



Lodge Chartered 9/12/1999

2021-2022 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler Kris Weiland
 Leading Knight Eddie Lopez
 Loyal Knight Greg Sula
 Lecturing Knight Scott Nassetta
 Secretary Terry Taylor
 Treasurer Linda Harris
 Tiler Sally Piper
 Esquire Bill Oskin, PER
 Chaplain Linda Josephson
 Inner Guard Harold Straley, PER

TRUSTEES

3 Year Trustee Monty Dibble
 2 Year Trustee Dennis Baylor
 1 Year Trustee Vacant

PAST EXALTED RULERS

*Allen Webb 2000—2001
 Tom Cleminson 2001—2002
 Howard Koontz 2002—2003
 Ray Reimer 2003—2004
 *Charlie Cape 2004—2005
 *Mike Wilcox 2005—2006
 Lou Martin 2006—2008
 Bill Nicholes 2008—2009
 Bill Inman 2009—2010
 *Jerry Barton 2010—2011
 Bill Heiter 2011—2012
 Lou Martin 2012—2013
 Charlie Lum Kee 2013—2014
 Debbie Oskin 2014—2015
 Rick McDonald 2015—2016
 Bill Oskin 2016—2017
 Harold Straley 2017—2018
 Debbie Oskin 2018—2019
 Rick McDonald 2019—2020
 Jim Garner 2020—2021
 *Departed PERs

PER TRANSFERS

Don Coleman Jerry Cole
 Howard "Butch" Shraft

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTIES

Charlie Lum Kee 2016-2017
 Lou Martin 2017-2018
 Debbie Oskin 2019-2020

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Club Phone 702-345-2811
 Fax 702-345-2812
 Email elks2811@gmail.com
 Location 545 Riverside Road

Sickness & Distress

Harold Straley (702) 218-7383
 Wendy Kaplan (702) 345-2811

Mailing Address

Mesquite Elks Lodge #2811
 545 Riverside Road
 Mesquite, NV 89027

LODGE HOURS

Sun 1:00 pm to 6:00pm
 Mon - Thurs, Sat 1:00 pm to 6:00pm
 Fri 11:00am - 6:00pm



Volume XXII, Issue 6

JUNE 2021



Happy June my
 Brothers and Sis-
 ters!

This last month
 has been busy.
 Between Lodge
 meetings, events,

the State Association annual meet-
 ing, District Deputy Clinic, and the
 lifting of the mask restrictions many
 things have been happening.

Our Lodge Secretary Terry Taylor,
 Lodge Treasurer Linda Harris, Lead-
 ing Knight Eddie Lopez, and I attend-
 ed the District Deputy (DD) Clinic in
 Boulder City. The DD is our direct
 connection to the Grand Exalted Rul-
 er. The DD Clinic was to cover vari-
 ous subjects for the Lodge Officers. It
 was interesting to hear from the
 Lodges from our southern part of the
 State.

JoAnn and I attended the Nevada
 State Elks Association (NSEA) con-
 vention in Reno. There were several
 items discussed and approved. The
 NSEA membership has approved the
 creation of a second Vice President
 in addition to the current position and
 the President Elect. I had the honor
 of nominating our own Past Exalted
 Ruler, past DD, and current State VP
 Debbie Oskin for the position of
 President Elect and she will be
 NSEA President next year.

The Nevada State Elks Association
 Major Project Board presented to the
 membership a proposal to shift our
 current support from the State of Ne-
 vada Child Services to St. Judes
 Ranch in Boulder City. This change
 has been ongoing for the last two
 years and we were able to put to-
 gether the program to fit our bylaws
 and constitution. The change was
 approved by the membership and we
 will now start the transition. Also, the
 Covid Relief Grant program was ap-
 proved enabling the Major Project

Grants to go forward to assist all 16
 Lodges in the State with \$6,000.00
 each to be used in their community.
 The "Basket Raffle" luncheon was a
 success again this year. JoAnn and
 Mary DuBois from Reno Lodge along
 with Bill Oskin coordinated the setup
 and auction of the baskets. I do not
 have a figure as to how much was
 raised but considering that we were
 still in the Covid situation it went well.
 We were busy and I am proud of the
 work that has been done. Finally, Dan
 Wells of Tahoe/Douglas Lodge was
 sworn in as the 2021-22 NSEA Presi-
 dent. Good luck to President Wells
 First Lady Mary!

