

Arizona Elks News

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

July 2026



"Elks - Always Ready to Give"

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aeanewsletter@arizonaelks.org

AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
25 July 2026



Happy Birthday America Wow, 250 years of freedom for the greatest Country in the world. A fitting background for the greatest organization in America.

As we celebrate our independence this month let us not forget those who had the vision for our nation. I am always amazed at how those founding fathers had the vision of what they envisioned. They laid the foundation for a system of government that is the envy of the entire world.

Fireworks are only a small part of the celebration, lets remember all the men and women that make all possible. Their sacrifices they gave up without thinking of themselves, and the ones their families had to endure.

Well, we hit the ground running since the Annual Convention, first we held our Organizational meeting at Phoenix #335 on June 6th . A big thank you to all the Members of Phoenix #335 for doing an excellent job hosting us. PDDGER Larry Bodwell did a fantastic job on BBQ pork and all the sides. I hope everyone walks away motivated for the upcoming year. Our State Chairpersons gave reports that were informative and motivating. I wish all of you the best in making this Association the best we can be. Remember all of us can play a small part in helping the Committees accomplish success by volunteering to assist in any way. Everyone is a vital link to the chain.



Continued on Page 2



ARIZONA ELKS ASSOCIATION 2025-2026 STATE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Frank Buso

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

West: Pat Riley

VICE PRESIDENTS

South: Jack Ponzo

North: David Pulley

East: Giorgio Phillips

SECRETARY:

David Dean

TREASURER:

Angela Buso

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

East -1 Year:

Mike Weishan, PSP

North- 2 Year:

James R. Casacchia, PSP

West - 3 Year:

Albert "Al" Kayal PSP

South-4 Year:

Susan Krausman, PSP

North-5 Year:

Larry Carver, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Sally Frankel

CHAPLAIN:

Renee Higginbotham

TILER:

Steve Cox

INNER GUARD:

Joanne Lerma

ASST. SECRETARY:

Allen Swope

ASST TREASURER:

Diane Bodwell

ORGANIST:

Ira Cohen

"Elks - Always Ready to Give"

Continued from Page 1

The following day after our meeting I was invited to play in the Tempe Lodge Annual Golf Tournament at the Legacy Golf Course on June 7th . They had an awesome turnout, having 128 golfers. I had three members to carry me, PER Alex Arroyo , PDDGER Bill Santee and Robin Euen, we did not win but had a wonderful time. Tempe #2251 did an excellent job on putting on the tournament, afterwards we had lunch and handed out awards.

Next up for all of us is Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago starting July 5th through July8th . I cannot wait for the honor of carrying in our State flag during he Opening Ceremony's, hopefully I do not trip. There is going to be something for everyone to do and plenty of seminars to attend. From the rededication of the Memorial Building, Cubs game, and our Lake Cruise for the 4th of July.

Big congratulations to our new District Deputies Designates, East District Steve Like, West District Vickie Way, North District Charlie Ward, and South District Mary Shaffer. Hope you all have a wonderful year. In closing I am truly honored to be your State president this year.

Remember Elks –Always Ready to Give.

Fraternally,
Frank Buso
Arizona Elks Association President

Community • Friendship • Charity

ELKS

Celebrate 100 Years With Us!

NATIONAL MEMORIAL
100th ANNIVERSARY
LIVESTREAM

July 4, 2026
9:30 am CST

Watch the Livestream
elks.org/memorial/ceremony.cfm

Elks USA

“Government Relations”

Keeping Current is the Answer

As we begin the second quarter of the fraternal year, it's time to review and report the lodge charitable events from April, May and June. There were several required and optional events during the first three months, along with lodge, Trustee, House, etc., meetings which are all reportable.

Staying current with charitable reporting will make the Secretary's life much easier. Easier yet, each lodge may appoint a Government Relations Coordinator who will have access to ONLY entering charitable data into CLMS. The procedure to appoint a Coordinator is very simple and the Coordinator can collect the charitable data from your committees and enter them into CLMS.

Lodge Secretaries, Here's how to appoint a Government Relations Coordinator:

After you log into CLMS, select “Members Only”

Select “Lodge Secretaries”

Select “Staff” from the choices along the top in blue boxes

Scroll down to “Appoint Local Charitable Reporting Coordinator”

Your Coordinator can collect the charitable data from your committees and enter them into CLMS

Arizona is in the top 10 lodges in the nation in charitable reporting. With the help and diligence of our lodge Secretaries and ‘visiting dignitaries,’ we will maintain or better our standing.

