



Volume 25 No. 10
February, 2026

The Catalina Mountain Elk Bugle



★★ Three Time All American Lodge: 2008-09, 2010-11, 2012-13 ★★

Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler..... Paul Slater
Leading Knight Kim McIlonie
Loyal Knight Lisa Hensley
Lecturing Knight..... Mike Orcutt
Secretary..... Mimi Wittenborn
Treasurer Kathy Hernandez
Trustee 1 Year... Jack Baillargeon, PDDGER
Trustee 2 Year..... Jim Lengel
Trustee 3 Year..... Bob Keilsa, PER
Trustee 4 Year..... Ron Starjnski, PER
Trustee 5 Year..... Doug Harpold, PER
Tiler..... Marie Starjnski
Esquire..... Steve Asp, PDDGER
Chaplain..... Sarah Murray
Inner Guard..... Rhiannon McMahon

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

District Leader .. Jack Baillargeon, PDDGER
Mediator..... Lee Cook, PDDGER

LODGE MEETINGS

Meetings start at 7:00 pm on the
2nd and 4th Thursdays monthly,
with one meeting in July and August
on the 4th Thursday, and one
in December on the 2nd Thursday

Catalina Elks Lodge 2815

Office: (520) 825-0893

Lounge: (520) 825-7724

bpoe2815@arizonaelks.org

www.elks2815.org

Office Hours

Monday	10:00-2:00
Tuesday	10:00-2:00
Thursday	10:00-2:00

Exalted Ruler's Message - Paul Slater



Howdy!
Hard to believe
that it is

already February 2026!

It seems to me that with
each passing year, time moves faster
and faster..... February will be
another busy month for your lodge

with activities almost
every weekend. I
think the highlight of
those activities will be

our annual Have A
Heart Ball. This
annual fundraiser for
AEMP is hosted by
Lisa Chavez and Cindy
Weiss, and their team
of amazing helpers. It
is guaranteed to be a
lot of fun and raise
money for both the
Steele Children's
Research Center and
the Elks Youth Camp
in the White

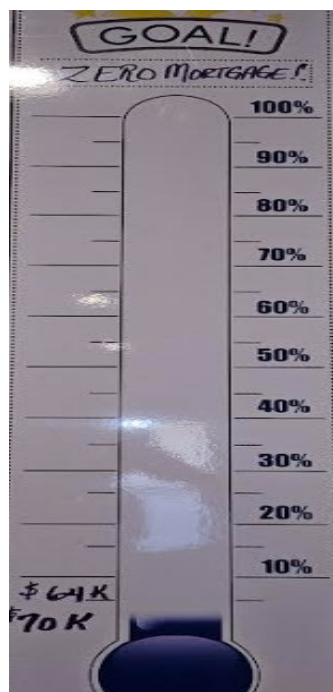
Mountains. Make
sure you sign up for
this in the lodge room. By the time
you read this article, the officer
Ritual team will have competed in
the South District Ritual
competition. The team has been
working hard, and our awesome
coaches, Ron Starjnski, Doug
Harpold, and Gloria Cisneros, have

been patiently working with us to
get us ready to repeat as South
District Champions. I wanted to
make our bingo players aware of a
slight change to our Bingo games.
Starting in February, we will take
10% of the pot and donate it to the
New Building fund, either for the

Mortgage Burn Down
or, once that is paid off,
towards the actual new
building. Since we are
using the lodge room, I
felt it was appropriate
to turn this activity into
a fundraising effort.
You will start to see
information on our
fundraising projects for
our new home, as we
still have a lot of work
to do to make this
vision a reality for our
lodge. If you look in the
lodge room, you will
see the new Mortgage
Burn down

thermometer (Thanks

you, Mike Orcutt, for
the good looking display, and Kathy
Hernandez for keeping it updated).
Happy New Year, and as always, if
you have questions or concerns, you
can always reach out to me via email
(pslates1987@gmail.com) or phone
(520.268.2375) Take care, paul





Leading Knight - Kim McIlonie



Charity: The Heart of What We Do
When people hear the word charity, they often think simply of giving money. But for members of the Elks, charity means far more than writing a check. It means

giving of our time, our energy, and our hearts to improve the lives of others. Charity is not just something we do—it is who we are. From the very beginning, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was built on the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. Of those four guiding virtues, Charity stands first for a reason. It reminds us that our greatest purpose is to look beyond ourselves and to lift up those in need. Every day across the country, Elks Lodges put charity into action. We support veterans who have given so much for our freedom. We help children grow through scholarships, youth activities, and community programs.

