



Volume 24 No. 11
March 2025

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
ChaplainLisa Hensley
Inner Guard..... Sarah Murray

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

District Leader.....Jack 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



Wow! I cannot believe March is already here. It seems like just yesterday I was starting my second go around at Exalted

Ruler. Here we are though heading into my final month. It has been an exciting year for me. I am proud to say that, through all the hard work that our members have put in, we are going to have a growth in

membership this year. We may be the only Lodge in the South District to accomplish this feat. I am proud that we not only have some great members, but also that our members

are proud of our lodge and share that with people who might not know too much about us and recruit them into our membership. I have met a lot of great new people this year and started many new friendships within the lodge. That is what makes it great to be an Elk for me.

The second thing that has happened this year that genuinely excites me is the formation of a New Home Committee. We have been meeting

often to discuss our plans moving forward. The committee hired a General Contractor and has gotten quite a bit of valuable information. Getting water to our property no longer seems to be a problem and he has found that water to our property is already in the plans with Tucson Water. That news was a great relief, as we had been getting the run-around from the water company up until this point. We have also determined that the best

plan of action is going to be to add on to our existing building. The contractor believes that this will save us money and allow us to stay open as the construction is

taking place. The addition will include a larger dining room that would be available to be rented, a larger bar, and a game room. Plans are far from carved in stone, but even having a rough plan gives me much to smile about.

I would like to again thank everyone who has helped me through this year and helped to make our lodge the best in the South District by far, and one of the best in our state. You all make me proud to be an Elk!!





Past Exalted Rulers

Donald Denman* 1969-70	Jim Buell, PDDGER 2005-06	Steve Asp 2017-18
Jim Gillis* 1982-83	Jack Baillargeon, PDDGER 2006-07	Glen Robinson 2017-18
Dave Webster* 1987-88	Sig Danielson 2007-08	Robert Kielsa 2018-19
Ralph Welsh 1989-90	Lee Cook, PDDGER 2008-09	Gloria Cisneros 2019-20
Al Skorupski, PSP 1993-94	Larry Megahan 2009-10	Steve Asp, PDDGER 2020-21
Charles Dugas* 1999-00	Richard Esparza 2010-11	Alane Asp 2021-22
Bill McLane* 2000-01	Thomas Wilson 2011-12	Monty Derting 2022-23
Victor Garcia* 2001-02	Earnest Cruce 2012-13	Ron Starjnski 2023-24
Kathy Anderson 2002-03	Robin Danielson 2013-14	
Neal Patronskey 2003-04	Gloria Cisneros 2014-15	
Frank Fieldhouse, PDDGER ... 2004-05	Doug Harpold 2015-16	
Jim Cox 2005-06	Sig Danielson 2016-17	

Affiliated PERs in Italic
Deceased *

Committees

Accident Prevention Paul Slater	Investigation Coordinator Deborah Derting
Americanism Al Peterson	Lodge Activities Jan Trudeau & Pam Wedwaldt
Auditing Chair Anna Williams	Major Project Coordinator Lisa Chavez
Blood Drive Coordinator Doug Harpold, PER	Membership Mimi Wittenborn
Bugle Editor Jim Buell, PDDGER	Memorial Day Service Coordinator Doug Harpold, PER
Building Committee Ron Starjnski, PER	PER Association Ron Starjnski, PER
Clothe-A-Child Coordinator Leslie Lefaive-Huerta	Protocol Coordinator Gail Baillargeon
Community Activities Jan Trudeau	Public Relations Chair Ellen Fitzgerald
Dictionary Project Cindy LeFaive	Ritualistic Comm. Chairs Jack Baillargeon, PDD; Al Skorupski, PSP; & Neal Patronskey, PER
Drug Awareness Doug Harpold	Scholarship Chair Lyn Moreno & Patricia Rourke
Elks Memorial Day Service Doug Harpold, PER	Sickness & Distress Paul Slater
Elks National Foundation Ron Starjnski, PER	Soccer Shoot Vacant
Flag Day Coordinator Doug Harpold, PER	Special Olympics Doug Harpold
Flag Display Chair Walt Ahlstrom	Standing Relief Committee Paul Slater
Fraternal Committee Larry Wittenborn	Training Chair Doug Harpold, PER
Golf Tournament Al Peterson	Veterans Services Bob Kielsa, PER
Government Relations Al Skorupski, PSP	Youth Activities Vacant
Hoop Shoot Vacant	Webmaster & Email Coordinator Ellen Fitzgerald
House Committee Pam Wedwaldt	
Orientation Coordinator Alane Asp, PER	

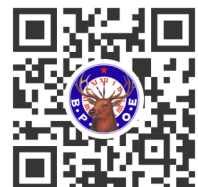
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Catalina Mountain



Arizona Elks Assn.