The Lodge celebrated Mother's Day
 with the Grand Lodge program giving
 recognition to our mothers. We had
 many mothers and family in attend-
 ance. I was told we had 80 plus at-
 tendees. My wife and our daughter
 were here together. It is the first time
 in my 46 years as an Elk that they
 were both in attendance. I was very
 proud to be part of this very touching
 ceremony with our officers. Thank
 you to all the moms!

The Lodge was part of the Mesquite
 Fun Night at the Rec Center on May
 21st. We staffed a game booth and
 had a chance to meet many of our
 community members. It is wonderful
 to be out in the community and see
 so many of our great friends.

I was asked by a member about the
 various meetings on the monthly cal-
 endar. What are they, what do they
 do and can anyone attend were a few
 of the questions. All of the Lodge
 meetings are open to any member. It
 is your Lodge and you have a say in
 it.

The Lodge Business meeting on the
 First Thursday of the month is the
 general member meeting that busi-

Continued on Page 3 "Exalted Ruler"

MESQUITO BYTES
The Official Publication of the Mesquite
 Nevada Elks Lodge #2811
 545 Riverside Road
 Mesquite Nevada 89027
 Club Phone: 702-345-2811
 Fax: 702-345-2812
 Email: elks2811@gmail.com

Mesquito Bytes is the official publication of B.P.O.E. No. 2811, published monthly. The purpose of the publication is to provide a ready means of communication within the Lodge. Contributions of interesting and pertinent reading material and photographs are welcomed. The deadline for receiving material is the 20th of each month.

All communications may be emailed in Microsoft WORD to Yvonne Lum Kee at ylumkee@gmail.com or Charlie Lum Kee at clumkee@gmail.com.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS



Keep the following members in your prayers

Gary Arnold recently had tests done, he is doing okay
 Chris Davis is home from the hospital and doing better
 PER Rick McDonald is still recovering from knee surgery. He is doing well.

With Deepest Sympathy

None

Please contact Harold Straley at (702) 218-7383 and/or Wendy Kaplan at (702) 345-2811 to report Sickness/Distress.

If by any chance, you hear of anyone that is under sickness and distress we would like to send them a get well card, visit or call them.

There is an erasable board in the lounge towards the back door that can be used to notify the members who is under the weather.

If we have missed anyone who is not doing well, we will keep our fellow Elks in our prayers.

Elk of the Month: Gail Bergvall

Gail prepared the Corned beef and cabbage meal for the St. Patrick's Day corn-hole game/event. She also volunteered to do the buying, cooking and setup the serving of the meal. I thank you very much for stepping up and doing a great job!

Applications for Membership

Candidate

Connie Keith
 Lori Huntsman
 Carla Lopez
 Scott Willardsen
 Milton Hill
 James Russell
 Neal Stuckey
 Amanda Butehorn
 JoEllen Horton
 Kenneth Holder
 Dawn Pecoraro

Proposer

David Oakes
 Tom Toreno, Lodge #2670
 Eddie Lopez
 Wayne Barnes, Lodge #1743;
 Mike Reiger
 Ann Murphy
 Steve Kennally
 Karen Fielding
 Linda Josephson
 Ben Reed, Jr., Lodge #1472
 Ben Reed, Jr. Lodge #1472

Transfers:

Paulette and Duane Tolman, transferring from Bullhead City, AZ Lodge 2408
 Laddie Buck Steffens, transferring from Florence, OR #1858
 Robert Morgan, transfer in good standing from Dixie, St. George Lodge #1743

All candidates balloted successfully.



Amanda Butehorn, Jody Horton, Carla Lopez, Lorie Huntsman, Milton Hill, Connie Keith, Maurice Hardman, Jack Matthews, James Russell, Neal Stuckey, and Scott Willardson.

We apologize for no picture this month.



Mesquite Elks #2811 will hold a Duck Race at the Oasis Golf Course at 11:00 a.m. on July 3rd. People can meet at the snack shack to watch their duck at the finish line. Prizes for the race will be announced at the Mesquite Elks Lodge following the race. Ducks will be sold for \$10.00 each and proceeds will go to the Building Expansion Fund. Come out and enjoy the fun with your fellow Elks.

