

Arizona Elks News

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

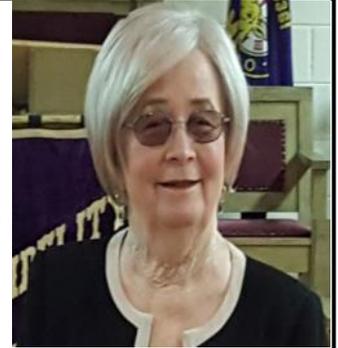
April 2022



“Be Proud of Elkdom”

Members All:

Great news Arizona!!!! – our state had a winner at the Regional Hoop Shoot in Boulder City, NV. Jaida Bosch from Yuma Lodge #476 in the 12-13 year old girls division won with a score of 24 out of 25, and she will be going to the National Finals in Chicago. Tim and I will be going to cheer her on.



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I would like to congratulate all the new officers for the 2022-2023 lodge year – thanks to all of you for stepping up and helping your lodges continue their great work in your communities. All new Exalted Rulers, Leading Knights and Lodge Secretaries are required to attend the AEA Annual Convention held in Tempe on May 11-14, 2022 so I look forward to seeing all of you there. There will be lots of great information presented at the convention, and there will also be several seminars, including Drug Awareness hosted by our National Director Kent Gade, as well as an FRS Seminar.

I can't help talking about membership again and again and again. – Our state has dropped to 4th in the nation – still doing great but we dropped from 3rd to 4th I am still so, so proud of what all of our Membership and Public Relations teams have done in our great state of Arizona. I'm also proud of all those in our member lodges who have recruited, indoctrinated and initiated our new members. **Arizona has a net gain of 2730 members as of March 22nd with delinquents now down to 1294 giving us an overall gain of 1436!!!!!!**. Keep up the good work! We still have 437 candidates waiting to be initiated.

Any lodge that wishes to can participate in this year's Ritual Contest or a Past or current Exalted Ruler may participate in the new Eleven O'clock Toast Contest or the Flag Presentation Contest. Please contact your District Ritual Chairman if you wish to participate. Remember – Ritual can be fun, and it promotes camaraderie among your officers, and also helps to maintain officer progression.

I hope all of you are receiving our AEA Newsletter via email – for anyone who wants it but is not receiving it, please contact me at charyll@ctmckean.com and I will see if I can help.

AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
25 April 2022



Continued on page 2

**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION
2021-2022
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Charyll McKean

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

East: Mike Weishan

VICE PRESIDENTS

South: Sue Krausman

West: Stephen H. Whitney

North: Roy Haddick

SECRETARY:

Peter K. Gillespie, PSP

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

South-1 Year:

Alfred R. Skorupski, PSP

East- 2 Year:

John F. James, PSP

North- 3 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

West- 4 Year:

Vacant

South-1 Year:

Richard "Rich" Botkin

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Bruce C. Van Den Eng

CHAPLAIN:

Marsha Haddick

TILER:

Jo Ellen "Jody" Knapp

INNER GUARD:

Hank Thonnard

ASST. SEC / TREASURER:

Sara McQuality

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Jan Casacchia

ORGANIST:

Hugh Dixon

"Be Proud of Elkdom"

Continued from page 1.

Remember – photos from all of our events are available to all Elk Members by logging on to the Arizona Elks website and clicking on "Members Documents & Manuals" and then "AEA Photographs 2021-2022". This link is also at the very bottom of the "Committees" page as well.

I hope all of you stay safe, both health wise and in your travels. From Tim and I, best wishes to each and every Arizona Elk – and we are very proud to serve as AEA President and First Gent!

Remember — Be Proud of Elkdom

God bless everyone – until next month – – – –

"BE PROUD OF ELKDOM"

Fraternally,



Charyll McKean, President
Arizona Elks Association



AEA Annual Convention 11-14 May 2022 in Tempe, AZ



July 3 - 6, 2022

*****Please submit articles to: aenewsletter@arizonaelks.org**

“Kearny Elks #2478 Donates to St. Vincent de Paul”

On January 15, 2022, a \$5,500 donation was made to Saint Vincent de Paul by the Kearny Elks #2478. Saint Vincent de Paul was selected by lodge members to receive this donation as the This organization was selected because St. Vincent de Paul has been active in the Kearny/Hayden area since 2007 serving three communities-assisting with food and utility bills.”

The organization always needs monetary assistance in order to continue assistance to the communities they serve.