Government Relations Committee District Chairmen are always available to help. They are:

East: Larry Morrison
North: Travis Napolitan
South: Randy Kettenhofen
West: Randy Sterling

Let's all work together to make Arizona a shining star in charitable reporting.

“Tempe #2251 Donates to Lily’s Pad”

On May 28, the Tempe Elks Lodge presented a check for \$11,415.57 to Lily’s Pad, a hyperclean play space for immunocompromised children and their siblings to play and enjoy childhood activities. Lily, the namesake and inspiration for Lily’s Pad, was happy to accept the check from Tempe ER Kelly Borseth and First Lady Anne Marie. To learn more about Lily’s Pad, and how they support our Tempe community, please visit <https://lilyspadaz.org/>.

Submitted By: Connie Schulteans

Pictured Left to Right; Anne Marie Borseth, ER Kelly Borseth, Lily, PER Marty Laird, Kathy Laird.



“Tempe #2251 Present Scholarships”

On June 3, Barb and Kevin Steele, co-chairs of the Scholarship Committee, presented scholarships to 10 of our 15 scholarship recipients! This year we had winners in every category of Elks scholarships– MVS National, MVS Arizona, Legacy and Tempe Elks #2251 Children and Grandchildren– overall, 17 scholarships worth over \$30,000 were awarded!! Each scholarship recipient present was able to tell us a little about themselves, including where they were going to college and their field of study. And what an impressive group of young adults! Some of the schools they will be attending this year include ASU, NAU, U of A, Grand Canyon University, Tulane, and Baylor! We wish them much success! Recipients who were not able to receive their scholarship in person will have them mailed to them.

Submitted By: Connie Schulteans

Pictured Left to Right; ER Kelly Borseth, Anne Marie Borseth, Davis Schapler, Tylee Schapler, Nicolas Klinefelter, Kevin Steele (co-chair), William Suchovic, Timothy Stanley, Geo Tucker, David Pugh, Madison Staroszik, Charlotte Gould and Lucy Corcoran. In the foreground, Joseph Jaurequi’s mother with his award certificate.



“Chandler #2429 Present Essay Awards”

Chandler Elks #2429 presented the state essay awards to the recipients at their annual Youth Awards Dinner on May 20.

Division 2 – 6th grade Lodge 1st Place Winner – Ximena Uribe – CTA Goodman Elementary - 3rd Place State Winner

Division 1 – 5th grade Lodge 1st Place Winner– Bailey Lowery – Navarrette Elementary 2nd Place State Winner

Division 3 – 7th Grade Lodge 1st Place Winner = 1st – Levi Strother – Payne Jr. High - 3rd Place State Winner

Division 4 – 8th Grade Lodge 1st Place Winner - Norah Bellmyer– Payne Jr. High- 2nd Place State Winner

Submitted by: Sandy Theobald

Pictured Left to Right; Vickie Way, Sun City Lodge 2559, PER, State Americanism Chair and incoming DD Grand Exalted Ruler, Ximena Uribe, Bailey Lowery, Levi Strother, Norah Bellmyer, Sandy Theobald



“Chandler #2429 Recognize Scouts”

Luke Fulton from Troop #285, along with his father Troop Master Joe Fulton received a check for \$250 from the PER committee to purchase 250th America Celebration shirts for their troop. They were presented with a check at the lodge in May by PER’s Tracy Cabell and Jim Theobald. (Middle Picture) The Chandler Elks #2429 assisted Tyler Lavigne with his Eagle Scout Project through a \$250 donation from our Leading Knight Fund. The check was presented to Tyler just before a lodge meeting. Tyler explained his project to members and the board. After having camped at Lost Dutchman State Park for years when he was young, he decided to repair a 30 year old native plant trail that had been destroyed by a recent fire. Tyler coordinated a restoration of the quarter mile trail. Tyler and his fellow scouts replaced signs, planted new plants and replaced the bench. After his presentation lodge members who were present donated an additional \$470. (Pictured Left to Right Right Picture) Mags Boghner, Exalted Ruler, with Tyler, and Mark Whitaker, Leading Knight. In 2025 the Chandler Lodge assisted Nolan Hegg with the \$250 Leading Knight donation to help him with his Eagle Scout Project. This month we presented him with the Eagle Scout Award for completing his project earning the Eagle Scout title. (Pictured Left to Right Left Picture) Mags Boghner, Exalted Ruler, with Nolan, and Mark Whitaker, Leading Knight. *Submitted By: Sandy Theobald*



“Prescott #330 Continue 5 Year Tradition”

Sewing classes for youth has been a wonderful program for our Lodge, for over five years now and is still going strong. Volunteer teachers help the kids learn how to use a sewing machine, cut out patterns, and sew a huge assortment of items such as quilts, purses, bowl holders, tissue holders and so much more. The kids are so proud of their accomplishments and really enjoy picking out fabrics to use for their projects.

