

Arizona Elks News

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

June 2024



“Spreading the Joy”

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AEA Newsletter
Submission deadline:
23 June 2024

Happy June Fellow Elks. Thank you all for your support on my journey to be your State President. Like every President before me, I had the privilege to represent you at the California-Hawaii Elks Association State Convention soon after I was installed.

I listened to many reports and saw their members receive accolades. Our State Co-Sponsors PGER Jim Grillo and PGER Bob Duitsman gave them advice on how to better the Order.

Grand Exalted Ruler Randy Shook spoke about how great it is to Be an Elk! Then I got up to talk. I told them California Elks are just like Arizona Elks. They work hard for their youth, veterans, and communities. We do this with 43 to their 150+ lodges! We both do the work Grand Lodge asks of us. Quesadilla and grilled cheese sandwich – they are the same but different. I sure am proud to be an Arizona Elk.

Hoop Shoot was emphasized at our State Convention. Too many lodges are stepping back and not holding shoots. Grand Lodge is very unhappy with the Decrease in shooters. Rumor has it if we don't do our job, they may stop supporting the program.

If you are having trouble getting kids to participate, here are a few suggestions given by former educators.

Talk to the school system's Superintendent. Every school has a coach. Explain what the Hoop Shoot is about and how it is a non-contact event. None of their students can get hurt shooting. Go to your city's community center and see if they have a basketball program. If so, set up something after a tournament. Speak to the summer program coordinator. Yes, summertime. I don't remember a rule about this being a winter sport.

Oh, and don't forget the Boys and Girls Clubs.



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**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION 2024-2025
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Sue Krausman

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

North: Larry Carver

VICE PRESIDENTS

South: Rocky Davis

East: Steve Like

North: Ron Wilson

SECRETARY:

David Dean

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

South -1 Year:

Joseph H Riley, Jr. PSP

South – 2 Year:

Richard Botkin, PSP

East – 3 Year:

Michael Weishan, PSP

North -4 Year:

James R. Casacchia, PSP

West– 5 Year:

Ronald Wilson

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Shawnee Carlile

CHAPLAIN:

Giorgio Phillips

TILER:

Casey Hackett

INNER GUARD:

Anna Mineer

ASST. SECRETARY:

Gary Parsons

ASST TREASURER:

Angela Buso

ORGANIST:

Ira Cohen

“Spreading the Joy”

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We are coming up on the summer Elk migration. If you do travel to live in a cooler climate, remember your home Lodge while you are away.

Read your newsletter and support activities if you can.

Arizona’s State Motto is “Ditat Deus” which means God Enriches. Before we take our obligation, we are asked if we believe in God. Maybe that is why we live in our beautiful, sunny State.

Stay safe on your journey.

Jimm and I look forward to seeing as many Elks as possible during our visits, Official or unofficial. Come see us and tell me a joke. I love laughing. I am having so much fun “Spreading the Joy” of Elkdom.

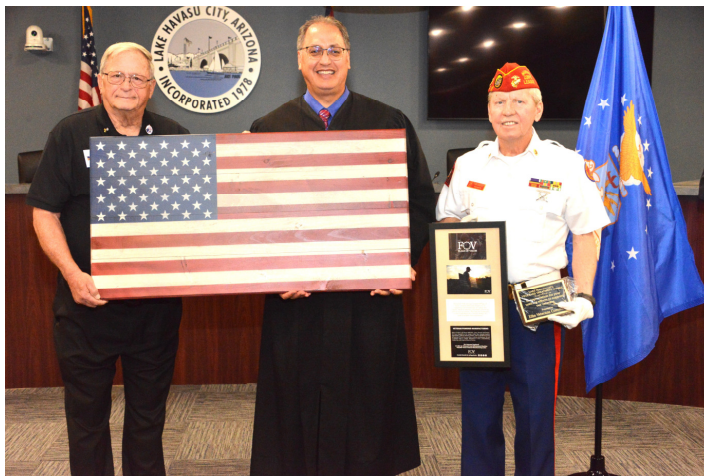
**Fraternally,
Sue Krausman, President Arizona Elks Association**



