



Volume 24 No. 8
December 2024

The Catalina Mountain Elk Bugle



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

Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler.....Doug Harpold, PER
 Leading Knight Paul Slater
 Loyal Knight Jim Roberts
 Lecturing Knight..... Kim McIlonie
 Secretary..... Mimi Wittenborn
 TreasurerKathy Hernandez
 Trustee 1 Year.....Bob Kielsa, PER
 Trustee 2 Year.....Jack Baillargeon, PDD
 Trustee 3 Year.....Jim Lengel
 Trustee 4 Year.....Larry Wittenborn
 Trustee 5 Year..... Ron Starjnski, PER
 Tiler..... Marie Starjnski
 Esquire.....Gloria Cisneros, PER
 Chaplain.....Lisa Hensley
 Inner Guard..... Sarah Murray

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

District LeaderJack Baillargeon, PDD
 Mediator..... Vacant

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 - Doug Harpold

Happy December to all of you wonderful Elks! As the holidays approach we hear the ringing bells out on the sidewalks asking us to give a little and help those in need, but as Elks the bells of charity are always ringing. Elks do not need a holiday to be giving, caring, and to share. It is just what we do year-round. The Christmas and Holiday Season do bring us a little more joy and maybe for some an increased awareness of the needs of others, but remember what the Grinch learned, "Maybe Christmas he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas means a little bit more." Elks have many ways to help that do not come from a store. We have the opportunity to offer our time and take some children in need Christmas Shopping (okay maybe that does come from a store, but your time and care of these children does not), we can go visit some of our Veterans in the veteran home and wish them a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, and as always we can offer our time to help feed some of the less fortunate families in our community for the holidays. The smile received from a child who has been given a gift at Christmas time, when one might not have

otherwise come, is enough to make the Grinch's heart grow three sizes in a day, so just imagine what it can do for you! All are wonderful ways to share and bring a smile to someone who may have not smiled in a while and may not have felt that anyone cares about them.

I want to take a moment and all of those on the Golf Committee for putting forth a terrific event that raised over \$5600.00 to give to ENF. Everyone who attended this event had a great time and it was great to go out on a beautiful day, swing the clubs, and swear at that little white ball!

On December 14th, our lodge will be hosting the American Red Cross for a blood drive. They will be bringing the blood mobile to try and get some much-needed blood (Cross your fingers that the mobile is in working condition). Please contact me at 520-403-9406 or doug.vfh@gmail.com if you are interested in donating. You can also go to the Red Cross website and register for the drive there. Thank you all for all that you do and for being the amazing people that you are!

A Merry Christmas to us all; God Bless us, everyone! Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays!



Past Exalted Rulers

Table listing Past Exalted Rulers with names and terms (e.g., Donald Denman* 1969-70, Jim Buell, PDDGER 2005-06, Steve Asp 2017-18).

Affiliated PERs in Italic Deceased *

Committees

Table listing various committees and their members (e.g., Accident Prevention - Paul Slater, Investigation Coordinator - Deborah Derting).

Scan QR code with your smartphone to access website



Catalina Mountain



Arizona Elks Assn.



Grand Lodge

The Catalina Mountain Elk Bugle is the official publication of Catalina Mountain Elks, Lodge #2815, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA. The Bugle is published monthly to provide a ready means of communication within the Lodge. Contributions of interesting and pertinent reading material are welcome. Article deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication. All communication should be addressed to: The Mountain Elk, P.O. Box 8742, Tucson, AZ 85738. Subscriptions for non-members are \$10.00 per year. Catalina Mountain Elk's physical address is 16045 N Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85738.



Leading Knight - Paul Slater



Howdy!

Happy holiday season!

This month we get to have one of my favorite events, the Children’s Shopping event. If you have not participated in this great event, I strongly suggest you do so, even if it is just to join the children for lunch at the lodge after their shopping. I guarantee you will find a little more Christmas joy when you see the impact that our lodge provides this kids.