Submitted By: Diana Ramsey

Signed photo releases on file at the lodge.



“Kingman #468 Place Flags”

Originating as Decoration Day; in the years following the Civil War, Memorial Day was initially established in 1966 as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with spring flowers. The occasion was called Decoration Day due to the tradition of decorating soldiers' graves which began around 1865. Today across our nation on the last Monday of May, many visit cemeteries and memorials to lay wreaths, flowers, and flags on the graves of fallen service members. Thirteen members of the Kingman Elks Lodge No. 468 meet at the Mountain View Cemetery in Kingman to post U.S. and Elks flags to honor these heroes at 6:00 a.m. This annual event culminates at 6:00 p.m. when the flags are picked up and made ready for next year.

“All gave some, some gave all.”

Submitted By: Tami Cash



“Kingman #468 Feed Run For The Wall Participants”

RUN FOR THE WALL 2026 – “We ride for those who can’t.”

On Wednesday, May 13th, about 175 motorcycle riders and accompanying vehicles stopped in Kingman, Arizona, on their Midway Route across the USA. The Kingman Elks Lodge No. 468 served cheeseburgers, chips, and drinks at the Mother Road Harley-Davidson facility on Beverly Avenue. Over 25 eager volunteers from the Elks and Mother Road made sure everyone was fed and rested before they continued on to Williams for the night. Elks provide a meal for this RFTW event every year. Lodge 468 was presented Veterans Committee Chairman Richard Joseph with a special plaque at the event. (see photo) Run For The Wall® (also known as RFTW) is an organized cross-country motorcycle ride to honor our veterans, their families and friends and to raise awareness of those still missing – Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA). The ride, or “run” as many motorcyclists call it, starts in Ontario, California and ten days later ends at the Vietnam Memorial Wall in our nation’s capital, Washington, D.C. They then have a 3-day “run” from D.C. to the Middle East Conflicts Wall in Marseilles, IL. “Wall to Wall”.

Submitted By: Tami Cash



“Tucson #385 Host Veterans For Memorial Day”

On Memorial Day, May 25th, 2026, the Tucson Elks Lodge #385 held the annual Memorial Day event with 19 Veterans from the Southern Arizona VA Health Care system joining 35 Elk members and spouses for bratwurst, hotdogs, potato salad with fixes for lunch and multiple desserts.

Submitted By: John Aceves

Pictured Photo on Left; Exalted Ruler Richard Bernard addressing the crowd.

Pictured Photo on Right; Veterans, members and their spouses



“Catalina Mountain #2815 Holds Pasta Drive”

Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 held a month-long food drive in May. We collected dried pasta for our local food bank Impact of Southern Arizona. We delivered 175 pounds of assorted pasta to help stock up the pantry's shelves.

Submitted By: Marlene Starjnski

Pictured (Left to Right); Gloria Cisneros Past Exalted Ruler, Jan Trudeau Community Activities Chairman, Cody Wilkinson Impact's Director of Feeding Programs, and Anthony O'Dell Food Bank Coordinator



“Phoenix #335 Holds Blood Drive”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 partnered with the American Red Cross to host a successful blood drive in the Lodge Room on June 3, 2026. Thanks to the generosity of donors, 27 units of blood were collected to help patients in need. The Lodge has proudly partnered with the Red Cross for more than 30 years, hosting blood drives that have resulted in thousands of units of life-saving blood being donated. The next blood drive at Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 is scheduled for October 7, 2026.

Submitted By: Jeff Beasley

Pictured Photo On Left : (Left to Right) Becky Simons, Lisa Ferguson Pictured Photo on Right: (Left to Right) Red Cross representative Amanda Wilhaite, Lisa Ferguson, Becky Simons, Aniya Douglas Red Cross representative.