Grand Lodge Trustee Tim Jaeger and his lovely wife Sandy helping to “Spread the Joy” during the California Hawaii Elks Convention

“Lake Havasu City Elks Lodge #2399 Presents Flag of Valor ”

The Elks lodge presented a Flag of Valor to Lake Havasu City's Veterans court. The flag was made by an Army Veteran and presented to Judge [Mitchell Kalauli Jr.](#) (Veterans Court Judge) by Elk Exalted Ruler Chuck Fox and Lodge Veterans Services Chairman Bud Watts. Additionally, a plaque was presented.



Submitted by; Eva Fox PR Chair

“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 2nd Annual Veteran’s Dart Tournament ”

Catalina Mountain Elks hosted its 2nd annual Dart tournament to benefit Veterans. 16 teams competed to raise a total of \$4,542 for our Veterans. There were many items that were raffled as well as silent auction items including Nascar Tickets, golf outings and gift certificates galore. There were many happy winners.

Submitted by; Marie Starjinski

Dart Tournament Committee- Left to right Al Hensley, Debbie Sitzman, Yvonne Mason, Jim Roberts Loyal Knight, Kayleen Borah, Lisa Hensley Chaplain, Kim McIlionie Lecturing Knight



“Ajo Elks Lodge #1576 Highway Clean up”

Mike Allen, Chuck & Brenda Stout, Frank Hinman, Mike & Kathy MacFarlane, Scott Taylor.
Not pictured Debbie Allen, Marty & Judy Metheringham, Rick Trump, and Frank Avillar.
Photo by Debbie Allen

Volunteers from Ajo Elks Lodge #1576 did cleanup along their section of AZ Hwy 85

Submitted by; Marlene Hinman



“Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 1st Annual Brunch Fundraiser for AEMP”

Catalina Mountain Elks held their first brunch fundraiser to raise money for Elks Major Projects benefiting the Steele Childrens Research Center and the Jack C. Warter Jr. Youth Camp. This fundraiser brought in \$2,140.00. They raffled off over 20 items including everything from a coffee lovers basket, unique jewelry and gourd art

Submitted by: Marie Starjinski

“Flagstaff Elks Lodge #1499 Hosts Craft Fair for Children’s Charities”

The Flagstaff Elks Lodge #1499 held a Spring Craft fair with about 40 vendors to benefit our Children’s Holiday Shopping Spree and Luncheon where they meet Santa.

Booths and Raffles netted just under \$2400 dollars.

That equals enough money for 16 children to go shopping to pick out clothing, a small toy and be treated to lunch with Santa where they are given a present picked out just for them. Last year the lodge was able to take 72 children shopping.

Events such as the craft fairs help build this account to allow us to serve even more children in the community this year.

Coordinating this craft fair was member, Terre Reinhardt pictured with one of our vendors.



Jason and Stacey Kolb
Jewelry Vendors

Submitted by: Kathy Cothrun

“Chandler Elks #2429 Hosts Annual Youth Week”

Each year the Grand Exalted Ruler requests all Local Lodges to designate one week in May as Elks National Youth Week. All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs throughout the week dedicated to the youth of our country. Elks National Youth Week should be the culmination of the 2023- 2024 Lodges’ Youth Programs. Programs such as luncheons or banquets honoring outstanding students, local Hoop Shoot winners, Soccer Shoot winners, Drug Awareness Poster Contest winners, are just a few examples of the activities that can be held during the week along with other scheduled events. This year AEA Publicity State Chairman, Ronald Wilson, submitted a proclamation request to Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs. She signed the proclamation naming May 1-7, 2024, Arizona Elks Youth Week for all Elks Lodges in the state. This is meant to recognize the achievement and contributions of our junior citizens. This year the Chandler Elks Lodge recognized the following:

Day 1: Arizona Youth Week Proclamation by Governor Katie Hobbs

Day 2: Chandler Elks Lodge 1st Vocational Scholarship Winner – Aiden

Day 3: Chandler Elks Lodge 1st Special Funds Scholarship Winner – Tocara

Day 4 Arizona Americanism Essay 1st Place Winner - Maria

Day 5: Arizona Drug Awareness Poster Contest 1st Place Winner – Emory

Day 6: Elks National Scholarship Most Valuable Student – Vanessa

Day 7: Arizona Americanism Essay 3rd Place Winner – Kiersten

Submitted by; Taleen Carpenter

“Elks Care Elks Share Kingman Elks #468”

In March, John Wilson joined the Elks in Prescott last year and he was getting ready to retire from driving trucks for Ace Hardware. He found out many of the Elks Lodges have campsites throughout the United States: so he retired, bought an RV, and hit the road last month. While visiting Kingman Elks Lodge 468, he mentioned that he would be in the area and wanted to volunteer and help out. (Now PER) Richard Joseph suggested he contact Elk Nani Chrimes at the Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council (JAVC) where he was sure he could use some help.

John spent several hours installing window blinds in the living quarters for homeless veterans entering the Low Demand Safe Haven program at Operation 6 on Oak St in Kingman. The blinds ensure privacy for our veterans. The facility will house 20 homeless Veterans when fully operational.

It's volunteers like John that once again prove that 'Elks Care, Elks Share.'

Submitted by; Tami Cash

“Lake Havasu Elkettes #2399 Donates Funds to Veterans Court”

The Elkettes of Lake Havasu Elks Lodge #2399 donated \$900 from their Crazy Auction that was held in March, to the Veterans court.

Submitted by: Eva Fox, Lodge News Team



Pictured: In the photo from left to right are Elkettes Chair persons Heidi Albrecht and Susan Seales with Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator of Services and Military Moms President Cindy Ritter.

“Prescott Elks #330 Youth Week Dinner”

On May 2, 2024, Prescott Elks Lodge #330 held a dinner to congratulate our local youth for their accomplishments. Both Scholarships and Hoop Shoot winners were honored. The \$2000 Most Valuable Students Scholarship winners were announced as follows: Justin Berry, Bradshaw Mountain, Brandon, Camp Verde High School; Toby and Lena, BASIS Prescott and Areli, Prescott High School.

Hoop Shoot winners were Clair, Sadie Noah Austin, Oliver and Kortney. Tom Farger, Elks Hoop Shoot Chairman, presented that in the District competition we had one 2nd and one 3rd place finishers out of the 9 lodges in Northern Arizona Elks district.

Pictured: Clair 10-11 yr winner from Mountain View elementary and Sadie, 8-9 yr hoop shoot winner from Franklin Charter.

Submitted by; Bobbie Knorr, Public Relations Chair



“Kingman Elks #4687 Hosts after prom ”

Kingman Elks 468 hosts after prom at LWHS (Lee Williams High School). "It is one of my favorite events", says Elk Lauren Tatzel shown in a photo grilling and handing out food to students attending the event. Elk Sara Becenti rallied the troops and conquered Sam's Club for all the snacks and drinks, shown in photo with carts. ELK's Jo-Ann and Jeff Schoch enjoy this event too, and look forward to seeing all the kids dressed to the nines. Kingman Elks has been doing this event for our local high schools since 2014, less 2 years due to covid restraints. This year the 468 utilized the Beacon Grant to purchase needed items for Prom parties. It was used to help Three local high school, LWHS (Lee Williams High School), KOAL and KHS (Kingman High School)

Submitted by; Tammi Cash



“Coolidge Florence Elks #2350 Supports AEMP with BIG Check

May 9, 2024 at the Tempe Arizona Elks Association (AEA) Convention Coolidge-Florence Elks Lodge #2350 Leading Knight Chad Knutson and Exalted Ruler Bob Beck had the pleasure of presenting a BIG check in the amount of \$1,065 to Richard Ross, the Executive Director of Arizona Elks Major Projects. The money will support the University of AZ Steele Children's Research Center and the Jack Water, Jr. Youth Camp northwest of Globe. The donation was made possible with proceeds from the Elks Cash Bar at a Toby Keith Tribute event plus a \$500 contribution from the Coolidge-Florence Elks Lodge #2350. The donation was gratefully received.