Continued from page 1 "Exalted Ruler"

ness of the Lodge is discussed and voted on. This includes new members, paying bills and committee reports.

The following week we have committee meetings. Membership, Activities, House, and the Board. All these meetings are open to all members. These are the meetings where the real background, planning, coordination takes place for events and operations. The membership committee works on programs to recruit and retain members like our dues drawing at Lodge meetings. The Activities committee put together the events like Mother's Day, Halloween, Christmas parties. Dinners and events like the milk can dinners or steak feeds or special theme events like a luau. The House Committee approves events and oversees the operations of the lounge and kitchen. The Board of Directors work with all the committees and manages the budget and business commitments of the Lodge. Also, on Thursday that week is new member orientation. This program is to give new members an overview of what the Elks are

and more specifically our Lodge. This is open to all members but is focused on our new members and their sponsors. The Lodge meeting on the third Thursday is our Initiation Meeting when we bring into the Lodge our new members. It is a very interesting ritual to initiate someone into our order. If you have not attended an initiation meeting in a while it reminds us of who and why we are. We also conduct business of the Lodge at this meeting along with committee reports.

It would be difficult to publish an agenda in the newsletter for these meetings, but I can tell you a lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes and our volunteers are the best! Without the dedication of our members, we would not be the Lodge we are today. The bar staff, the kitchen crews, the burger teams-and the officers all do their best to make our Lodge a fun and enjoyable place to be.

On June 5, 2021, 12-1:30 we will be hosting a Youth Appreciation BBQ to pay tribute to our very own Softball League Team and the winners of our Lodge Scholarships. This will be a fun and relaxed chance to meet and show our appreciation of the young members of our community.

On June 14, 2021 at 5:00pm at Mesquite City Hall Mesquite Elks Lodge 2811 will do the Elks Flag Day Presentation. It is a great ceremony and please attend. Members of our Softball Team will be flag bearers during the presentation.

Take care, enjoy life to the fullest!

Fraternally,
Kris K. Weiland
Exalted Ruler

Kweiland.kw@gmail.com

Scholarship News

Elks Lodge #2811 offered four scholarships for students of the Class of 2021. Students from Beaver Dam High School, Moapa High School, and Virgin Valley High School competed to receive financial assistance for their higher education. The scholarships include: two \$1,000 academic awards, two \$1,000 vocational awards. There were 30 students who applied for the scholarships. The following criteria was used to select the recipients: academics, financial need, presentation, and recommendations.

On May 18, 2021 an award assembly, will be held at Virgin Valley High School. The following certificates will be awarded: Jaden Tan and Ethan Woods will receive the Academic Scholarship and Orlando Sandoval will receive a Vocational Scholarship. On May 20, 2021 an award assembly will be held at Moapa High School. Josue Ochoa will receive a Vocational Scholarship. A representative from Elks Lodge #2811 will award certificates to the recipients. To receive the award money the student will show proof of enrollment and the Elks Lodge will apply the financial assistance in their name at the college of their choice.

As an Elk community we want to wish these students the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Elks Care, Elks Share!

Fraternally,

Jyll Okelberry
Scholarship Chair

NEWS FROM THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

To begin with, I would like to thank all those who attended the Mother's Day Brunch, even if they forgot to sign up. It was a resounding success, as evidenced by how fast we ran out of food and ended up providing many lessons which will make future events even better.

First, I want to thank the ladies who made the delicious casseroles: Janet Hunter, Karen Miskimins and Marie Rasmussen. Then, I want to thank Sharon Blackmore, Penny Prapotnik, Dennis Baylor, Kathy Baylor and Glen Burton for their help setting up and cleaning up. I would also like to thank Greg, Scott, Dennis, and Kathy for once again providing excellent bar service, in what started out as a total fiasco due to my poor planning. And, finally, I would like to thank Harold Straley for procuring the beautiful carnations. If I have missed anyone, please know it was not done intentionally.

June is turning out to be a busy month for the Lodge. Thursday, June 3rd, the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Breakfast Meeting for their members. In the past, these events have been very successful for the Lodge. Any of you early risers who would like to help out, please call me. The breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m.