“Phoenix #335 Honors Veterans”

More than 22 members of Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 proudly participated in Memorial Day activities at Arizona National Cemetery, including placing and later retrieving thousands of American flags honoring our nation's heroes. Members also donated and distributed 5,000 bottles of water to attendees during the Memorial Day ceremony. Exalted Ruler Clint Tompkins had the honor of laying a wreath, donated by Phoenix Elks Lodge #335, in remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. The ceremony was well attended by Elks and community members alike. The keynote address was delivered by fellow Elk and retired Air Force Master Sergeant, PER Debbi Melton of Mesa-Buckhorn Elks Lodge #2656. Arizona Elks State President Frank Buso was also recognized on stage as a state dignitary during the ceremony. Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 is honored to continue its commitment to serving veterans, remembering our fallen heroes, and supporting our community.

Submitted By: Jeff Beasley

Pictured Left to Right: Clint Thomkins ER, Veteran, Deb Melton PER, AEA State President Frank Buso, Al Kayal PSP.



“Phoenix #335 Holds Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet”

The Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 Scholarship Committee held its annual Scholarship Awards Banquet in conjunction with the Lodge Americanism Committee's Americanism Essay Contest Awards presentations. Approximately 75 awardees, family, teachers and supporters were in attendance to honor these talented and accomplished young ladies and gentlemen. The Lodge awarded \$29,500 to thirteen locally-sponsored high school seniors to assist them in defraying the cost of their education in the Fall. In addition to the Lodge scholarships, two students were presented with scholarships from the Arizona Elks Association (AEA) and two students were presented with Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarships (MVS). Last, but not least, Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards were presented to grandchildren of two members of Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 for a total of all scholarships presented in the amount of \$53,500. We congratulate all our scholarship winners and wish them the best as they pursue their chosen fields of study. *Submitted By: Al Kayal, PSP*

Pictured Left to Right; Clint Thompkins Exalted Ruler, Scholarship recipients, Al Kayal PSP.



“Phoenix #335 Host Nation of Patriots Fundraiser”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 proudly hosted an event for the Nation of Patriots Arizona Chapter on June 6, 2026. The event drew more than 120 attendees and showcased the Elks' continued commitment to supporting veterans. More than 15 lodge members and volunteers assisted with dinner service, setup, and cleanup throughout the evening. The event was also well attended by Elks Riders and members from lodges across Arizona.

Submitted By: Jeff Beasley

Pictured Left to Right; Loyal Knight Jeff Beasley, Veterans Chair Nicole Beach, Nation of Patriots Regional Commander Anthony Caniglia,



“Phoenix #335 Host Honor Flight Luncheon”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 was honored to host an Honor Flight Arizona luncheon, providing approximately 140 meals for veterans, volunteers, and family members. The event welcomed veterans, including World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans who have participated in Honor Flight trips to Washington, D.C. Exalted Ruler Clint

Tompkins when asked about the event said, “It is an honor to host these courageous men and women who represented the United States of America through their military service. We are honored to welcome these amazing veterans, volunteers, and their families to our lodge.” Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 proudly supports our veterans and organizations like Honor Flight Arizona that keep their legacy of service alive.

Submitted By: Jeff Beasley

Pictured Left to Right; PER Karen Seaman, Vietnam veteran Donald Kneedler (USN), and Honor Flight Arizona President Diane Franzese.



“Phoenix #335 Honor Fathers”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 enjoyed a wonderful Father’s Day filled with fellowship, food, and fun as more than 220 guests visited the Lodge throughout the day. The celebration began with the PER Breakfast, where Past Exalted Rulers served breakfast to more than 150 guests. Members and families then enjoyed Sunday Smash Burgers and a special Father’s Day Ritual honoring fathers and their important role in our families and communities. The day concluded with Sunday Fun Day Country Dancing, providing a great opportunity for members and guests to relax, socialize, and celebrate together. From morning through the afternoon and into the evening, the Lodge was filled with activity, friendship, and appreciation for the fathers who make a difference in our lives.

Submitted by: Jeff Beasley

“Phoenix #335 Donate Essential Supplies to Local Youth”

Volunteers with the Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 Homeless Youth Empowerment Program recently donated more than 300 much-needed items, valued at approximately \$1,700, to Homeless Youth Connection. The donated supplies will help support the organization’s mission of serving more than 750 homeless youth throughout the Phoenix Valley.

The donation included essential items requested by Homeless Youth Connection to assist students experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. In addition to supporting 750 youth across the Valley, many of the donated items will provide immediate assistance to school-aged youth currently residing in the Homeless Youth Connection home. This donation was made possible through funding provided by the Elks National Foundation Impact Grant and the generosity of Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 members, whose support helped make this effort a success. Phoenix Elks

Lodge #335 remains committed to investing in local youth and strengthening the community through volunteer service and charitable giving. Through the Homeless Youth Empowerment Program, Lodge members continue to identify opportunities to make a meaningful impact in the lives of vulnerable young people throughout our community.