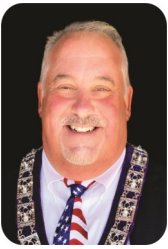


Grand Lodge

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 Spring!

It is hard to believe this will be my last article as your Leading Knight. I am looking forward to my year as the ER, and I hope that I can continue the excellence that those who came before me did for our lodge.

Hopefully, you have started to see some of the progress on the bar renovation. We are especially thankful for everyone who has contributed to this project, especially those who have purchased the ceiling tiles. Thank You!

A big thanks goes out to Lisa Chavez and all who helped her with the Have a Heart event on 15 February. AEMP (AX Elks Major Projects) is an amazing example of what Elks mean to their communities. AEMP supports Steele Research and the AZ Elks Youth Camp. The work that is

done at both sites is far-reaching and meaningful. If you are looking for a way to support AEMP, you can set up a recurring donation to the Diamond Club on the AZ Elks website

One of the biggest charitable things one can do is to share their time. As we approach the new Elks year, there are several committee chairs that I will be looking to fill. So if you have been wanting to be more involved, please reach out to me, or any of our officers and let us know! There are over 40 different committees, so there is something for everyone.

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 want to wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's day!! We are coming to the end of this fiscal year and we have seen some changes in the Lodge and experiencing growth in membership. I want to welcome our new members.

Dues are coming in and I thank you for that. Your cards will either be mailed to you or in the box in the Lodge. Unfortunately, those that still have not paid for this last year will be dropped the end of March. Committee chairs and those that do special volunteering please get you event reporting forms in to me ASAP after the event. Grand Lodge clears the report on March 31, so I can not enter anything after that. Thank you for being great members.

LODGE STATS YEAR-TO-DATE

Membership to Date.....	581
Candidates:	21
Transfers In	8
Delinquents	18
Life Members	53
Average Age	70

Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815

*Invites you to participate in our 2nd Annual
Charity Darts Tournament*

All proceeds benefit Veterans

Saturday April 20 @ 10 AM

Potluck @ Noon



Prizes
Silent Auction
Raffles



TOP
LUCK
Bring Food

Sign up in the Lounge by April 10

Entry fee: \$25 @Sign-UP

Limited to 32 Participants

Double Elimination

Teams will be drawn randomly



For Information Contact:
Jim Roberts : 248-330-0717
Rick Sitzmann: 520-665-9269
Kayleen Borah: 269-355-0524





Past Exalted Ruler Association - Ron Starjnski, PERA President



Hello Everyone,
The Past Exalted Rulers were recognized and then ran the last lodge meeting on February 13. Thanks to all the PERs that volunteered to be officers, ER – Ron, Leading Knight – Bob, Loyal Knight – Doug, Lecturing Knight – Tom, Esquire – Gloria, Secretary – Jack, Treasurer – Alane, Inner Guard – Lee and Chaplain – Steve.

As we get closer and closer to the 25th anniversary the PERs are coming up with new ideas for the event, we

already have Lobsterfest, we are going to do some Sunday afternoon lunches, a golf tournament and something special for the 20 or so remaining charter members of our lodge, stay tuned for more events coming next month.

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

Have a Heart Annual Event - Lisa Chavez



The Catalina Mountain Elks' *Have a Heart Committee* was thrilled to host our Annual February Event, bringing together your generosity, our community, and lots of fun! While fundraising is our primary goal, we always strive to create a memorable and enjoyable experience for our guests.

Our Have a Heart Committee is dedicated to raising funds for Major Projects, supporting the University of Arizona's Steele Children's Research Center and the Jack C. Warter, Jr. Youth Camp. As Elks, we take pride in our mission to serve our communities and country, and this event plays a crucial role in fulfilling that commitment.