Through the Elks National Foundation (ENF), we provide grants that strengthen communities and change lives. The Arizona Elks Major Projects (AEMP) program helps children with

disabilities receive therapy and services that might otherwise be out of reach. True charity is not measured by how much we give, but by the willingness to give at all. A ride to a doctor's appointment, a care package for a veteran, a scholarship for a deserving student, or simply taking the time to help a neighbor—all are forms of charity that make a real difference. As Elks, we are part of something bigger than ourselves. Our Lodge is not just a building; it is a place where caring people come together to serve others. Every member who volunteers, donates, or participates in our programs helps keep that tradition alive. In a world that can often feel divided and uncertain, the Elks continue to be a steady source of hope and help. Charity connects us to our community and to each other. It reminds us that even small acts of kindness can create lasting change. Let us be proud of the charitable work we do—and let us continue to seek

new ways to serve. After all, the greatest reward of charity is not what we give, but the difference we make.

Fraternally,

Kim McIlonie

CONGRATULATIONS
January Iron Elk Winner
Marie Starjnski
Lettuce Soup
Thank you to all who participated.
February ingredient: PINEAPPLE

Secretary's Corner - Mimi Wittenborn



From the Secretary's Desk:
I want to welcome Alane PER, DDGER to the office as your treasurer.

As I mentioned in last month's article, dues statements went out in January so you should be receiving them soon. Please make sure you get those payments in soon so

you don't miss out on any events the Lodge will be having. Remember, April 1 your current key card will not work. Thanks again to my "Elves" for all your work getting the new member cards ready to go. You're the best!!

I also want to remind all event chairs to please fill out an event reporting form and return it to me as soon as possible after an event. These are very important to let Grand

Lodge know what we are doing in our community. Thanks.

Something to think about:

"Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content." Helen Keller

LODGE STATS YEAR-TO-DATE

Membership to Date629
Candidates: 11
Delinquents 42
Life Members 48
Average Age 70.1

The Major Projects Committee aka 'The Have a Heart Committee' has been busy planning the 6th Annual Have a Heart Fundraiser for February 21, 2026. This committee is all about raising money for our favorite community projects. We also want you to know why. Your donation to Major Projects is a love letter to our community. It is hug to a child in need. Date: February 21st, Donation: \$25.00, Dinner: Ribs! Extras: Music—bring your friends. Come out and learn more. Want to help? We LOVE donations for raffle baskets. Get a Christmas present you are not going to use? A Gift Certificate

donate? A Cash? Please to the Lodge, them into a lucky win-Children's Arizona Elks supported of the Steele research Center-Medical Center-which will attract medical treatments developed years by researchers



you would like to Raffle Basket? bring donations and we'll turn fun prize for a winner. The Steele Research Center. Major Projects support the development Children's Research Translational Center in Phoenix, implement pediatric discoveries and that have been over the past 30 doctors and researchers and offer outpatient

treatment and testing to the most vulnerable of Arizona children. In Arizona, one in 400 children suffer from juvenile diabetes. Among Hispanics and Native American children, the incidence is even higher – nearly twice the national average. A new program at the Steele Center will offer comprehensive care for children with diabetes, explore genetic causes and begin research to test new therapies to take better care of children with diabetes. BUILT BY THE ELKS. The Jack Warner, Jr. Youth Camp was built in 2012 with our own hands. A passion project dedicated to the youth of Arizona. Open May through September each year, the camp is open to Non-Profit Youth Groups FREE OF CHARGE!

Catalina Mountain Elks -Major Projects



We Invite you to our



6th Annual Have a Heart Fundraiser!

One Night. One Meal. One \$25 Donation that Changes Lives.

Make a \$25 Major Projects Donation



Enjoy fall-off-the-bone BBQ ribs and hearty sides



Raffles, Fun with Friends & Fabulous Music

5:00 Cocktails 5:30 Guest Speaker



6:00 Dinner 7:00-9:00 Music



February 21, 2026



Past Exalted Ruler Association - Douglas Harpold, PERA President



Hey all of you wonderful Elks! Welcome to February! I hope you all had a great January. February has brought a little bit of change to our Queen of Hearts Game. A winner was drawn and a Prize of around \$15,000 was given. Not a bad day at the Elks for our lucky winner. With the start of a new game, a new rule was added. If the board gets down to 2 cards, and you are drawn, you will now be able to choose to take half of the pot, or select your card and go for the whole amount. You must be present to have the option. Either way, it should be a good payday if 52 cards were already off of the board. This option now allows you a guarantee of a pretty good payout. With the new game, the pot is back down a bit, but you still have the chance to win about \$2000.