Submitted by: Sheila Stephenson PDDGER, Lodge Secretary



Pictured L to R.: Annette Yescas (St. Vincent de Paul), Sheila Stephenson, PDDGER-Secretary, Miriam Avelar (St. Vincent de Paul), Rod Chase-Trustee, Wanda Lundy (St. Vincent de Paul) and Frank Buso (PDDGER-Exalted Ruler).

“Sun City Elks #2559 Begins School Visits”



This past week the Sun City Elks, restarted their “Dictionary Program” The dictionary program consists of our Lodge “Youth Activities Committee” delivering personalized dictionaries to third grade students in Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix, Surprise and El Mirage. Our members even get a chance to sit down with students to explain the purpose of the dictionaries and how to use them. They conduct question and answer sessions and hand out rewards for the students providing the correct answers.

On February 24 and 25th, 2022, the Sun City Elks dropped off 12 cartons, containing 20 books each, to an El Mirage Elementary school. It is expected that the Elks will deliver a total of 2160 dictionaries this school calendar year.

Other Youth Activity Programs provided to the surrounding schools are Drug Awareness Programs, Essay Contest Programs, Coloring Book Contests, Students of the Month Awards, Teen of the Year Awards and a Scholarship Program that has traditionally awarded \$30,000 in scholarships to graduating students.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans PR Chairman

Pictured: El Mirage Principal, Stephanie Davis, receiving the dictionary cartons from Marty Galchutt, Leading Knight Elect

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 PER Association Hosts Old Timer’s Night”



Exalted Ruler Assoc. hosted the “Old Timer’s Pin Night” to honor those Elk members who have been in good standing over the years. This year there were two Elks who achieved 45 years of service to Elkdom. Shown are three Elks, Paul Smith, Mike McCurry, and Roberta Odson, who received a ten-year pin and the forty-five-year recipients are, Tim Mansell and Ken Hamilton. A special cake was made for dessert.

Submitted by; Terri Frear

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Student of the Month Awards”

The Bullhead City Elks are pleased to honor two students from Mohave High School who were chosen as “Student of the Month” for January by their teachers and counselor. From left is Chloe Alvarez who will attend the Univ. of Arizona with a focus on medicine to become an ER doctor and Gabe Vollaire who has been accepted to Notre Dame and will major in political science and law with an eye on politics.

Submitted by; Terri Frear



“Sun City Elks #2559 Student of the Month Awards”



On Thursday, March 3, 2022, Mr. Jerry Pickles, a representative of the Long Realty Co. met with Maryann Michaels, and offered a donation of \$1150, to support one Veteran on the prestigious Honor Flight. Long Realty has been a supporter of our Lodge programs since 2010.

Submitted by; Val Bianchini, Veterans Committee PR Chairman

Picture L-R: Mr. Jerry Pickles, MaryAnn Michaels, and Branch Mgr. Mr. Bill Swinney.

“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Donates Grant to Food Bank”



The Bullhead City Elks had received a grant from the Elks National Foundation in the amount of \$3,500 and in turn, the Elks gave it to the Colorado River Food Bank of Loughlin, NV. The food bank serves both Laughlin, Nv, and Arizona across the river about 30% - 70% respectfully. The food bank is a volunteer organization and is needing more volunteers to staff and serve those in need. Pictured: ENF lodge chairman Mike Swain, Colorado River Food Bank leader, and volunteer Sandy West and Exalted Ruler Deb Cyrus.

Submitted by: Terri Frear

“Tucson Elks #385 Hosts Bicycle and Helmet Event for Kids”

On March 23, 2022, Tucson Elks Lodge #385 donated backpacks filled with school supplies, a bicycle and safety helmet to 25 children at Tucson Nash Elementary School as part of the Elks Lodge 385 Annual Cloth A Child program. Bicycles were donated by Tucson's Lugo Charities, helmets by Tucson Medical Center, and backpacks by Elks Lodge #385.

Submitted by: John Aceves, Public Relations Chairman

Pictured: ER Wayne Burns, Leading Knight Susan Trecartin, PER's Joe Riley and Bob Holyoak. Pictures by Trustee Jesse Lugo



“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 Americanism Essay Contest”

On 2/15/22 Americanism Committee Members Al Peterson and Lucy Suddath along with Exalted Ruler Alane Asp notified winners of the Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 Americanism Essay contest.