We were honored to welcome Dr. Pawel Kiela as our guest speaker, who emphasized the vital role of the Elks' fundraising efforts in advancing research at the Steele Children's Research Center, especially in an era of uncertain government funding. The knowledge gained through this research benefits the entire medical community, and thanks to our contributions, the center can continue its groundbreaking work. Al Skorupski shared an inspiring example of our impact—the specialized microscope purchased by the Elks for the Steele Center is now being shared with other researchers, furthering collaboration and discovery.

As Dr. Kiela told us, Your donations are needed and deeply appreciated. To show our thanks, we offered our guests an evening filled with great food, exciting prizes, some "back

in the day" music with Austin Owen.

And when we say food, we mean a LOT of food! Cindy outdid herself with stunning and delicious charcuterie boards packed with meats, cheeses, nuts, crackers, grapes, and even chocolate-covered strawberries! For dinner, we were treated to smoked brisket, generously donated by Bubb's Grub (Dan) and yummy side dishes!

Guests had the chance to win amazing raffle baskets, donated by Tractor Supply, Trader Joe's, and many generous individuals. Our newest addition, the Gift Card LotterTree Game, was a huge hit, with winners taking home gift cards to incredible local spots like \$50 to Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers, \$30 to Sunny Side Up Café, plus gifts cards from Snooze, Starbucks, Fork & Fire, and more.

The biggest prize of the night? A two-night stay with breakfast for two at El Conquistador! This incredible donation was just one example of the generosity of our Elk Members and our amazing community.

Thank You for Your Support!

We are beyond grateful to everyone who contributed, attended, donated, and made this event a success. Your support ensures that we can continue making a meaningful difference through the Steele Children's Research Center and the Jack C. Warter, Jr. Youth Camp.

Thank you for having a heart and being part of something truly special.

Lodge Activities - Jan Trudeau & Pam Wedwaldt



LODGE ACTIVITIES

March is here and we have a busy month ahead. We begin with Bingo on Saturday March 1st. The fun begins at 2 PM. Come and join us. The PERA's Lobsterfest is scheduled for Saturday March 8th. The information and sign-up sheet is in the lounge. Be sure to sign up early-it's always fun and yummy! Texas Hold 'Em card games are now held on Sundays. The dates are Sunday the 9th and again on Sunday the 23rd. Games start at 1 PM. Please sign up in the lounge so we know how many tables to set up. Darts happen on the back patio on Saturdays at 4 PM, except when we have another event that uses the back patio. Check the calendar for dates. Wednesdays have full dinners on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays for \$15.00. The menus are located on the sign-up sheet in the lounge and on the calendar too. Tacos are offered on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays for \$2.00 each, Tacos and trivia will happen on Wednesday the 19th.

A fond farewell to all the outgoing lodge officers, and a hearty welcome to all the newly elected officers for the Elk year 2025-2026. It's going to be a great year!!



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On Tuesday February 18th, 35 hard working Elks created bonus food bags for low income seniors thru our local food bank-Impact of Southern Arizona. Every senior registered with their Community Senior Food program will receive these bags in addition to their standard allotment this month. The bags included cans of fruit, vegetables, soup, and tuna. Also included were crackers, cookies, powdered milk and granola bars and nuts. This awesome community project was made possible because of two grants from the grand lodge, a Beacon grant and a Gratitude grant totaling \$8,000!! THANK YOU to everyone who helped pick up the groceries, sort them and assemble the bags and load them into the Impact truck. Job well done Elks!



Stuff-A-Bag Committee



Easter Shopping Spree for Kids

April 5, 2025
8:30 AM

Volunteers Needed to
Shop with the Kids

Walmart Oro Valley
Marketplace
Meet @ 8:30 AM in the
Garden Center

DONATIONS WELCOME



Sign up in Lodge

For Information Contact
Leslie Huerta: 520-484-0516
Cindy Lefaive: 520-909-9731



Veterans Committee - PER Bob Kielsa



I'm very happy to report that our **Non Cash** donations to date are \$140,287 and our **Cash** donations have hit \$30,442 bringing our **total Veteran donations to \$170,699.**

You will soon be able to sign up for our **April Dart Tournament fund raiser scheduled for Saturday, April 12th.** If you have items that would be good for our raffle please check with Lisa Hensley or Kayleen Borah with your possible donation.

Another way we can help our veterans is with the gift of your used clothing and/or clean and functional medical supplies. I have two outlets for used medical supplies for veterans. We can place wheelchairs, walkers, canes &

crutches, electric carts, 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 new Undershorts and T-shirts (Med, Lg, XL), Jeans (W 33, 34, 36) Sweatshirts and warm Socks.