Submitted By: Jeff Beasley

Pictured Left to Right: Al Kayal PSP, Brenda Kayal, Clint Thompkins Exalted Ruler, Homeless Youth Connection Representative, Jeff Beasley Loyal Knight



“Yuma #476 Present Enrique Camarena Award”

Yuma Elks Lodge 476 held a ceremony to present this year's Enrique Camarena Award to Officer Adriana Prado for her dedication to Drug Enforcement. The Lodge added \$250 to the \$750 monetary award which accompanies the honor. Officer Prado donated all \$1,000 to the Humane Society of Yuma.

Submitted by: Jim Thompson

Pictured Left to Right; Leading Knight Jody Brandt, Hilary Mulherin from the Humane Society, State Drug Awareness Chairman Jerry Ingram, Officer Prado, and her partner Shira.



“Lake Havasu City #2399 Donate to Hospice of Havasu”

The Elks Lodge #2399 Monday night dancers recently donated \$300 to the Havasu Community Health Foundation's food bank. In the photo with Monday night dancers on the far right is HCHF food bank volunteer Keri Foley.

Submitted By: Eva Fox



“Sun City #2559 Holds 2nd Annual Bowling Fun Day”

On Saturday, June 7th, the Sun City Elks Lodge #2559 hosted their second annual Bowling Fun Day to raise funds for the Children's Shopping Spree. The event featured numerous raffle baskets, mystery score money wins, and cash drawings, providing a fun-filled day for all attendees while contributing to a wonderful cause. Kudos to Rich and Sherry Becker-Grudzien for their efforts. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this event through donations and hard work.

Submitted by: Sandy McLemore



“Sun City #2559 Hosts Flag Day Service”

On June 14th, the Officers of Sun City Elks Lodge #2559 hosted the Flag Day Service for members and guests. The Color Guard, which included many Elks service members recently back from the Arizona Honor Flight, escorted the flags. The Elks have been commemorating Flag Day since 1907. The service highlighted the history and significance of each of the 9 flags of our country through words and music. These flags have flown over pivotal battles that shaped our nation and symbolize the sacrifices of numerous soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who have defended our shores and distant lands, ensuring our peace and prosperity

Submitted By: Sandy McLemore



“Raceway #2852 Present Scholarships”

Raceway 2852 presented a \$1,000 scholarship to two high school seniors to go toward their college education. Lauren Sherman and Kenzie Schooley were picked based not only on their high academic achievements but also for their service to Raceway 2852 over the past 5 years. Kenzie graduated with her AA degree and High School diploma just a few days apart from each other. She plans on becoming a nurse. Lauren will also be going to college to become a nurse. She has been accepted on the Cross Country and Track Team at the College she will be attending. When she completes her education, she plans on joining the Peace Corp. Raceway 2852 was also honored to present Kadyn Hartley a scholarship for Arizona Elk Association. Hayden will be pursuing his medical degree. Congratulations to all 3 recipients.

Submitted by: Robin Cox

Pictured Left to Right (Photo on Left) Robin Cox Exalted Ruler, Lauren Sherman
Pictured Left to Right (Center Photo) Robin Cox Exalted Ruler, Kenzie Schooley, Mary Snyder
Pictured Left to Right (Photo on Right) Kadyn Hartley, Robin Cox



“Raveway #2852 Holds Blood Drive”

Did you know that only 3% of the population donate blood even though every 2 seconds someone in the United States needs blood. Even with today's technology, blood can't be replicated. Hospitals rely entirely on donations to meet the needs of transfusions. On Tuesday, May 26th Raceway 2852 held a Blood Drive. The Vitalant Blood Mobile arrived around 2:00 pm. Four members donated blood. Those that donated blood were given a Memorial T-shirt. One donor was excited when he received an email letting him know his blood was on its way to a hospital in Glendale, AZ.