Next time you come to the lodge, you may notice that we have a money thermometer hanging in the lodge/dining room. We are trying to pay down our mortgage to get us closer to starting our new home project. We currently have about \$64,000 left to pay off. We would love to have anyone who is able to help, make a donation to help get our mortgage down to zero. Thank you to our recent Queen winner for the donation to the mortgage. Every little bit helps! I hope you all have a terrific Valentine's Day, and I hope to see you at the AEMP Have A Heart event!



ENF Report - Ron Starjnski, PER



Hello Everyone! Enlisted military personnel are often not alone in their sacrifice. Their loved one's face challenges too, from frequent moves that disrupt routines to the long absences during deployments. Children face increased risk of

anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns.

Lacey, N.J., Lodge No. 2518 identified this population as one that is in particular need of the

support of its community, making children from military families the focus of its Beacon Grant. The Lacey Lodge is located near Joint Base McGuire-Dix-

Lakehurst, where more than 44,000 military personnel and their families live and work. The Lodge hosted some of the children who live on the base for a day of fishing and outdoor education at the Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education. The day set and met multiple goals. First, the Lodge and its partners sought to teach the fundamentals of water safety. Lacey is close to an array of lakes, rivers, bays, and the Atlantic Ocean, underscoring the importance of water safety in the area. The children also learned fishing skills, an activity that requires patience, builds confidence, and encourages outdoor exploration. Members of the Lodge were involved throughout the project, putting their fishing and boating skills to use. Elks offered instruction on casting, knot tying, and the proper



**Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.**

use of life jackets and safety equipment. For 2025-26, the Elks National Foundation allocated nearly \$18 million to fund the Community Investments Program. For 20 years, Lodges have met local needs through CIP grants that offer Elk's opportunities to serve their community in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an

organization that is doing great things.

To learn more about the Community Investments Program, visit elks.org/CIP.

Our Lodge, Catalina Mountain Lodge # 2815, is currently 2nd in the state for

Per-Member Donations @ \$28.41, Fountain Hills is #1 with \$29.00. That's only .60 cents per member or \$350, donate today and let's try for first place by the end of the year. Thank you all and if you have any questions my email address is rstarjnski@gmail.com I will see you at the lodge.

Ron
Starjnski
PER, ENF
chair



Soldiers return from a 11-month long deployment in Kosovo. (Robert Mercado/U.S. Army)

Lodge and Community Activities - Jan Trudeau**L** ODGE ACTIVITIES

Hello February! Here's what's happening this month. We start with Texas Hold 'Em on Sunday Feb 1st, since there are no football games that day. Cards happen again on Sunday the 22nd. The games start at 1 PM, please sign up in advance so we know how many tables to set up. Card games will continue to be on Sundays since the football season is over. Except for Sunday February 8th. That's SUPERBOWL Sunday!! We will have a potluck that day along with games and prizes and some drink specials. The fun starts around 3 PM. You can find a food sign-up sheet in the lounge if you want to bring something to share. Bingo will be on Saturday February 7th at 2 PM. Saturday the 14th is the next Iron Chef Elks cooking competition. Join the fun at 3 PM. We always have tasty treats to taste/judge. It only costs \$5.00 to try all the goodies. The winner gets to choose the charity of their choice to donate the prize to. Come check it out. The required ingredient this month is PINEAPPLE. There should be some really great dishes made from this option. Monday February 16th is President's Day. We will put the flags up on Oracle Road. They go up at 7 AM, and come down at 5 PM. Please come help out. The next Saturday-Feb 21st will be our Have a Heart fundraiser. This event benefits the Arizona Elks Major Projects. The major projects team always puts an awesome event with great food, games and prizes and raffle baskets too!! There will be a guest speaker, and music too!! It's great fun and is a very important charity event too. Please join us. 5 PM cocktail hour, and 6 PM dinner. The cost is \$25.00 donation per person. Please sign up in the lounge, and pay when you sign up. Darts are on the back patio every Saturday at 4 PM, except none on the 21st due to the fundraiser. Wednesdays are back to the regular schedule with Tacos and Trivia on the 11th, and the full dinner and Music Bingo on the 25th. The other Wednesdays we offer a light meal. Check the board in the lounge for the menus.