In keeping with Charity as the greatest of all virtues, this month the AZ Elks Association was awarded the Outstanding Foundation Philanthropist at the annual National Philanthropy Day. We were nominated by the

Steele Children’s Research Center Foundation. To date the AZ Elks has donated more than \$10 million to the Steele Foundation as well as the Jack Warter Youth Camp

If you have been wanting to get involved, there are a few committee openings that need a chairperson. The youth activities are looking for someone with a passion for children. Please consider volunteering in this or any of our many committees.

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

Secretary’s Corner - Mimi Wittenborn



I hope everyone had a wonderful, happy and blessed Thanksgiving. Being with family and friends is truly something to be thankful for.

Again, I want to thank Jack Baillargeon for filling in for me as we had to leave town for a

few days. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

As you will notice at the below Lodge stats we need to work on our numbers. We still have 22 delinquents, so if you are one of them, please get your dues paid. Sorry for the nag again.

LODGE STATS YEAR-TO-DATE

Membership to Date	571
Candidates	5
Delinquents	22
Life Members.....	55
Average Age.....	70

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!!!



CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 14, 2024
\$6 PER PERSON
GRILL YOUR OWN STEAK
FROM 4:30-6:00
BAKED POTATOES, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD, AND DESSERT
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GRILL YOUR OWN, SOMEONE WILL DO IT FOR YOU.

FROM 6-9PM
WHISKEY AND BAD DECISIONS
CLASSIC COUNTRY
CLASSIC ROCK
FOR BOOKING CALL ELLEN 520 825 1907
GEORGE 520 271 5265

SIGN UP SHEET IN LOUNGE, DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS DECEMBER 9TH. MUST PAY AT SIGN UP



Adopt a Family for Christmas



*Monetary
Donations
Requested by
December 10*



Catalina Mountain Elks together with IMPACT will be "Adopting" local families for the "Adopt-a-Family Program". See Jan Trudeau at the Lodge or write a check to "Catalina Mountain Elks" putting "Adopt-a-Family" on the memo line.



Elks Care Elks Share



Past Exalted Ruler Association - Ron Starjnski, PERA President



Hello Everyone,
The Past Exalted Rulers Association (PERA) will be purchasing a Forever Brick in the Legacy Garden at the Arizona Heroes Memorial in the Naranja Park, Oro Valley, AZ for \$295. The brick will read Catalina

Mountain Elks Lodge #2815, Serving Veterans, Community, and Youth. You can purchase a brick by going to the Arizona Heroes Memorial website.

We will also be donating \$100 to the Arizona Elks Association for the Veterans leather Program, Leather is used to provide professionally-crafted gloves for veterans in wheelchairs, which are distributed at veterans' adaptive sports clinics and gatherings throughout the country.

Clothe-A-Child is always in our hearts and minds that is

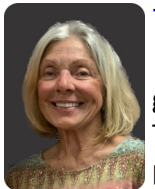
why the PERA will be donating \$300 to this year's event. Information on Lobsterfest (March), the PERA golf outing (Spring), and PERA hosted breakfasts and/or brunches (January) will be coming your way soon, keep an eye out for these events in the bugle, email blasts and signup sheets in the lodge, all proceeds from these events will be used to pay for the 25th anniversary celebration the **week of October 14, 2025.**

Do not forget about the Queen of Hearts every Friday night at 6:30, get there early to get your tickets before someone else does.

I will see you at the lodge.

Ron

House Committee - Pam Wedwaldt



Wow is it December already? This year seemed to fly by, at least for me. The good thing is we are finally out of the 90's. Thank you to all those who stepped up this past month to help with Tacos, Wednesday and Friday dinners and our Boots & Brisket

Party. We have lots planned for this month, see Lodge Activities for dates and details. Don't forget, if you have an idea for an event or a suggestion for the committee, please join us the first Thursday of the month at 4:30. I hope to see some of our new Lodge members and more

of our House Committee members there.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Elk of the Month - December

My Elk of the month for December is Ken MacRae. I wanted to take a moment, and use this honor, to thank Ken for all the support he gives to our lodge. Ken spent his time, money and effort to help improve the atmosphere and conditions on our patio. If you haven't noticed, Ken fabricated, painted and installed the new screens on the back walls of the patio to help reduce the

amount of wind blowing through our patio. The project is not yet complete, as the plans still include a door of similar construction to go in the middle section. All of this was done by Ken at no cost to the lodge. Please take a moment to thank Ken for all the hard work he put into this project!

