



Volume 25 No. 6
September 2025

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, PDD
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 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 - Paul Slater



Howdy!
Finally looks like we are breaking out of the summer heat. I am still hoping for a few more monsoons, though. October is going to be such an amazing month for our lodge! Obviously, the highlight will be the 25th Anniversary dinner event on Oct. 11th . We will be very fortunate to have several prominent guests, including Past Grand Exalted Ruler Louis Grillo, current AZ Elks state President Larry Carver, and several past state presidents and others, as well. However, the fun doesn't end with dinner. The following week, the PERs will be offering daily specials on food and drinks to celebrate our anniversary for all of us. September was another busy month, and my highlight was the POW/MIA ceremony. It always impresses me how thoughtful and impactful all of the Elks's ceremonies are. Lisa Chavez and Cindy Weiss once again

held a great fundraiser for AZ Elks Major Projects. Larry Wittenborn was a great Emcee for the Let's Make a Deal game with the help of his wonderful assistant, Mandy. A huge thanks to them and everyone who came out to support AEMP. Be on the lookout for their next event, which I am sure will be a blast! Speaking of AEMP, don't forget there is still time to buy raffle tickets for the Side by Side that will be even away at the mid-year convention on

Oct 17-19th . Lastly, think about supporting our Lodge Golf tournament by purchasing a tee sign. This is one of our largest individual fundraisers for the lodge, and these funds help support many of our charitable efforts. 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



Goodbye Hot Summer, Hello Beautiful Fall!!! It is starting to get busy around the Lodge and there is no slow-down in sight. There is so much to do and so little time. September was a fun month with football starting again. We are opening at 10:00 AM on Sundays and there is usually a light lunch available for only a \$5.00 donation. The lunch is brought in by members who sign up in the lounge. Please check the bulletin board if you are interested in providing lunch for our rowdy football crowd. A great big shoutout to Lisa Chavez and her team for the amazing Winner Chicken Dinner event for AEMP. Larry, Mandy, and Tera brought laughs with the Let's Make a Deal game. I was so happy to see all the costumes people wore. This event was so much fun. Several members were able to take a tour of the Children's Research Center on Sept 15th and had some wonderful things to say about what they saw and learned there. This is something I desperately want to see for myself. October brings us to our 25th Anniversary! The PERA is hosting a dinner on October 11th, this is sure to be a very special evening. We will have our State President Larry Carver in house as well as SDGER Jerry Grimes and our sponsor, PGER Jim Grillo. Seating is limited so be sure to sign up. There is going to

be "Throwback Pricing" for drinks and food the week for October 13 – 17. We have the Mid-year convention October 17-19 in Tempe, I am sure to learn more valuable information, as always. We are also having our Charity Golf Tournament on October 25th at 7:00am. I am hoping to have a Trunk or Treat later that same day in the parking lot, but that has not been confirmed as of typing this article. Hopefully, we can get that situated soon. I will be seeing you around the Lodge.

"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves." – Helen Keller

Kim McIlonie

Esteemed Leading Knight



Secretary's Corner - Mimi Wittenborn



From the Secretary's Desk:
First, I want to thank Jack Baillargeon for filling in for me while we were on vacation. Thank you, thank you, thank you!! Kathy, our treasurer and I are asking if there is anyone who would like to volunteer to be an office "elf" / helper? It would be one day a week, Tuesday or Thursday, for about 3-4 hours. It would be a good way to learn the "behind the scenes" work of the Lodge. Please call or come in on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 10 to 2, to find out more. Now for my usual nag....if you have not paid your dues for this year, please do so ASAP. We have some exciting events coming up that you will miss if you are not current. Thanks

Something to think about:

"The most satisfying thing in life is to have been able to give a large part of one's self to others."

Peirre Telihard de Chardin

LODGE STATS YEAR-TO-DATE

Membership to Date	616
Candidates:	23
Delinquents	52
Life Members	48
Average Age	69.85

As a reminder to all committee chairs, please get your activity reports into me ASAP after an event.