Submitted By: Robin Cox



“Raceway #2852 Holds Youth Appreciation Week”

Raceway Elks Lodge #2852 held its annual Youth Appreciation Day Luncheon on Saturday, May 2nd. Many youths and their families were served lunch at the lodge. After a wonderful luncheon, the recognition of exceptional youth was recognized for their hard work. The Awards Ceremony began with students from Litchfield Elementary School District who participated in the Hoop Shoot. Steve Cox, West District Hoop Shoot Chairman started his recognition of award recipients by tossing small basketballs to the audience. The athletes in attendance were encouraged to keep practicing as they may be next to go to Chicago! Youth Activities Chair, Robin Cox, PER presented awards to Nathanael Sherman Junior Teenager of the Year, Elvis Carillo Calmo Teenager of the Year and Audrey Fierro Student of the Year. Kenzie Schooley and Lauren were honored with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Submitted by: Robin Cox

Pictured Left to Right (photo top left) Robin Cox Exalted Ruler, Nathan Sherman, Pictured Left to Right (Photo top right) Robin Cox, Exalted Ruler, Elvis Carillo, Pictured Left to Right (Photo bottom left) Robin Cox Exalted Ruler, Audrey Fierro, Pictured Left to Right (Bottom right photo) Kenzie Schooley



“Update from Steele Research Center”

Big impact, tiny patients

Did you know the PEA POD is a specialized medical device used to measure body composition in infants?

Instead of estimating weight alone, it provides a more detailed picture by measuring:

- Body fat mass
- Lean body mass (muscle, organs, etc.)
- Overall growth and nutritional status

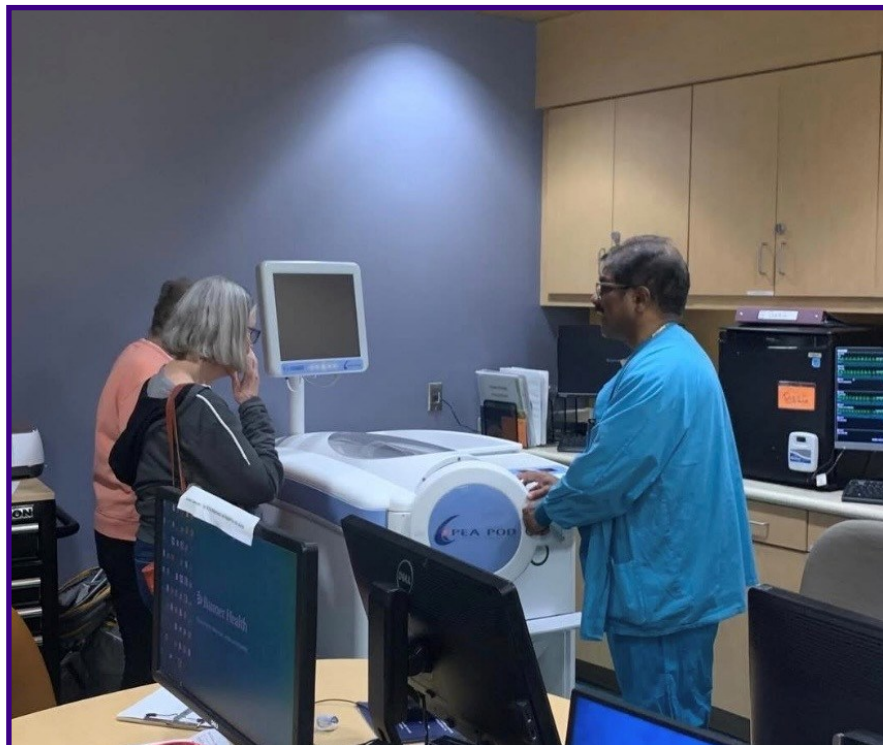
The Pea Pod has supported 39 babies so far in 2026, providing important nutrition and growth assessments.

Dr. Harijith and the Neonatology team have built a smooth workflow supporting the process. They are also working on a barcode system so results can be directly integrated into medical records and used for future research.

From idea to impact... this is donor support in action!

Thank you Arizona Elks.

Submitted By: Lori Castro



“Veterans News”



July 2026

Information and Veterans News

Mary I Shaffer - Elks National Veteran Service

ED Chair - Tracy Cabell.....714 587-1070

ND Chair - John Roush.....719 313-0565

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

WD Chair - Jim Thompson.....929 782-3519

Veteran Courts - Excerpted from Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

Veteran Courts is a collaborative process that includes the prosecutor, defense counsel, judge, and sometimes the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services or the Department of Veteran Affairs, and other community-based support organizations. The goal of Veterans Court is to rehabilitate and restore Veterans as active, contributing members of their community.

Veteran Courts programs typically focus on veterans who are currently in, or entering, the criminal justice system. The court creates and supervises treatment plans to address the underlying causes of the Veteran's behavior and/or substance abuse issues. Issues commonly addressed by the such treatment programs include:

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Anger issues
Alcohol abuse

Traumatic Brain Injury
Domestic Violence
Drug Abuse

By focusing on the root problems that contribute to involvement with the criminal justice system and providing specific rehabilitation programs, the Veteran Courts provide an opportunity for the veteran to return to the community in a more advantageous and beneficial manner.