**C** OMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Thank you to everyone who helped with the January pasta food drive. At press time, I don't know how many pounds of food we collected, I'll let you know next month. I do know it was a great success. The food bank will really appreciate the donations to help fill their shelves with this staple food. HEADS UP!! There will be a "Stuff A Bag" event in the very near future. I don't have an exact date yet, but stay tuned..... there will be flyers and e-mails to get the word out about the date. We have 2 grants from the grand lodge totaling 9 thousand dollars WOW, so we will need all hands on deck for this one. We need people to stuff the bags, and helpers with trucks and SUV's to help gather and deliver the food to the lodge for the event. I will post a sign- up sheet in the lounge.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP
ASSEMBLE BAGS FOR LOCAL
FOOD BANK**

**DATE TO BE DETERMINED, IN FEBRUARY OR
EARLY MARCH, CHECK IN THE LOUNGE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JAN TRUDEAU
520-818-0742**





AZ South DDGER Golf Tournament



AZ South DDGER Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 18, 2026

1:00 Shotgun



Alane Asp, DDGER, hosts the Scramble Tournament benefitting **Arizona Elks Major Projects, Inc** at The Views Golf Club at Oro Valley. Dinner will follow at *Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815*.

Pricing

- \$100 per player / \$400 per Foursome
- \$450 - Foursome with one hole sign
- \$75—1 hole sign
- \$125—2 hole signs
- \$15.00—dinner for non-golfers



Player Name

Player email

Player Phone

Hole Sign Info: _____

Play is limited to the first 60 golfers to register and submit payment
Checks payable to **Catalina Mountain Elks** mail to PO Box 8742, Tucson AZ 85738-0742

Direct Questions to the lodge secretary (825)-0893 or bpoe2815@arizonaelks.org



Clothe A Child—Leslie Huerta and Cindy LeFaive

Happy 2026 Dear Great Catalina Mountain Elks!

As you know we celebrated another great Christmas “Children’s Clothe a Child” event. The children were so excited and grateful for their gifts, stockings, custom pillow case & pillows, hats, scarves, mittens and pizza party. Sincere thanks to all who provided your smiles, love and happiness while escorting, photographing, working in the kitchen, finance, administration, marketing, house committee, decorating, donating very generous raffle prizes and cash donations!! This signature event is truly a “Team Event Partnering with Road Runner Elementary” and could not take place without “YOU” and we are forever grateful to you for making it so special for the children. Paul Slater, our great Exalted Ruler commented, at one point “I don’t think there was a dry eye in the place”!! It’s true!! The event makes our hearts so full right before Christmas and Easter. On Friday, 1/16/26, Kristina Brewer, Principal, and Chad, 5 th Grade Teacher, Roadrunner Elementary School, visited our Lodge and spoke about the positive difference you have made for the school children over many years. Here are some of their comments and what they’ve heard from some kids: Our job is to educate the children, but if they don’t have a good night sleep, a full stomach, clothing and a decent roof over their head for whatever reason, it’s very hard for a child to learn. An education for them is the best thing to improve their situation. “Our job as Educators with the help of our community is to not just provide academics but to support them as best we can”. “It was the best day of my life”. “It was the first time they saw Santa and Mrs. Claus in person, the kids were amazed”! “In some cases, the clothes, hats, scarves, pillows and pillow cases that we give them are brand new, not handed down, it’s the first time they’ve ever had them, and it’s their size for a change”. “One boy left his jacket everywhere around campus, Chad, his teacher, would tell the student to pick it up, then, when he received his new jacket, his size, with tags on it, he wore it for the next week and didn’t take it off”! I’m so thankful we can do this for these children ~ thank you all!