Catalina Mountain
Elks Lodge
#2815

CATALINA ELKS GOLF TOURNAMENT



Catalina Mountain
Elks Lodge
#2815

Putting string may
Be Purchased @
2' for \$10
4 Player Scramble
Cost \$100 per player
Includes Golf, Cart,
Lunch, Prizes

**The Views Golf Club
Rancho Vistoso
Saturday
October 25, 2025**

**LIMITED TO THE
FIRST 72 PLAYERS
(18 GROUPS)**

Registration starts
At 7:00 am
Shotgun starts
At 8:00 am
Prize for closest
to the Pin
\$5 Lunch
for non-players

Sign up deadline October 11th

Foursome plus tee sign - \$460

Player 1 _____	Phone _____
Player 2 _____	Phone _____
Player 3 _____	Phone _____
Player 4 _____	Phone _____
Tee Sign? Y/N	Name on sign _____

Tee Sign(s) Sponsor only: \$80 each, 2 for \$150

Name on sign _____ # of signs _____

Make Checks Payable to Catalina Mtn. Elks 2815

PO Box 8742, Tucson AZ 85738

For more info, contact Al Peterson

520-465-6593, alpeter47@gmail.com





Past Exalted Ruler Association - Douglas Harpold, PERA President



Happy 25th Anniversary to the Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815. Over the years we have had many wonderful people step up and lead our lodge as an ER, Officer, Trustee, Secretary, Treasurer, and committee chair people. We could never have become such a great lodge without the help of all of those people as well as all of the amazing members that we have in our ranks. I have been a member of this lodge for 17 years and have been proud to be a part of this amazing Elks family the entire time!! To me, the great work that we do is amazing, but the relationships that I have made and grown over the years with all of you special people is irreplaceable! As you have already read, we will be having a party to celebrate our lodge in October. I am sure that during our

week long celebration, much fun will be had and many fun days will be held together. We will be having some food, throw back prices and some raffles during the Anniversary week., but the dinner Celebration should be a great event. Please sign up for the dinner in the Lodge and let's have a great showing for the many visiting dignitaries that will be in attendance. Seating is limited so don't be hesitant in getting on the list. Hope to see you there!

Doug Harpold, PER

Beginning October 1st, 2025 All Queen of Hearts tickets will be required to have your name and Phone number on them, as is required in the rules. ANY TICKET THAT DOES NOT HAVE BOTH WILL BE DISCARDED AND A NEW TICKET WILL BE DRAWN—NO EXCEPTIONS.

ENF Report - Ron Starjnski, PER



Hello Everyone! October is ENF Month, a time to celebrate the ways the Elks National Foundation accomplishes its mission of helping Elks build stronger communities. But how does the ENF do this? By investing in the communities

where Elks live and work. In the 2025-26 fiscal year, the ENF is allocating \$44.4 million to programs that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities, help the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives, meet the needs of today's veterans, and provide our youth with lifelong skills. The largest of these programs is the Community Investments Program. Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, CIP has grown from a modest budget of \$350,000 to nearly \$18 million, allowing each Lodge the opportunity to receive up to \$11,000 in small grants. The Elks National Veterans Service Commission provides aid and comfort to America's veterans in need. To ensure that the sacrifices of these veterans are never forgotten, the ENF allocation to the ENVSC will increase by 12.7% this year to \$6.4 million, the largest increase for any ENF appropriation this fiscal year. The allocation includes \$3.8 million for the Welcome Home initiative to end veteran homelessness. Through these programs, the ENF continues its mission of helping Elks build stronger communities year

-round. To see the full breakdown of grants and appropriations, visit secure.elks.org/appropriations. A 501 (c)(3) public charity, the Elks National Foundation helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. For more information on the ENF, visit elks.org/enf. Our Lodge, Catalina Mountain Lodge # 2815, is currently 10th in the state for both donations and per member, \$4,709 and \$8.077 respectively. Donate today and let's try for top 5 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 Chairman



Lodge Activities - Jan Trudeau



L ODGE ACTIVITIES

October is here! Can you believe it? Time is just flying by. Here's what we have planned for you this very busy month. We start with Bingo on Saturday October 4 h . The fun begins at 2 M. We only have one Bingo this month so come join us on the 4th , Texas Hold 'Em card games are happening on two Mondays this month. First on the 6th at 1 PM, and again on the 20th at Noon. We'd appreciate if you'd sign up in the lounge so we know how many tables to set up, It's our 25th Anniversary this month!!!! We were chartered in October 2000, and we have many exciting events for you. Our 25th anniversary party will be held on Saturday October 11th . There will be lots of dignitaries attending this fete. Please check in the lounge to see all the details and if there is still room to sign up. In honor of our 25th anniversary, the entire week on October 13-17, there will be specials in the lounge. Please come and help us celebrate!!! The Iron Chef Elk cooking contest will be on Saturday October 18 h at 3 PM. The required ingredient will be posted in the lounge. It's only \$5.00 to taste/judge. And its really fun too! So, please make something and compete, or just come to sample the goodies. Football is every Sunday and the lounge opens at 10 AM for your viewing pleasure. Wednesdays are still the same. Tacos and Trivia are on the second Wednesday, and the full dinner and music Bingo are on the fourth Wednesday. The other days will have a light dinner offering. On Saturday October 25th , we will once again have our "Trunk Treat" event in the parking lot to distribute Halloween candy to local kids, and big kids too! Decorte your car, truck, or SUV and participate in our 2nd annual event.

C OMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

I want to give a "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped on 9/11. Our lodge had 10 teams of people who cooked and delivered full home cooked meals to the 10 firehouses in the Golder Ranch fire district. A total of 26 people participated in this project to celebrate our local first responders, and to remember those we lost on 9/11/01. It is a very rewarding event that both participants and firefighters enjoy.

HEADS UP!!!!

Believe it or not.....Christmas is just around the corner. Our lodge will once again "adopt" 20 kids from the local food bank-Impact of Southern Arizona. We will purchase new clothing, toys and art supplies for these local children in the Catalina area. I am looking for monetary donations to help fund this worthwhile project. Please consider writing a check to Catalina Elks #2815 and write "Adopt a Family" in the memo line. Ask me any questions you may have. This is a very rewarding charitable event and it will help make some local children have a very Merry Christmas.



25th Anniversary

CATALINA MOUNTAIN ELKS #2815**25th Anniversary****Celebration
Dinner****Saturday, October 11, 2025****Appetizers, Cocktails / History of Lodge****5:00pm****Prime Rib Dinner 6:00pm****After Dinner Music by: Whiskey & Bad Decisions****Cost - \$20 per person****Pay when signing up****Seating is Limited****Signup will close when full****No signups after October 5th**

Steele Children's Research Center Tour

Steele Children's Research Center Tour

On September 15th a few of us Catalina Mountain Elks were honored to tour the Steele Children's Research Center. If you haven't had a chance to tour the center, please consider the opportunity. Our Major Projects Committee loves to host fun events to raise money for the Steele Center, which is one of the two projects that provide service to our communities and country. Such an honor for all of us. Lori Castro made us so welcome as we were greeted by Dr. Fayez K. Ghishan, MD. Dr. Ghishan spoke to us about the work they do and how important the Elks are to continuing their research. At the Steele Children's Research Center, the focus of each research project is the child. Scientists conduct research in many areas, including autism, Crohn's disease, cancer, lung disease, necrotizing enterocolitis and nutritional problems, to name just a few. We spoke to Dr. Melissa Halpern who told us the story of her infant son being born with Necrotizing enterocolitis which led her to becoming a leading researcher to minimize the chance of it happening to other infants. Daniel Laubitz, PhD showed us his brand-new lab and multimillion dollar machine that can aid with his new Bioinformatics & Molecular Genetics research. Daniel (one of our favorite researchers) let us know that his research can look at whole-genome sequencing which can identify disease causing genes. He hopes to identify why one child may be predisposed to certain conditions and prevent it or treat it early. We also spoke to a couple new researchers who are working with blood donors and exercise. Amazing!! They found that blood donors who exercise while donating have a higher immune function in the blood. More to come on that one. What these researchers all have in common is a passion and love for what they do. What does that have to do with us? Melissa showed us a refrigerator that may seem ordinary, but it is a special one with electrical outlets inside that allows them to store samples in the best way possible. The Elks bought that. The Elks donations allow researchers to think outside the box that grants sometimes put them in. Maybe testing a different way will get better results, that is where you come in. Yes, they need multimillion dollar pieces of equipment, but they also need lab coats, scrubs, microscopes, and other items that are not in the grant, that is where the Elks help. Another commonality was their appreciation for all that the Elks do. The smiles we received when Lori would say, these are some of our Elks, wow.