Arizona's Veterans Courts – Information Links by Region

East Valley Regional Veterans Court – <https://www.tempe.gov/government/city-court/east-valley-regional-veterans-court>

Maricopa County Superior Court Veterans Court – No website listed (Probation only)

Coconino County Superior Court Veterans Court – <http://www.coconino.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=985>

Bullhead City Municipal Court Veterans Court –

<https://www.bullheadcity.com/government/departments/municipal-court/veterans-court>

Kingman Veterans Court –

<http://mohavecourts.com/Limited%20Courts/Kingman%20Muni/kingmanmuniveterans.html>

Lake Havasu City Consolidate Court Veterans Court – <https://www.lhcaz.gov/consolidated-court/veterans-court>

Mesa Municipal Veterans Court – <http://www.mesaaz.gov/>

Phoenix Municipal Court Veterans Court – <https://www.phoenix.gov/law/specialty-courts/veterans-court>

Pima County Justice Court Veterans Court – <http://www.jp.pima.gov/>

Tucson Municipal and regional Municipalities Veterans Court – <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/courts/veterans-court>

West Valley Regional Veterans Court – <https://www.glendaleaz.gov/Live/City-Services/City-Court/Treatment-Courts>



Wishing everyone a Happy and Safe 4th of July



“AEMP 2026 Mid-Year Raffle”



2026 Mid-Year Raffle

Win this 2026 Chevy Trailblazer



ONLY 15000 TICKETS AVAILABLE

Get your Tickets at your local Elks Lodges, from the
Arizona Elks Major Projects Office
Or Scan the QR code below



Ticket are: \$20 each, 3 tickets for \$50.

**Drawing will be held on October 17, 2026 at the
AEA Mid-Year Meeting in Tempe AZ.**

**Must be 21 years of age or older to win. Tickets are not tax deductible. Winners are
responsible for any applicable taxes and vehicle registration fee's.**

"Save The Date"

Save the Date!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2026

ALL DAY EVENT!

Ajo Elks Lodge # 1576



12th and BEST EVER ANNUAL

JEEP RUN / DESERT SCAVENGER HUNT / POKER RUN

CASH PRIZES and Raffles

8 am to 10 am – Jeep Run Registration- \$25.00 per vehicle

(pick up sack lunch, Poker Run Bead, Desert Scavenger Hunt List and **NEW** Map)

(All Jeep Contestants must be back at the lodge by 2 pm.)

3 pm – Corn Hole Tournament- \$15.00 per person

Cash prize for winner

6 pm – Dinner: \$25.00 per person – Rib Dinner

Pie and Cake Auction

(Out of town participants are welcome to bring auction or raffle item)

50/50 Raffle

JEEP RUN/DESERT SCAVENGER HUNT/POKER RUN

\$25.00 for the first two people in Vehicle.

\$10.00 an additional person(s) (INCLUDES SACK LUNCH FOR ALL)

Cash prize for best Highest and Lowest Poker Hand.

Proceeds donated to A.E.M.P.

**DESERT
SCAVENGER
HUNT**

R.S.V.P with
Debbie Allen
debbie.allen7150@gmail.com

"Save The Date"

DOUGLAS ELKS LODGE #955
ARIZONA ELKS
MAJOR PROJECTS
& SPECIAL OLYMPICS
2026

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Supporting Youth, Veterans, & Local Community
Closest to pin prizes

742126 50/50 742126
Raffle



**\$50.00 per player includes: Green Fees,
Golf Cart, & Lunch**

4 MAN SCRAMBLE
8AM REGISTRATION
9AM SHOTGUN START
CONTACT
FOR INFO

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19TH 2026
AT DOUGLAS COUNTRY CLUB
Leave a message at: 520-364-5132
or call after 5pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
Nolan Robert: 520-227-5773
Or Email BPOE955@arizonaelks.org

SPONSOR SIGN
\$25.00



"Grand Lodge News"

JULY 2026

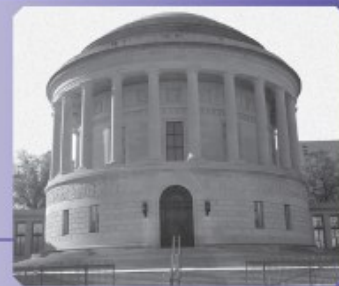
www.elks.org

Volume 61, No. 12



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care — Elks Share



Thanks to the Elks for everything they do

Happy Independence Day, the Fourth of July. Happy America 250!