Then, on Saturday, June 5th, the Lodge is hosting a Barbecue for our Little League teams as they bring their season to a successful close. This event will start at Noon and end at 1:30 pm. Again, volunteers are needed and should be at the Lodge at 11:00 a.m. to get everything ready. Please call me if you are up for the task of grilling hot dogs and/or hamburgers, as well.

And not to be out done, there will be a Father's Day Brunch Sunday, June 20th, starting at 11:00 a.m. This is for members and their partners, only. There is no charge; however, tickets must be picked up at the bar. One hundred tickets will be available starting Monday, June 7th, through Thursday, June 17th. You must have a ticket to participate. When you surrender your meal ticket you will receive one drink ticket which may be exchanged for a premade Bloody Mary or Screwdriver at the back bar. Come down and enjoy the good food and expect to have a great time, as well.

As mentioned previously, the Activities Committee would like to expand to include the following Sub-Committees: Event Coordination, Decorating, Food Preparation, Clean Up and Decoration Removal, etc. Remember, many hands make light work of a big job. With this in mind, please accept my invitation to join us at our regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 1st, in the Lodge, at 2:00 pm.

God Bless.

Deby Burton
801.791.1900

Tiler Sally
Piper

Birthday Drink Coupon

This coupon entitles this month's birthday Elk to a free drink of your choice. Cut this out and fill it out and give to the bartender on duty.

PRINT YOUR NAME _____

DATE: _____

Check us out on

FACEBOOK

at **Elks Lodge #2811**

Mesquite, NV

for the most up to date news
of

Events and happenings at the
Lodge.

REMINDER

If by any chance you have heard that a member is not receiving his or her monthly newsletter, you need to inform them to call the Lodge Secretary at (702) 345-2811 with a current mailing address, phone no. and/or email address. If you want to receive your newsletters via EMAIL, stop by the Lodge and fill out the form. They come in color and save the Lodge postage.

BUSINESS CARD ADS

If anyone knows of a business person who would like to advertise in the monthly newsletter, please contact Yvonne Lum Kee (808) 284-3468.
Please support the people who support us with their ads.



01 Kathleen Palmer
01 Wanda Risch
02 John Lacenski
03 Donald Coleman
03 Gary Harris
03 Dennis Lynch
03 Bryan Morgan
05 Carla Lopez
05 Dixie Puckett
07 Joseph Evans
07 Thomas Mercer
07 Leonard Merrell
08 Serge J Gagnon
08 Elmer Johnston
08 Barbara Larsen
08 Kenneth Winkler
09 Dennis Morgan
10 Kay Wood
11 Darlene Carpenter
11 Paul Chandler
11 Edward Fourman
11 Larry McFarland
11 Sandra Myers
12 Sheryl Buscher
12 Christine Davis
12 Marlys Seaholm
13 James Pfliger
14 Glen VanWagoner
15 Joseph Dwyer
16 Mary Nelson
16 Stetson Ruth
16 Larry Stricker
17 Linda Darling
18 Richard Jackson
19 Jacob Worden
21 Sharon Bevans
21 Thomas McMurray
21 Dean Nakayama
22 Rita Smith
23 Dyce BrownLee
23 Thomas Fulton
23 Raider Garcia
24 Mellissa Pulsipher
24 Daniel Stout
24 Dwain Wille
26 Victor Colvin
28 Anthony White
29 Ann Murphy



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Getting to Know the Mesquite Elks House Rules

(Fifth - 17 of 19)

17. No credit shall be granted to anyone. No more than \$50.00 in personal checks may be cashed in any one day; and no third-party checks will be accepted. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, the check cashing privileges shall be suspended for one year and the Member s responsible for all associated fees.
18. Under the provisions of Article 11-A of the By-Laws and Section 14.130, any Member in good standing from another Lodge may apply for an Associate membership in this Lodge. Must be approved by the House Committee and the Board of Directors and a payment of \$25 administrative fee for Membership Card.
19. Elks may park an RV in one of two available spaces for a maximum of seven nights. Only 20-amp, electrical service, no other services are available; and the Member assumes all liability. Reservations are recommended. Rates will be quoted at the time of reservation.