When you clean out your closets **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!

House Committee - Pam Wedwaldt



I am happy to say that attendance at our House Committee meetings is up. We can always use some fresh ideas and value your input. We meet the first Thursday of every month at 4:30.

Where we are lacking is attendance at our Wednesday night dinners. We offer a 3 course dinner for the reasonable price of \$15. Check the calendar in the

Bugle to see what Cindy is cooking up the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Bring your friends and enjoy a delicious meal and a night out. Sign up the Monday before in the lounge. Our bar renovation is in full swing and looking great. I can't wait to see the finished result. Don't forget to check out the Lodge Activities article to see what's planned for the month. Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Sláinte

Elk of the Month - March

My Elk of the month for March is Jan Trudeau. Jan has worked hard in many capacities this year. She works most Wednesday dinners, Taco Wednesdays, and some Friday dinners as well. Those activities by themselves would be enough to get the Elk of the Month award, but then you add in the work she does for Impact of Southern AZ and she is a lock. Jan has, during this year, done food donations for Impact through some of our grants, managed the adopt a family at Christmas and wrapped

bags full of toys for the selected families, put together the food and supplies for the Thanksgiving stuff a bag, and most recently bought and arranged the stuff a bag to bring food to home bound seniors in our community. In total Jan was able to use \$8000 in grants to fill 500 bags of food to be delivered to 250 seniors. She arranged the purchase as well as getting the volunteers to make this a pretty streamlined event. Kudos to Jan for all she does, and thank you on behalf of a grateful lodge!



March Birthdays

1 Gary Adams	17 Jolee Henley
1 Brad Baron	17 Roger Mastro
1 Jose Ramirez	17 Art Mesa
4 Garie Hamilton	17 John Pearl
4 Kim McCullough	17 Debra Sitzmann
5 William McIlonie	17 Anne Stiles
5 Edward Stroetz	17 Nancy Wood
5 Thomas Teal	19 Robert Hone
5 Ken Weiss	19 Rose Ann Weaver
6 Kyle Krivanek	20 Leslie LeFaive-Huerta
6 James O'Brien	20 June Martin
7 Gail Baillargeon	20 John Mathwig
7 Betty Barrows	22 Monty Derting
7 Lisa Chavez	23 James Berdahl
7 Majorie White	23 Jacob Feldkamp
8 Rafael Trevino	23 Randy Ogren
9 Noah Goldstien	25 David Holmes
9 Robert Schiff	25 Ron Trudeau
9 Terry Worthly	26 Raenette Carle
10 Marilyn Moreno	26 Deborah Derting
10 Jerry Wilkerson	26 Patricia Lierman
11 Dan Drinkwitz	27 Donald Molitor
11 Louis Phillippi	28 Andrew Wilson
11 Lori Ryser	29 Ronald Bartolucci
13 Betty Cook	29 Skip Knowles
14 Donna Lopez	31 Robin Danielson
16 Gloria Higgins	

Wednesday Dinner Menu

March 5

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

February 12

Pork Tenderloin, Roasted
Potatoes, Carrots,
Applesauce, Corn Chowder,
Salad, Dessert

March 19

Tacos \$2 each; 4:30-6:00 pm
or UNTIL SOLD OUT

Trivia @ 6 pm

March 26

BBQ Ribs, Baked Potato,
Green Bean Casserole,
French Onion Gnocchi Soup,
Salad, Dessert

Jerry Bob's 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

Our Poet Laureate - Jim Cox



MARCH

We all love March, it ushers Spring.
The flora stir and robins sing.
Spread the warmth with brotherly love
and share the Earth's awakening.



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

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UPCOMING EVENTS
March

- March 1 *Bingo 2 pm*
Darts on the Patio 4 pm
March 5 *Quilters 1 pm*
March 8 *Lobsterfest 5-6:30 pm*
March 9 *Texas Hold'Em 1 pm*
March 15 *Darts on the Patio 4 pm*
March 19 *Trivia 6 pm*
March 22 *Awards Dinner 5:30 pm*
Ceremony Following Dinner
March 23 *Texas Hold'Em 1 pm*
March 29 *Officer Installation 11 am*
Lunch Following Installation
Darts on the Patio 4 pm

*Also check the Lodge Calendar
for additional events*