We live in the greatest country on the face of the earth.

We as proud Elks uphold the virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity in order to honor our great nation and organization.

Did the last twelve months fly by for you as they did for me and First Lady Sue? My, weren't we in Kansas City last week?

The old adage "time flies when having fun" is fitting.

The easy part of staying enthused week



**Message from
the Grand
Exalted Ruler**

**BRYAN R.
KLATT**

after week was visiting each state and the Members thereof.

Sue and I want to thank each and every one of you for your assistance, hospitality,

and support during our year as Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady.

Each of you are the reason we are 800,000 Members strong with more than 1,780 Local Lodges who form the greatest charitable organization in the United States of America.

We are strong and mighty, and we are blessed to be citizens in our great country.

God bless each and every one of you.

God bless the BPOE, and God bless the United States of America. Always

remember my motto, *Be The Difference*, as we are 158 years young!

GRAND LODGE FRATERNAL COMMITTEE

Contest 'A' winners announced

By **MICHAEL L. KENNEDY**
Committee Member

We are excited to announce the top ten Lodges in each division in this year's All-American Lodge Contest "A." Overall Grand Lodge received 145 entries from 30 states and we consider all Lodges that entered winners. Here are the top ten leaders in no particular order.

Division I (1-150 Members)

Mahanoy City, PA Lodge No. 695
Green Bay, WI Lodge No. 259
Elmwood Park-Paterson, NJ Lodge No. 60
Duarte, CA Lodge No. 1427
Pendleton, SC Lodge No. 2861
Berea, OH Lodge No. 1815
Norfolk, NE Lodge No. 653
Bedford-Lynchburg, VA Lodge No. 321
Norfolk, VA Lodge No. 38
Anchorage, AK Lodge No. 2868

Division II (151-225 Members)

San Angelo, TX Lodge No. 1880
Kearny-Belleville, NJ Lodge No. 1050
Cedar Grove, NJ Lodge No. 2237
Golden, CO Lodge No. 2740
Wheeling, WV Lodge No. 28
Hastings, NE Lodge No. 159

Los Banos, CA Lodge No. 2510
Elk Grove, CA Lodge No. 2577
Santa Monica, CA Lodge No. 906
Tri-Cities, WA Lodge No. 2755

Division III (226-300 Members)

Gardiner, ME Lodge No. 1293
Bridgeport, PA Lodge No. 714
Texarkana, TX Lodge No. 2771
Danbury, CT Lodge No. 120
Winchester, KY Lodge No. 2816
Loudoun, VA Lodge No. 2406
Gardena, CA Lodge No. 1919
Arcadia, CA Lodge No. 2025
Benton County, MO Lodge No. 2783
Negaunee, MI Lodge No. 1116

Division IV (301-450 Members)

Calvert, MD Lodge No. 2620
Severna Park, MD Lodge No. 2482
Derby, CT Lodge No. 571
Rutherford, NJ Lodge No. 547
Golden Spike, UT Lodge No. 719
Middletown, NJ Lodge No. 2179
Huntington, WV Lodge No. 313
High Ridge, MO Lodge No. 2455
Homer, AK Lodge No. 2127
Oak Harbor, WA Lodge No. 2362

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Division V (451-700)

Chandler, AZ Lodge No. 2429
Allegheny, PA Lodge No. 339
Newport, KY Lodge No. 273
Danielson, CT Lodge No. 1706
Hickory, NC Lodge No. 1654
Ashland, OH Lodge No. 1360
Falls City, NE Lodge No. 963
Roseville, CA Lodge No. 2248
Thousand Oaks, CA Lodge No. 2477
Lynnwood, WA Lodge No. 2171

Division VI (701+ Members)

Cape Henlopen, DE Lodge No. 2540
Vancouver, WA Lodge No. 823
Manahawkin, NJ Lodge No. 2340
Lake Hopatcong, NJ Lodge No. 782
St. George 'Dixie', UT Lodge No. 1743
Littleton, CO Lodge No. 1650
Orange, CA Lodge No. 1475
Santa Ana, CA Lodge No. 794
Blue Springs, MO Lodge No. 2509
Festus-Crystal City, MO Lodge No. 1721

Congratulations to these 60 Lodges from 22 states that made the top ten in their division this year.

The announcement for the first, second, and third place will be made at the Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago during the Business Session.

We hope to see you there. If not, the winners will be announced in a later publication of this newsletter.