-Cheers from the bar,

Wow....cannot believe that we are already doing the June newsletter! Our new year is off to an amazing start! SO very excited that we can once again start doing events for our awesome community and raising money to give back to our local organizations! Now, we can all say that we have lived through a pandemic, and all the complications that it creates for everyone, including our non-profit organizations! We will get through this! Thank you one and all for your patience and brotherhood benevolence and understanding.... you are the ones that **keep us going! It has been rough, not going to lie. We've probably all lost someone in one way or another,** whether remotely or closely, to this pandemic. One thing that it has taught me, personally, is that the ONE thing that we all know, but sometimes just becomes a wayward saying.... LIFE IS SHORT, so, let us all be thankful that we are here, we are thankful to be part of a totally VOLUNTEER organization that VOLUNTEER to be ready to give back to our little town of Mesquite. From the top and bottom of my ♥.... THANK you to Mesquite Elks Lodge #2811 Volunteers and Bartender Staff for ALL of your dedication, and amazing volunteer hours that you unselfishly give to keep our lodge open and running!

A little side note: My monthly shoutout goes to: Not totally sure of who has been VOLUNTARILY keeping our little library straight and organized, but I want to say that a LOT of people (including me!) appreciate what you do! If you have not taken advantage of our book sharing library, please do! Nothing like curling up with a REAL book to take the daily stress away!

-Kathy

Nevada State Elks Association Major Project. Camp To Belong and Safe Haven.

Membership Dues Drawing

Attend the twice monthly lodge meetings and have a chance to have your 2022-23 Lodge Dues paid! Each month at our meetings a name of a current member will be drawn. If that member is present at the Lodge meeting, their dues for the following year will be paid. You must be current on dues and be present to win!

Thank You from our Kitchen



The Elks Lodge was finally able to start serving our Friday lunches. Although it was a whole different process and you all were very patient with the changes, it has gotten off to a great start.

Starting May 14th, we were able to totally return to full serving with the return of the salad bar. You now can serve yourself your condiments and not have to request tomatoes, lettuce and onions when ordering your lunch. It was a much smoother process for both volunteers and attendees!

Look for our Friday "Special Sandwich" to return in September. We would love to hear what your favorite sandwich has been. Suggestions are always welcome.

Mark your calendar for July 31st for Don Ackerman's yummy spaghetti dinner. Cocktails at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00. Cost \$12.00. Don graciously donates the food, and all proceeds go to the Lodge. Come for a fun night and support this great dinner.

A big thank you for supporting our Friday Lunch and our awesome volunteers that make them happen. See you on Friday!



- 1) Who is the youngest charter member of our Lodge?
- 2) What charity does the funds from the "Blue Pigs" support?

Find the answers inside the newsletter in a bubble or some sort of shape!

PAST EXALTED RULER MESSAGE

I want to express my appreciation to all the Members of our Lodge for your support and advice in the past several years since I took part in volunteering my assistance in a few of the many responsibilities that keep our Lodge functioning. Through all these years since we chartered, we managed to keep our Lodge going on a positive note. I look forward to helping the Lodge grow and our Members to help us make that possible. Words cannot express the gratitude and heartfelt thanks to you in helping us do that.

If you as a Member, joined this great organization, you need to ask yourself "Why do I want to join?" All non-profit organizations have functions that must be fulfilled to continue to survive. Our obligations happen due to the Members volunteering, need it be a few hours of their time in the kitchen, on one of the many committees, participating at the many events we have to raise money...I could go on and on. Unfortunately, of the 500 plus brothers and sisters we have, I only see a handful that are dedicated to offer their help and time. Many of our members have other responsibilities but again you might ask yourself the same question I asked myself. Do you want to see our Lodge continue being the best Lodge in Southern Nevada and continue seeing our Lodge grow and prosper? I am looking forward to meeting you, maybe work with you or even just to chit-chat. If any of you have any questions, feel free to just ask.

Faternally,

Harold Straley





Youth Appreciation BBQ

Saturday, June 5, 2021

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

**Burgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Pop
provided for the kids and their
Families**

**Invitees will be the Baseball Team and
the Scholarship Winners**

**To recognize them for their achieve-
ments in our Community**

**We need members to help with
cooking burgers and hot dogs. Al-
so, to prepare the condiments and
setup/clean up**

Elks Care - Elks Share

Mesquite Elks Lodge #2811

Mandatory Observance of Flag Day

June 14th, 2021

5:00 P.M.

