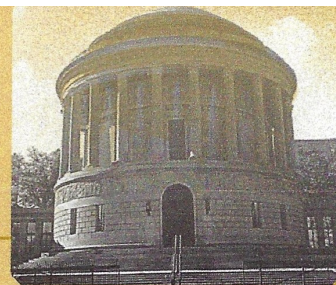


“Grand Lodge News”



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

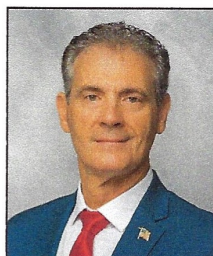
Elks Care – Elks Share



Community projects show Elkdom’s Heart for America

What an unbelievable opportunity to serve our great Order! I need to first thank my wonderful wife, Julia. Without her love, support, and commitment this experience would not be possible. We both are so grateful to have been chosen to take this amazing journey. We have been so blessed by the support of our family, friends, and our Elks family. We are so thankful for everything you do.

My theme this year is “*Elkdom’s Heart for America.*” It means recognizing all the honorable and charitable things Elks strive for and want to accomplish in their quest to make their communities and America a better place. I chose this theme because it exemplifies what our founding Members learned when they came to the aid of a fellow Elk’s widow 156 years ago. It was that spirit that changed the local social club into the amazing organization it is today by demonstrating charity



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

DOUGLAS A. SCHIEFER

and brotherly love.

As we travel the country, Julia and I will be promoting our Elks programs administered by our Grand Lodge Committees to make our Lodges stronger and improve our image throughout our great Order. We will be promoting local community service projects. Here’s an opportunity to engage with your schools, help children who need it by providing critical school supplies, and lay the groundwork for other Elks youth programs. These programs can 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 create and develop local projects that can become signature accomplishments in the eyes of their 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 see an increase in membership. It will not be just temporary gains, but a new time of growth where participation becomes commonplace.

A great source of funding community projects is the Elks National Foundation, known as the “*Great Heart of Elkdom.*” For 2024-25, the ENF

Please see GER, Page 2



Pictured:
Grand Exalted Ruler: Douglas A. Schiefer and the 1st Lady Julia Schiefer

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allotted \$16.3 million to the CIP to help build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet the needs in areas where we live and work. The support we provide makes the Foundation’s work possible. The goal established for 2024-25 is \$5.00 per Member. Here’s an idea for this week: Visit elks.org, go to the Fraternal Committee page, and print off a copy of the “Patriotism Week Proclamation.” Have your mayor sign it to proclaim September 9-15, 2024, as National Patriotism Week in your town. Then, use this opportunity to encourage new Members to join our great Order. Remember “*Elks Care – Elks Share*” by showing “*Elkdom’s Heart for America.*” God bless you all, God bless our troops, and God bless America!

"Meet the New Grand Exalted Ruler"

BIOGRAPHY OF DOUGLAS A. SCHIEFER GRAND EXALTED RULER 2024-2025

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A.

Douglas Allen Schiefer was born in Bucyrus, Ohio, on February 14th, "*Valentine baby*" to Richard A. Schiefer and Alice A. (Acton) Schiefer. Doug was the middle son of three brothers, David, the eldest and Robert, the youngest. Doug attended elementary, middle, and high school in Bucyrus, graduating in 1976 as a three sport athlete (*football, basketball and track*). During the fall of Doug's senior year in high school, the family and community suffered the devastating and tragic loss of Robert's life-ending heart attack during a high school gym class.

In June of 1975, Doug met his future wife, Julia Sponseller, a California girl new from a local high school. Doug married his high school sweetheart Julia on September 11, 1976. Doug and Julia value their faith, family and community. Having been blessed with an amazing family, they have passed that legacy onto their three children: Heather, Lesley and Robert; sons-in-law, Erik and Joel, and four wonderful grandchildren: Ethan, Evan, Owen, and Jane.

In August of 1977, Doug moved his new family to Berea, Ohio to attend Baldwin-Wallace College to pursue his education and play football for the "Yellow Jackets" head coach Dr. Lee Tressel. During his four years at B-W, Doug played football as a punter, was a Four-year Letterman and Four-year All Conference Punter; 1978 NCAA Division III National Champions; and 2018 Baldwin-Wallace Athletics Hall of Fame Award. In 1981, Doug received his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. Doug enjoyed a thirty-four year career with the Ohio Adult Parole Authority, starting in 1983 as a probation/parole officer. He received Parole Officer of the Year award in 1997, and was then promoted to Parole Services Supervisor until his retirement in 2017.

Doug was initiated into Bucyrus Elks Lodge No. 156 on May 10, 1984, having been proposed for membership by his high school best friend Bill Metzger. Doug is a third generation Elk and became an active and dedicated member having chaired or served on numerous Lodge committees, progressed through the chairs, was installed as Exalted Ruler in April 1988-1989, and again in 1996-1997; was Elk of the Year in 1992-1993; has served or chaired as Lodge Trustee from 1991-1996, and again from 2009-2014, and was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Bucyrus Lodge on February 12, 2015.

Doug served the North Central District of Ohio as Drug Awareness Chairman from 1990 to 1999; as Executive Board Member from 1991 to 1996; as Activities Chairman in 1996-1997, and as Judiciary Committee Chairman from 2015 to the present.

Doug served the Ohio Elks Association as Assistant State Drug Awareness Chairman in 1996-1997; as State Chaplain in 2000-2001; as State Secretary in 2001-2002, as Third Vice President in 2002-2003, as Second Vice President in 2003-2004, as State Trustee from 2004 to 2007, final year as Chairman; as First Vice President in 2007-2008; as State President in 2008-2009; as Chairman of the Advisory Committee in 2010-2011, and as Chairman of the Elks Leadership Kollege from 2019 to 2021.

Doug served the Grand Lodge with distinction as District Deputy in 1998-1999; as a Special Representative to several Lodges within his district; as Area 4 Fraternal Committee Member from 2013 to 2018, the final two years as Chairman; and as Area 4 Lodge Activities Committee Member from 2018 to 2021. In 2021, Doug was elected to represent Area 4 on the Board of Grand Trustees, serving as Building Applications-East Member in 2021-2022; as Home Member in 2022-2023, and is presently serving as Secretary of the Board for 2023-2024.

On a civic level, Doug served his community on the Bucyrus City Schools Board of Education from 2004 to 2017 and as school board president from 2007 to 2012. He also served as board member and finance chairman at Bucyrus First Church of the Nazarene; has worked with the youth of Ohio as a licensed track & field and cross country official for over thirty-two years; and since 2018, Doug and Julia spend time visiting our veterans at the Ohio Veterans Home as volunteers.

Doug and Julia are thankful and humbled to represent our great Order of Elks as Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady. We're excited and looking forward to the adventures ahead, visiting our Elks communities throughout America and meeting new friends as we promote our Theme ...

"ELKDOM'S HEART FOR AMERICA"