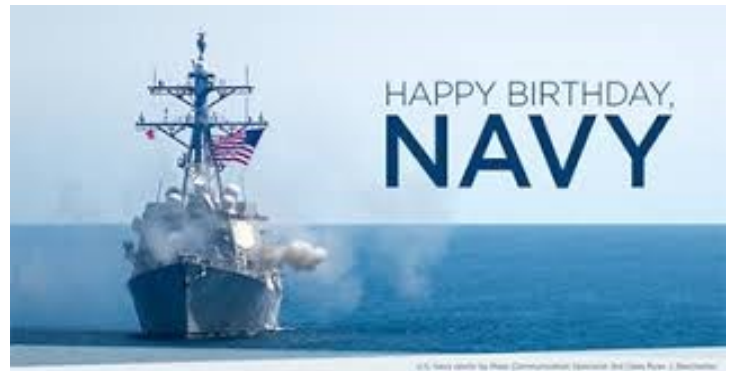


Veterans Committee - PER Bob Kielsa



Your constant support for our veterans is fantastic. Our Non Cash donations have reached \$67,203 and our Cash donations of \$25,793 bringing our total Veteran donations to \$92,996. . The Veterans Committee has a rifle to raffle off. Money from the raffle will go into the Veterans Account and made available for veterans assistance initiatives. Tickets cost 3 for \$5 and 7 for \$10. Last year we initiated our second lodge wide veterans benefited fund raiser, the “Veterans Day Games”! Please mark your calendars for these fun games on Saturday, November 8th. Of course there will be many raffle items to bid on as well. Also the lodge will be offering a Free Breakfast for all veterans in our community on Veterans Day Tuesday, November 11th. If you’re a veteran or know of one, bring them in for breakfast and fellowship on the 8th. Believe me you don’t want to miss Gail Markell’s B&G! As always, 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 green barrel in the lounge and USED items in the Pod in the front of the lodge. Do not place new items in the vet pod outside! As always, a big thank you for your continued support for our veterans! Don’t forget to put your phone number on all your Q of H’s Tickets.



House Committee - Pam Wedwaldt



Happy 25th Anniversary to our lodge! To commemorate the occasion we have planned something special during the week of the 13th along with the Anniversary dinner on the 11th . We also have other events planned for this month. Please see Lodge Activities for dates and details. With the Holidays fast approaching, the house committee could use your help, not just in the kitchen but with decorating and any ideas you might have for an event. We meet the first Thursday of the month at 4:30. For new members it’s a great way to get involved and meet other members.

Have a Spooky Halloween



Elk of the Month - October

This month’s Elk of the Month goes to Pam and Harry Wedwaldt. Pam not only is the head of the House Committee, but she is also the 50/50 queen of Friday nights. Most of you know that the 50/50 winner often wins more than the Queen of Hearts person, and that is a testimony to Pam’s hard work and fantastic personality. Typically, Pam raises over \$750/month with

the 50/50, and that goes directly to the bottom line for our lodge funds! Harry has been organizing and running the poker game for many years. It is a fun time for everyone, beginners and so-called “experts” (LOL). A portion of the entry fee goes to the lodge as well and has contributed more than \$1200/year! A huge thank you to the efforts of Pam and Harry! It is very much appreciated by the lodge.



October Birthdays

2 Shirley Davis	15 Susan Lynn
3 Mary R. Aldrich	16 Art Busby
3 Mary Cartter	16 Shellie Sportsman
3 Ellen Fitzgerald	17 Earnest Cruce
3 Charles A. Kjelland	17 Linda Fulgenzi
4 James R. Custer	17 Paul Heiser
5 William Jensen	17 Rocklynn Timothy Sobolik
5 Barbara Ring	17 Loring M. Warner
5 Michael Dirk Veleke	17 Jan Webster
7 James J. Beregi	18 Ken Hammonds
7 Kenneth R. Giallombardo	18 Harry Wedwaldt
7 George Gustafson	19 Robert Asp
7 Laverne Jordaal	19 Ramona Evanoff
William D. Madara	19 Mark McIntyre
7 Elwood j. Mayberry	19 Elizabeth Williams
7 Ernestine M. Morgan	21 Steven E Sickenger
8 Caitlin Lach	22 Eli Wally
9 Suzie Aguirre	22 James Madison
9 Dennis Hampton	24 Kathleen Foley
9 Mike Orcutt	24 Joseph Klemm
10 Charles Baldwin	24 Robert G. Kuhnau
10 Theodore Terzan	24 James R. Latham
11 Joe Bernicky	24 Jerry Taylor
11 Dean C. Brooks	26 Joyce Abbott
11 Sstephen Horst	27 Nancy L. Olson
11 Michelle Schaedler	28 Charles A Guerrieri
12 Rebecca Rossi	28 Francis Martin Riley
12 Megan Visek	29 Patricia Laux
13 Christina Lisowski	30 Cinda Asp
14 Tiffany Bracken	31 Paul Ellis
14 Stella C. Esparza	

Wednesday Dinner Menu

October 1

Tuna or Turkey melt *Light*
Dinner 5pm UNTIL SOLD
OUT

October 8th

Tacos \$2 each; 4:30-6:30 pm
or UNTIL SOLD

October 15th

PER Food—4-6 pm

October 22nd

Glazed Pork Loin 5—6 pm
5pm until sold out

October 29th

Soup and Salad Bar
5 pm until sold out

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

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

UPCOMING EVENTS
October

- October 8..... Tacos and Trivia**
- October 11 25th Anniversary Dinner & Party**
- October 13-16 Throw Back Prices and Food**
- October 18..... Bingo**
- October 22DJ Bingo**
- October 25..... Charity Golf tournament**
- October 25..... Trunk or Treat**
- October 6 and 20..... Texas Hold EM**

*Also check the Lodge Calendar
for additional events*