Submitted by; Jim Beregi



Pictured L-R: Elizabeth Jacome, Coronado School Principal, Alane Asp, Exalted Ruler Catalina Mountain Elks, Lilly Lingard, Cailin Musgrave, Jaycey Marzura, Audrey Hesse, Joshua Marlatt, Owen Carrigan. Lucy Suddath, Catalina Mountain Elks, Al Peterson, Americanism Chair Catalina Mountain Elks. Joshua Marlott was the Arizona State Southern District Winner for Division 1 and Lilly Lingard was the Southern Arizona District Winner for Division II; both essays will be judged in the Arizona Elks Association State Finals.

“Raceway Elks #2852 Host Veterans Shopping Spree and Luncheon”

On March 12, 2022, Raceway Lodge #2852 combined the Gratitude and Beacon Grant to provide a shopping spree, and a lunch to 24 Veterans from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Ari Force Reservists, and the Army Reservists. They also received bus passes and stationery. The two grants provide \$5500 for this event. Each veteran received \$200 for shopping. The bus passes provide transportation for the veteran to help him with job interviews, and doctor visits. The lunch was held at the Lodge, and each Veteran received a free lunch. We hoped this showed the Veterans that the Elks will always be there for them.

Submitted by: William Buttram, PDDGER, PR Chair

“Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Hosts 1st Lady’s Concert Fundraiser”



The First Lady, Eva D. Fox of Elks Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City had a concert for her First Lady’s Event, with approximately 160 people attending. Headlining the event was the hilarious comedian-musician impersonator, Tom LaGravinese. The event raised \$3000 for the Lodge.

Submitted by; Eva Fox, Lodge News Team

“Chandler Elks #2429 Veterans Committee Activities”

Chandler Elks Veteran’s Assistance Committee (EVAC) was formed several years ago by member Dick Garlic, and has been headed by Tracy Cabell for the last 3 years. In February 2021, to include Home Kits, Holiday Baskets, and a Free Monthly Drawing for Chandler Elks. The monthly Lodge Veterans drawing, highlights each winner’s unique military service in our monthly Lodge newsletter. EVAC redesigned a unique Elks Christmas card, signed by the committee and given to Veterans with a gift card.

Over the last year EVAC provided Welcome Home Kits to veterans in need on a monthly basis, beginning with “Veteran’s First”. In June we added a new group, “Operation Shockwave”, and in late fall we added “Save the Family”. In January 2022, Karie Warfield was named our first Welcome Home Kits Chairman, and began working with National Community Health Partners (NCHP) who help homeless Veterans transition from the street to affordable housing.

Chandler Elks sponsored a cemetery for the Wreaths Across America program and smashed our previous record of 600 wreaths by laying out 1512 wreaths.

Submitted by: Tracey Hanlon Cabell, EVAC Committee Chair



“Bullhead City Elks #2408 Donates Grant to River Fund”



The Bullhead City Elks gave \$2,500 to the River Fund through an Elks National Foundation grant. The River Fund raises funds to assist folks with rent, utility bills and so much more.

Submitted by; Terri Frear, PR Chairman

Pictured: Lodge ENF chairman Mike Swain, River Fund’s Chairman Margaret Gabaldon, and Exalted Ruler Deb Cyrus

“Sun City Elks #2559 Hosts Casino Night Honor Flight Fundraiser”

On Saturday, 19 March 2022, we held our 9th Annual “Casino Night” fundraiser for the Honor flight Program. There are presently 11 military Veterans in line for the next trip, when it resumes in October. We had approximately 200 people in attendance and entertainment was donated by Norm Carroll, Phoenix Lodge #335 member.

There were 38 prizes available, ranging from gift cards, many baskets, golf outings, golf car tires and accessories, and an electric motorized scooter valued at \$2,500. We raised over \$6,400 for the “Honor Flight Budget.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans PR Chairman



“Lake Havasu Elks #2399 Initiates 83 Members in March”

Lake Havasu City Elks Lodge initiated 83 new members in March 2022. Two groups with 42 on Tuesday, March 15th and 41 on Sunday, March 20th.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News Team



“Chandler Elks #2429 Scholarship Award”



Chandler Lodge 2429 had the privilege of presenting a check of \$250.00 to our National Finalist MVS Scholarship winner, Maxwell Bregman to help with his expenses for his Elks Scholar Service Trip.