Leslie & Cindy

Co-Chairperson’s

Children’s Clothe A Child





Veterans Committee - PER Bob Kielsa



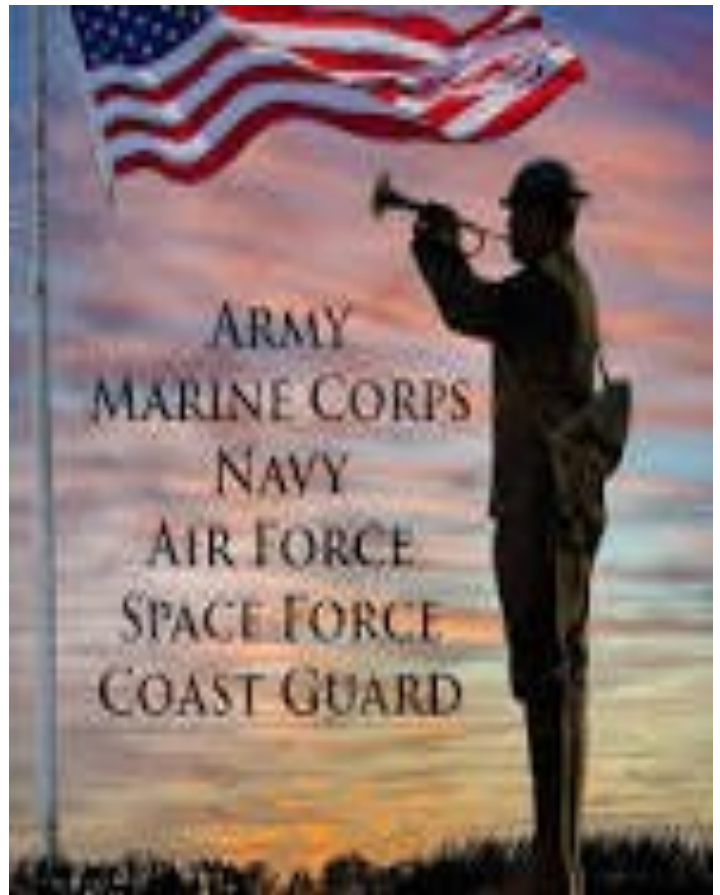
Our Non Cash donations have reached \$116,484 Cash donations total \$19,112, and we have \$24,846 in

Welcome Home Kits for our Homeless Veterans. This brings our total Veteran donations to \$160,442 for this lodge year ending on March 31, 2026. Please mark your calendars for our Spring Dart Tournament scheduled for Saturday, April 25th. This has been an entertaining fundraising event for our veterans. You can help our homeless veterans by contributing new Undershorts and T-shirts (Med, Lg, XL), Jeans (W 33, 34, 36) and Socks. Please place any NEW items in the White barrel in the lounge and USED

items in the Pod in front of the lodge. If you have used heavy jackets/sweatshirts place them in a plastic bag and mark coats for homeless on them. Please place the bags in the pod on top of the round barrels near the door. I will pick them up for delivery to Building 90 at the VA Campus.

The weather has turned cold, so any NEW warm clothing you can donate would be very helpful. Again, please place new items in the white barrel in the lounge.

As always, a big thank you for your continued support for our veterans!



House Committee - Pam Wedwaldt



With February comes the hope of some Spring weather, Super Bowl Sunday and most importantly, our Have a Heart Gala. This event supports the Jack Warter Jr. Youth Camp and The Steele Children's Research Center. It is a

night you don't want to miss. Flyers will be up soon. To find out what else we have going on, see the Community Activities for dates and times. As always, our Lodge depends on volunteers and even an hour or two a

month makes a difference. Come to a house committee meeting to find out how you can help out. We meet the first Thursday of the month at 4:30 and our meetings are open to everyone. Hope to see some new faces.



Elk of the Month - February

This month's Elk of the Month is Kathy Hernandez!! If you did not know, Kathy stepped down from her Treasurer position last month after several years of amazing service. However, she has not stopped serving our lodge, she has agreed to join the Trustees and serve as part of our Board of Directors. Thank you Kathy for your years as service and look forward to your insights and guidance as we move forward with our new building plans!

thank you



February Birthdays

01	Cheryl L Dunham	18	Jeff L Jorgenson
01	Gerald Hagin	18	James Konen
03	James D. Buell	18	David Peters
03	Laura Nix	20	Cheryl Sommer
03	Kurt Shiplock	21	Jacqueline Hymers
04	Jeffrey Dean Bane	21	Charlotte Riffle
04	Anthony Delgado	21	Roy Lovejoy
04	Cynthia Ford	23	James Y Meyers
04	Thomas Gow	23	Bruce G Smart
04	Frank Lyons	24	Doyle Arnett
06	Scott Dean Chivers	24	David Bezona
06	Angela Ondracek	25	Jamie Aten
07	William Garris	25	Robert Spears
08	Daniel Bradshaw	26	James Biestek
08	Gloria Cisneros	27	Stan Moberly
08	Yvonne Mason	28	Meriah Clark
09	Thomas Floyd	28	Daniel J Haggins
09	Cindy Weiss	29	Rocky Richards
12	Randall L Eck		
12	Gary G Sieverding		
13	Rebecca L Woodard		
16	Henry Erber		
16	Pamela Wedwaldt		
17	Sandra Wolfersberger		
18	Andrew Averill		