Lodge Activities - Jan Trudeau & Pam Wedwaldt



LODGE ACTIVITIES

Well, it's December. I can't believe that 2024 has gone by so fast. Here's what we have planned for you this month.

Saturday December 7th is Pearl Harbor Day.

We're putting the flags up on Oracle Road. They go up at 7 AM, and come down at 5 PM. Please come and give us a hand. That same day, is the Kids shopping day. We start at Walmart for some clothes shopping, then up to the Elks for a holiday party. What a great experience for everyone!

Our Christmas get-together is scheduled for Saturday December 14th. It's a "Grill your own Steak" event. Bring your own steak or something for the grill and the lodge will supply the salad, potatoes, bread and dessert. It's only \$6.00 per person. Please sign up and pay in advance in the lounge by December 9th. Whiskey and Bad Decisions will entertain us from 6-9. Come for the good eats and good times. We've got Bingo on Saturday December 21st at 2 PM. The Texas Hold 'Em card game is on Saturday December 28th at 1 PM. Please sign up in the lounge so we know how many tables to set up. Football is every Sunday starting at 11 AM. Come watch your favorite team on our many TV's. There is a lunch/snack available for purchase. Darts are on the back patio every Saturday at 5 PM, except none on the 14th. Tacos and Trivia is scheduled for Wednesday December 18th.

The lounge will have limited operating hours on Tuesday the 24th and also on Tuesday the 31st. Hours will be 1-7. On Christmas Eve, come down for Alane and Steve's special tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. YUM!!

Mark your calendars.....we will have Karaoke on Saturday January 4th.

The lodge will be closed on Wednesday the 25th. New years day. 1/1/25, will be regular hours-1-7.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND, A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TOO !!

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

I want to thank everyone who helped create the Thanksgiving food kits on Saturday November 23rd. Our Elks lodge put items like potatoes, dressing, vegetables, and gravy in bags to be distributed to our less fortunate neighbors. Impact of Southern Arizona-our local food bank-hosts this project every year and I'm proud to

acknowledge our participation in this very rewarding endeavor.

Another Impact event was their 25th anniversary party. We were invited to participate because of our ongoing relationship with them. We had a table where we greeted guests and let them know who we are and some of the Elks' projects we coordinate within the community. There were three of us at the event. Me, Kim McIlionie, and Lisa Hensley.

AND, the "Adopt a Family" project is almost complete. Our lodge "adopts" 20 children from the local food bank-Impact of So. Az. We purchase toys, clothes and art supplies to be delivered to local families who need a little assistance in making their Christmas a little merrier. If you'd like to make a monetary donation you can write a check to "Catalina Mt. Elks" and write adopt a family in the memo line. We can accept donations until December 10th.

MERRY CHRISTMAS





Veterans Committee - PER Bob Kielsa



Our Non Cash donations total \$85,967 and our Cash Donations amount to \$18,625 giving us total donations of \$104,592 for our veterans!

Our Veterans Game Day fund raiser event was a great success for the first time out! After paying our expenses we placed close to \$700 in our Paralyzed Veterans fund for next years games. Talking to many of the participants of the games, it has been decided to hold the games again next year.

On Veterans Day, November 11th, your Veterans Committee served a Free breakfast for all veterans, whether an Elk member or not! We had a great turnout with 23 Elks participating and 14 non Elks in attendance.

Another way we can help our veterans is with the gift of your used (clean and functional) medical supplies. I have two outlets for used medical supplies for veterans. We can place wheelchairs, walkers, canes & crutches, bed pads and similar items. NO DRUGS however! These donations may be placed in the Pod in front of the lodge.