Submitted by: Shelley Robinson

“Page Elks #2498 Elroy in the Park”

Page Elks Lodge #2498 distributed coloring books, crayons and other drug-awareness information to the youth who attended Lake Powell Cruiser’s Car Show in the park on May 4, 2024. Special thanks to Elroy T Elk (aka Randy Sherbrook) who brings smiles to young and old alike. Thank you to those who came out to help Elroy, Page Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler, Ricky Cottrell, Paula Tappan, Travis Napolitan (PER) and Belinda Napolitan for donating their time to this event for the youth of our community.

In photo;
Ricky Cottrell, Exalted Ruler with Elroy T Elk



Submitted by; Belinda Napolitan

Tucson East Elks #2532 Youth Movie Night

Tucson East lodge #2532 organized a May the 4th be with you event in celebration of Elks National Youth week. The screening of the original Star Wars movie was a wonderful evening. We prepared Star Wars-inspired cuisine, including Blue Milk, for both adults and children. The experience was highly enjoyable as both children and adults enthusiastically adorned themselves in Star Wars attire.



Pictured in photo: Exalted Ruler: Sally Frankel,
PER: Megin Goetz, Leading Knight: LuAnn Taylor

Submitted by; Sally Frankel Exalted Ruler

“East District Scholarships”

EAST DISTRICT ELKS PROVIDE OVER \$112,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Apache Junction, Casa Grande Valley, Chandler, Coolidge-Florence, Fountain Hill, Gilbert, Kearny, Mesa-Buckhorn, Pinal Mountain, Tempe are the 10 lodges that make up the East District for the Arizona Elks Association. Collectively the lodges promote and give scholarships to East District students. The lodges were fortunate enough to receive 24 Elks National Foundation Scholarships totaling \$56,000, 3 Arizona Elks Association Scholarships totaling \$4,500 and provided over 25 Lodge Funded Scholarships totaling over \$51,500. The grand total of Elks Scholarships awarded in the East District was over \$112,000. All of the lodges have been working to get into the schools to promote the ELKS and our scholarship programs. A HUGE thank you to all the Scholarship Chairs that work hard to make this happen. It is great to be an ELK and to promote our wonderful organization.

Respectfully Submitted by Taleen Carpenter East District Scholarship Chairman.

“Page Elks #2498 Awards Scholarships”

Page Elks # 2498 awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to local Page High School graduating seniors during their annual senior awards ceremony on May 13. The scholarships are unique in that they can be used for any form of higher training/education. The scholarships are made possible by funds raised during the annual Page Elks Lodge golf tournament. A most generous donation (allowing us to double our awards) was made from the Stickler Family Scholarship fund. Applicants were graded on Service, Leadership and Academics; with service being a focus.

Submitted by, Belinda Napolitan

“Veterans News”



Information and Veterans News

Mary I Shaffer - Elks National Veterans Service
ED Chair - Tracy Cabell.....714 587-1070
ND Chair - John Roush.....719 313-0565
SD Chair - Linda Seggie.....520 401-3990
WD Chair - Chad Arruda.....480 338-7814

ASVH Flagstaff

UPDATE EFFECTIVE March 3rd, 2024:

To ensure the safety of our future residents and staff, the Arizona State Veteran Home in Flagstaff will be under construction starting mid March 2024. Construction is expected to last 5 months. The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services plans on admitting the first 20 residents in October 2024.