Maxwell Bregman traveled to Chicago on March 15 to March 18 for the Elks Scholarship Service Trip. The scholars learn and serve with various community organizations and engage in their programs. They also have the opportunity to visit the Elks headquarters and explore Chicago.

Chandler Lodge 2429 would like to congratulate Maxwell for being chosen to experience this trip.

Submitted by: Dick Garlic, Newsletter Editor

Pictured L-R: Maxwell Bregman, and Vickie Hyde, Scholarship Chair

“Casa Grande Valley Elks #1957 Teenager of the Year Winner”

The Casa Grande Valley Elks Teenager of the Year award was presented to Marguerite (Maggie) Kerr. Maggie is an honor roll student at Vista Grande High School, participates in JROTC, and following graduation, she will start a career in the US Navy. She also volunteers at the Elks Lodge and is a very familiar face in the lodge kitchen where she volunteers.



Submitted by: Donna Johnson, Lodge Secretary

Pictured L-R: Marguerite Kerr, and Chris Repass, Exalted Ruler

“Lake Havasu City Elks #2399 Donation to Hospice”



Elks Lodge # 2399 in Lake Havasu City recently raised \$2000 in proceeds from their Special Bingo Day for Hospice of Havasu. Pictured are Elaine Cullen, Hospice of Havasu Donor Relations and Event Coordinator, and Karen Travers, Loyal Knight for the Elks Lodge. Winners are given donated baskets as prizes.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News team

“Sun City Elks #2559 Hosts Gold Star Mother Pinning Ceremony”

On Tuesday, 22 March 2022, the Sun City Elks hosted a pinning ceremony on behalf of 6 Gold Star Mothers. The event honored Vietnam Veterans, and paid respect to those we lost.

Ginger Emerson, president of the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. West Phoenix chapter lead the event along with: Patty Rabjon, Wendy Shackley, Marilyn Bullard, Patricia Hinds, and Tammy, all Gold Star mothers. The event began with the “posting of Colors”, by the “Color Guard, of American Legion Post #62”.

The event welcomed 61 Vietnam Vets and 3 Serving spouses of Vietnam Vets, as well as 3 WW11 Veterans and 3 Korean War Veterans.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans Committee PR Chairman



“Phoenix Elks #335 Community Events”

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 gathered a group of cadets and their leaders to do their monthly drill exercises. These young adults are from surrounding Valley high schools. Yesterday’s project was the STEM Program which stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. They were charged with designing and activating a circuit board that would launch a video spaceship that the group could control. It showed that each of these high schoolers worked together for the greater good of the project. The drill next month will be mountain repelling and swimming activities. We’re so proud of our youth outreach!

On February 28, 2022, Phoenix Elks Lodge 335 donated \$250.00 in soft back books and magazines to the VA for the CLC which is the Community Living Center which serves a Nursing Home for our Veterans.

Submitted by: Linda Thompson

“Sun City Elks #2559 Donates to Community Bridges Inc.”

On Friday, February 25, 2022, The Sun City Elks Veterans Committee used their Spotlight Grant to donate to Community Bridges Inc. The Sun City Elks purchased 9 bedframes and mattresses, bedding, pillows and blankets, which will be stored in a shed on CBI property and will be used as soon as needed. Our Lodge also donated \$1,375 towards nonperishable goods, which will be provided to the family assistance branch of the CBI organization. Items consisted of 5 kitchen set ups, dinette sets, various furniture items, silverware and bedding. The organization was also able to procure an additional \$1,245 in goods from our storage shed.

Submitted by: Val Bianchini, Veterans Committee PR Chairman



Picture 1: CBI staff members Jennifer Roadhouse and Kim Greenhall.

Picture 2: CBI staff members William Cook, Echo Kwiatoski, Stephen Stiller, and Jessica Roadhouse

“Regional Hoop Shoot”

On February 25th, 2022 the Junk Food Express loaded up from the Tempe Lodge #2251 after having a light breakfast and headed to Henderson for the Regional Shoot. After having just a few snacks on our way to Kingman Lodge #468 for lunch we finished our journey.

The competition was as fierce as always. Our Champions represented Arizona with a great deal of pride. The results are as follows;

8-9 year old girl was representing Holbrook Lodge #2450, Callie Orton and came in 3rd.

8-9 year old boy was representing Green Valley Lodge #2592, Matthew Salazar and came in 4th.