Wednesday Dinner Menu

February 4th

Monte Cristo Sandwich

5PM until sold out

February 11th

Tacos \$2 each;

4:30-6:30 pm or UNTIL SOLD OUT

January 18th

French Dip Sandwich

5PM until sold out

February 25th

Ribs

Jerry Bobs Family Restaurant

“Your Breakfast and Lunch Destination!”

ORO VALLEY LOCATION
10550 N LaCanada Dr. Oro Valley AZ 85737
(520) 797-1106

CATALINA LOCATION
16639 N Oracle Rd. Tucson, AZ 85739
(520) 818-7882

Hours
7:00am - 2:00pm



Closed Mondays
Tuesday - Thursday: 11:15AM - 7:30PM
Friday and Saturday: 11:15AM - 8:00PM
Sunday: 11:30AM - 7:00PM
Kitchen closes 15 minutes before closing time
(520) 825-6510 • FAX: (520) 825-4697
16010 N ORACLE RD • CATALINA, AZ 85739



Jay L Salazar Ins Agency Inc
Jay Salazar CLU® ChFC® CASL®, Agent

16034 N Oracle Road
Catalina, AZ 85739-9113
Bus 520-818-1414
jay@jaysalazar.com
www.jaysalazar.com



Advertise Here
Inquire in the office
Or call 520-825- 0893



Mike & Dee Dee Orcutt
REALTORS® who care!



A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY AFFILIATE

Let us help you
with all your
Real Estate needs!

Every transaction will
benefit the Catalina Mountain
Elks Lodge #2815

Visit: TheOrcuttteam.LongRealty.com
Call: 520-269-1731 or 520-269-1732
Email: TheOrcuttTeam@LongRealty.com

"There are No Shortcuts with the Orcutts"



CATALINA DRAGONFLY
Beauty & Barber
16065 N Oracle Rd

Bobbie
Owner
Appts Available Past Business Hours
(520) 310-2262

Waggle Bees Floral Designs & Gifts
Featuring Eternity Roses, Custom Centerpieces,
Weddings, Memorials and Balloon Bouquets
(520) 820-7824
wagglebeesfloral@gmail.com
10% Discount for Veterans and First Responders

WHISKEY AND BAD DECISIONS CLASSIC ROCK
CLASSIC COUNTRY
OLDIES
520-825-1907

Ken's Welding & RV Repair, LLC

General Welding & RV Repairs

- RVs
- 5th Wheels
- Pull Trailers
- Utility Trailers
- Backhoe Bucket Hard Facing

We do ALL RV Repairs!

- Wheel Packs
- Brakes
- Wiring
- Full Inspection on:
Horse Trailers, RVs, &
Motorhomes
- Extended Warranty Work
- Welding & Fabrication

Ken MacRae
Phone: (520) 237-9339
Fax: (520) 818-0876

I am an authorized Interstate Battery Dealer
Tucson / Catalina, AZ 85739

PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE, LLC

MICHAEL A. VINCE
Broker

2193 N. Camino Principal #105
Tucson, Arizona 85715
www.pacins.com

Phone: 520.886.3066
Fax: 520.620.5527
eMail: mav@pacins.com
Cell (520) 631-6809

Home, Auto, Business, and Life

THE PERFECT TRIBUTE

VISTOSO
FUNERAL HOME

DOUG HARPOLD, OWNER



...TO HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE

Custom Funeral Services • Cremation
Non-denominational • Web casts for out of town guests

520-544-2285

2285 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd. Oro Valley, AZ
www.VistosoFuneralHome.com

CATALINA MOUNTAIN ELKS LODGE #2815
P.O. BOX 8742
TUCSON, AZ 85738



NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE **PAID**
ORACLE, ARIZONA
PERMIT #3

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

UPCOMING EVENTS
February

- February 1..... Texas Hold'em*
- February 7..... Bingo/Darts*
- February 8..... Super Bowl Potluck*
- February 14 Iron Elk/Darts*
- February 15..... Texas Hold'Em*
- February 21..... Have A Heart Dinner*
- February 28.....Darts*

*Also check the Lodge Calendar
for additional events*