Please do NOT visit the construction site until this message is cleared. Arizona State Veteran Home-Flagstaff (ASVH) is a planned 80-bed Medicare-certified, skilled-nursing care facility for eligible Arizona veterans, located in north Flagstaff, near Flagstaff Medical Center, at:

Address TBD Telephone TBD

Care & Features

ASVH-FLAG serves the long-term care and rehabilitative needs of the veterans of northern Arizona, with energetic and caring staff whose members provide nursing, therapeutic recreation, and social services to those who have served our nation.

The facility provides a free, private, resident-use telephone for local/in-state calls at bedside, and free cable TV. Each resident room contains a TV. Residents may enjoy internet access on their own personal electronic devices throughout the building using facility-provided WiFi.

Veteran seniors and their spouses who choose long-term care enjoy a vibrant, independent lifestyle with customized services to fit their needs. Resident veterans enjoy comfort, dignity, and warm social connections. A variety of activities are planned and promoted, enhancing the sense of community for each resident. Caregivers are respectful, well-trained, and attentive.

Eligibility

An applicant is eligible for admission if the applicant is an honorably-separated veteran, or the spouse of a veteran. As a pre-requisite, the applicant must require skilled nursing care as determined by a physician. There must be documented evidence of the absence of tuberculosis

“AEA Past First Ladies’ Jewelry Project News”

As promised in my report to the 2024 Elks end of the year convention here are the 2023/2024 stats from the Past State President’s Ladies’ Jewelry Project.

At Christmas 2023 we served 450 children.

Valentines Day 2024 at the Steele Center Hospital and Hematology/Oncology Labs & the Glendale/thunderbird Clinic we served 150 children.

At Mothers Day 2024 we served 493 children; for a yearly grand total of 1,093 children.

1,093 children received multiple gifts of jewelry to give to their Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, and favorite nurses.

WE are so please with the support from those that sent us jewelry.

We may be asking soon for another donation of jewelry so, start sorting now, but please do not send quite yet. We will send out a formal request.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Diane Skorupski
Jewelry Project Chair



“Grand Lodge News”

JULY 2024

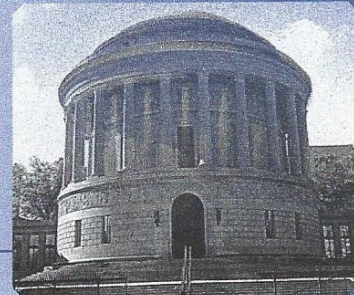
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Grand Lodge NEWSLETTER

Elks Care — Elks Share

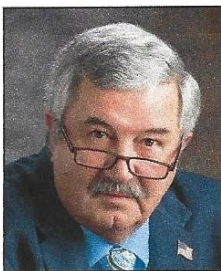


Dedicated, passionate Elks made this year a success

We celebrate the birth of the greatest nation on earth on the fourth day of this month. It is a time to reflect on all the freedoms we have enjoyed because of the vision of a small group of men and women committed to a cause.

People in this country still enjoy those same freedoms 248 years later. The enthusiasm for the cause of liberty has never been stronger. As Elks our commitment to our nation has never been stronger. Happy birthday, America—the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Time flies when you are having fun. A year ago, Wanda and I began this incredible journey. This was an adventure we never envisioned but we are so glad to



Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

RANDY P. SHOOK

have experienced.

The accomplishments we witnessed throughout our travels were truly remarkable. It was great to see your communities recognize that “*Elks Care—Elks Share*” and “*We Are THE Elks.*” We are very proud of your dedication to our Order.

It was great to meet new friends as well as spend time with old friends. The Elks really are one **big happy family**. Please continue to ask that relative or friend to join our family.

Wanda and I will continue to serve you as we move forward into this next Elks year, and for many more, God willing. The past year has been an adventure we will treasure forever. I would like to close by saying **thank you for everything**. We look forward to seeing you at the Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, Texas. It will be an exciting time.

God bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.



Grand Lodge Convention

June 30 - July 3 2024