10-11 year old girl was representing Holbrook Lodge #2450, Payton Orton and was the sister to Callie the 8-9 year old shooter and came in 2nd after a shoot out.

10-11 year old boy was representing Winslow Lodge #536, Jacoby Chee came in 3rd.

12-13 year old girl was representing Yuma Lodge #476, Jaida Bosch came in 1st place.

12-13 year old boy was representing Holbrook Lodge #2450, Manny Guerrero and came in 4th.

Our 12-13 year old girl Jaida Bosch not only came in 1st she was awarded the Adrian Brubaker award as she made the most baskets of any girl in the competition. She made 24/25. She now is headed to Chicago to represent the state of Arizona at the National Hoop Shoot on April 30th.

Although we only had one winner, we were represented by truly great Champions and we are very proud of every one of them.

Also pictured is AEA State President Charyll McKean and AEA Hoop Shoot Director Gregg Boyce, PDDGER

Pictures and article submitted by Gregg Boyce AEA Hoop Shoot Director, PDDGER



“AEMP NEWS”

Arizona Elks

major projects

The Arizona Elks Major Projects has embarked on a sustainable jewelry collection program for pediatric patients of the Steele Center.

We are asking for the donations of costume jewelry that we will have professionally cleaned. The children at the Steele center will then be able to pick out a beautiful piece of jewelry to give to their mom / caregiver as presents for holidays, especially Mother's Day.

For more information, please contact your Lodge ER / Secretary. Donations will also be accepted at the AEA Annual Convention.

**AEMP CAREER OPENINGS**

News from the Interim AEMP Director, Jimm Krausman PDDGER: AEMP is looking for a dynamic individual to fill the Executive Director position full time. They are also looking for an Executive Assistant (Book Keeping, and Data Entry duties). Interested parties should send their resumes to: P.O Box 12668, Tucson, AZ 85732-2668 / 520-326-0556

“New ENF CIP Freedom Grant Details”



Elks National Veterans Service Commission

FREEDOM GRANTS

Get ready for exciting changes in the Freedom Grant process in 2022-23! This year, Lodges will have two options when applying for a Freedom Grant. Lodges can apply for a \$3,000 grant (Freedom Grant Classic) to hold an active project that directly serves veterans in need, or Lodges can apply for a \$1,000 grant (Freedom Grant Spark) to hold a smaller project with more flexibility.

WHAT QUALIFIES:

Freedom Grants must be used to serve veterans and/or military members and their families. Grant projects must serve a population in need. Projects must focus on one of these five areas: employment, homelessness and housing, military families, health, and educational support.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Applications will be available online April 1 at 12:01 AM Central Time. Applications will close on April 15 at Noon Central Time. Recipients will be announced in mid-May. Applications must be detailed, complete and follow all grant guidelines.

HOW IT WORKS:

Lodges will have the choice of applying for only one of these options. Choose wisely! Grants are competitive and once submitted, applications cannot be edited.

Which size grant should your Lodge apply for in 2022-23?

Freedom Grant Spark (\$1,000)	Freedom Grant Classic (\$3,000)
Does my project involve a donation of funds or supplies? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$1,000 grant.	Does my project include a high level of participation from Lodge members? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$3,000 grant.
Is a partner organization handling the planning of the event? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$1,000 grant.	Will Lodge members be spending time in direct service to, and interacting with veterans? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$3,000 grant.
Is my project a small or one-time event? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$1,000 grant.	Will my project involve multiple events or working with multiple community partners? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$3,000 grant.
Will a more accessible grant meet the needs of the veteran population my lodge is trying to help? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$1,000 grant.	Will this be an Elks-led project, in which the Lodge oversees funds at all times? ➤ If yes, then apply for a \$3,000 grant.

Application Questions:

- Describe your Lodge’s project. How is your Lodge serving veterans or active-duty military personnel with this grant? How will Elks be involved?
- What steps has your Lodge taken to plan or prepare for using this grant?
- Explain how this project will improve the lives of the individuals you are serving. Which of the five areas of increased need is this grant project addressing?
- What does the Lodge expect to accomplish with this project?

A budget is also required. No more than 10% (or \$250) of the budget can be dedicated to administrative or publicity expenses, including t-shirts. Budget cannot include cash prizes.

Restrictions: Grants may not be used for appreciation dinners, scholarships, fundraisers or general community events. Grants may not be used to serve Lodge members. Meals served at Lodges must be provided at cost and cannot include alcohol.