As usual you can help our homeless veterans by contributing Undershorts and T-shirts (Med, Lg, XL), Jeans (W 33, 34, 36) and Socks. When you clean out your closets for Fall, **please look for jackets, sweaters, long pants and heavy shirts** you can donate to our homeless veterans. **Please place any NEW items in the green barrel in the**

lounge and USED items in the Pod in the front of the lodge.

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

I have a special request for volunteers for our lodge. As a Past Exalted Ruler, I know the work we do as Elks for our community is not accomplished by one or two individuals. It's accomplished by many volunteers committed to helping others in need. Right now we need people to step up and help in various areas in our lodge. There is no better way to meet people and make friends than helping on some of our projects. If you have interest in volunteering talk to our ER Doug Harpold, House Committee Chairman Pam Wedwaldt or myself (651-262-9508). I can only tell you about my experience when moving to Arizona. Phyllis and I didn't know a soul here. I wanted to do something to help people and I thought volunteering at the hospital would be a good idea. But Mary Aldrich talked me into joining the lodge and Lucy Suddath asked me to help her with the vets committee. Now, 12 years later, I'm still trying to make a difference for our veterans. Along the way I've made so many friends and been part of an organization which professes and acts on their motto "Elks care, Elks Share"! I'm asking you to join the volunteers who are making a difference in our lodge and our community.

Lastly, Phyllis and I want to wish you all happiness, fun and love in the upcoming holidays.



Flags up morning crew on Veterans Day



December Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Gordon Davis | 15 Lupita Camacho |
| 1 Rex Heward | 15 Frank Romero |
| 1 Brigitte Sobolik | 16 Andrew Jones |
| 2 Jacqueline DiPalermo | 16 Debra Miller |
| 2 JoHelen Strawn | 17 Paula Boling |
| 3 William Letchford | 17 April Dawn |
| 3 Thomas Pena | 18 Alane Asp |
| 3 Leon Zeck | 18 Mimi Wittenborn |
| 6 Stewart Fleisher | 19 Rhiannon McMahon |
| 6 Harold Jasper | 20 Kathryn Aitchison |
| 6 Michael Smith | 20 Robert Kelley |
| 6 Michael Vince | 21 James Carver |
| 8 Garland Smith | 22 Warren Baker |
| 10 James Cox | 22 Irwin Rosener |
| 10 Morgan Culver | 22 Robert Stark |
| 11 Madeline Black | 23 Brawnz Sportsman |
| 11 Gilbert Hernandez | 25 Jacques Baillargeon |
| 11 Kenneth MacRae | 25 Sandra Mitchell |
| 11 Lynn Zink | 26 Christine Curtis |
| 12 Robert Cole | 27 John Grindley |
| 13 Joseph Markwell | 28 Cheryl Farrier |
| 13 Richard Sitzmann | 29 Michael Hand |
| 14 Larry Lyngby | 31 Leslie Waller |

Wednesday Dinner Menu

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>December 4
Tacos \$2 each; 4:30-6:30 pm or until sold out</p> <p>December 11
Spaghetti w/Meatballs, Chicken Fettuccini, Garlic Bread, Minestrone Soup, Salad, Dessert</p> | <p>December 18
TNT/Tacos \$2 each:4:30-6:00 pm or until sold out
<i>Trivia @ 6pm</i></p> <p>December 25
No Dinner
Merry Christmas</p> |
|--|---|

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Hours
7:00am - 2:00pm

Our Poet Laureate - Jim Cox



Holiday Season

The Season of giving is in the queue,
and its portent is meant for you.
Cards and gifts to kin are sent
and love within is evident.
But God said heed your brother’s call...
and Brotherhood applies to all.



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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

**Meet Your New Members
Initiated 11/14/2024**



Joe Paulin and Chris Magsamen

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

- 12/7 *Kids Shopping Party
Walmart 8:30 am
Dart Tournament 5 pm*
- 12/14 *Blood Drive 9 am - 3 pm
Grill Your Own Steak - 4:30 pm*
- 12/21 *Bingo 2 pm
Dart Tournament 5 pm*
- 12/28 *Texas Hold'Em 1 pm
Bingo 2 pm
Dart Tournament 5 pm*

*Also check the Lodge Calendar
for additional events*