Submitted by: Bruce Van Den Eng PER, AEA ENF Chairman

“Grand Lodge News”



Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care — Elks Share



Next chapter for your Lodge starts this month

First, **congratulations** to all newly installed Exalted Rulers and Lodge officers. Thank you for making the commitment and accepting the duties and responsibilities of the office for which you have been chosen. You are about to take part in—I hope—one of the greatest experiences in your Lodge career, becoming a Lodge officer. Do not take this experience and responsibility lightly. By accepting your office, you will guide the direction your Lodge will pursue for the next Lodge year and continue **“Meeting the Challenge.”**

Newly elected Exalted Rulers need to reach out to committee appointees to ensure they are prepared to perform



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler
T. KEITH MILLS

their assignments. Show them how to get the information for their committee on elks.org. It is your job to help remove obstacles they may encounter along the way to better perform their duties. Make sure they report all charitable hours and mileage to the Lodge Secretary so they may be entered into CLMS.

One suggestion is to assign important committees to different chair officers to oversee and ensure committees are working to the best of their ability. Then, during your monthly officer meeting or Lodge meeting, have committee chairs or chair officers give updates on that committee.

In relation to finances, the budget(s) for your Lodge should be ready to be presented to the membership for approval before the last regular Lodge meeting in April. The Annual Report for the previous year is also due May 1. Make sure that your Financial Reporting System (FRS) is up to date and be sure to submit your end of year

Please see GER, Page 2



Congratulations to Sierra Vista Elks Lodge #2065 for 5 Star Local Lodge Website

GRAND LODGE FRATERNAL COMMITTEE

6 Lodges earn five-star website award

By **MERYL ARNS**
Committee Member

A Lodge with a good website is a Lodge growing in membership! Thank you to the many Lodge webmasters across the United States and congratulations to those who entered the Lodge Website Contest.

It is obvious that Lodge websites are keeping our Members informed and

telling the world what we do. Attractive photos welcome Members and Elks who may be traveling across the country to stop and enjoy the many activities offered by our Lodges. Through websites we are **“Meeting the Challenge.”**

The Lodge Website Contest is free to enter and the reward is knowing that you have let the world know what we do. **Elks Care — Elks Share.**

5 Star ★★★★★ Awards

- Sierra Vista, AZ Lodge No. 2065 elks.org/loдges/home.cfm?LodgeNumber=2065
- New London, CT Lodge No. 360 elks360.org
- Lebanon, OH Lodge No. 422 lebanon422.com
- Reno, NV Lodge No. 597 renoelks.org
- Fredericksburg, VA Lodge No. 875 elkslodge875.org
- Bremerton, WA Lodge No. 1181 facebook.com/BremertonElks1181

4 Star ★★★★ Awards

- Sarasota South, FL Lodge No. 2495 sarasotaelks2495.org
- St. Louis, MO Lodge No. 9 elkslodge9.org
- Silver City, NM Lodge No. 413 silvercityelks.com
- Oswego, NY Lodge No. 271 oswegoelks.com
- High Point, NC Lodge No. 1155 hpelks.com/
- Provo, UT Lodge No. 849 facebook.com/groups/290986561176/

3 Star ★★★ Awards

- Wallace, ID Lodge No. 331 wallace.idahoelks.org
- Kent Island, MD Lodge No. 2576 kentislandelks.com

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financials to your accounting personnel so they may prepare your 990s and 990Ts for your Lodge shortly after April 1. Once completed, you will need to upload them to elks.org and file them with the Internal Revenue Service.

I know that all Lodges are actively involved in their communities. You are encouraged to establish at least one community project that emphasizes the charitable work of our Order. The Grand Lodge Activities Committee also has a Community Projects Contest. The Committee will award first, second, and third place within the six membership categories. This award will give your Lodge national recognition to show your Lodge is actively supporting your community. You have done the work, now fill out the form and submit before the May 1 deadline.

By this time, your District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler should have informed you of the place and time for their Spring District Deputy Clinic. This is a great learning opportunity to gather with other officers within your district. It is also the time that your District Deputy will help you and your officers get the year off to a good start.

Finally, good luck to you during this Elks year. Being a Lodge leader has some work involved. However, it can be lots of fun and a truly rewarding experience for you and your Lodge. If you need anything, your Past Exalted Rulers, local District Deputy, state leaders, and other Grand Lodge committee members are there to help and guide you. You just need to ask.