Mesquite City Hall

(All Officers will be dressed in Lodge Black Shirts and Gray Slacks/Skirt)

The Protective Order of the Elks designated by proclamation that June 14th be Flag Day.

Mandatory observance of Flag Day on June 14th by every lodge of the order was adopted in 1911, and has been observed every year since. Every Elk member finds great significance in the patriotic observance of Flag Day.



Mother's Day Ceremony, May 9, 2021. PER Harold Straley presented JoAnn Weiland, Deby Burton, Shelly Piper Martin, Sally Piper, Kathy Baylor flower bouquet. It was a great ceremony and well attended. I heard we had 80+ there.



Cornhole Toss Tournament, May 5, 2021, Good participation and fun time!



Another Fun Activity in our Lodge along with good food and com-radery.



Kentucky Derby Participants, May 1, 2021



VVLL, Elks sponsored the Girls Softball team, they finished with 12-0. Awesome!!



Here are a few pictures from Mesquite Family Fun Night May 21, 2021. The Elks staffed a baseball/bowling pin ball toss. We had 5 Elks help plus a young man who came up and just started helping. He is standing next to the Mustang in the picture and was a great help. We had well over 100 kids come to our booth and play the game. Thank you to all the members who helped tonight!



NSEA Officers for 2021-2022

L to R: Danny Wells, President, Debbie Oskin, President-Elect, Frank Reynolds III, Vice President, Shaaron Snead, Secretary



Lodge Welcome Back Dinner, April 10, 2021



Kentucky Derby, May 1, 2021

PER Rick McDonald I spent a couple of hours at Beaver Dam Elementary School with the Batmobile and making friends for the Elks Lodge.



JUNE 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Cornhole Toss 4:00 pm 	3 Elks Bus Mtg 6:00 pm	4 Bldg Expansion/ Capitol Facilities Mtg, 9:30 am Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Fish Sandwich, Chicken Wings, French Fries, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	5 Youth Appreciation BBQ 12:00 - 1:30 pm
	6 Cornhole Toss 2:00 pm 	7 Darts 4:00 pm 	8 Membership Comm Mtg 1:00 pm Activities Comm Mtg 2:00 pm House Comm Mtg, 3:30 pm BOD Mtg, 5:00 pm	9 Cornhole Toss 4:00 pm 	10 Orientation Mtg 5:00 pm	11 Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Fish Sandwich, Chick- en Wings, French Fries, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
13 Cornhole Toss 2:00 pm	14 Flag Day  Mesquite City Hall for Flag Day Cere- mony, 5:00 pm Darts 4:00 pm	15	16 Cornhole Toss 4:00 pm 	17 DAV Van Drivers Mtg 3:00 PM Elks Initiation Mtg 6:00 pm	18 Bldg Expansion/ Capitol Facilities Mtg, 9:30 am Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Fish Sandwich, Chicken Wings, French Fries, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	19
20 Father's Day Brunch, 11:00 am (Get your tickets at the bar) Cornhole Toss 2:00 pm Articles Due for July 2021 Newsletter First Day of Summer	21 Darts 4:00 pm 	22	23 Cornhole Toss 4:00 pm 	24 PER Meeting 4:00 pm	25 Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Fish Sandwich, Chick- en Wings, French Fries, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	26
27 Cornhole Toss 2:00 pm 	28 Darts 4:00 pm	29	30 Cornhole Toss 4:00 pm 	<div>Scheduled Burger Teams for June</div> <div> June 04 - Burton's Team June 11 - Straley's Team June 18 - Bunnel's Team June 25 - Robinson's Team </div>		

Message from the GER - Paul R. Ryan

June: Our flag, our loyalty, and our veterans

Honoring the flag of our country on a day of national recognition for our flag is one of the proudest things we can do as Elks. After all, Flag Day was first introduced by the Elks.

You should be honored to put on the Flag Day ceremony. Talk to your city if they have a memorial that can be performed in conjunction with the Legion or VFW. My Lodge has performed it at a Veterans Hospital. Perform the ceremony in a place where many will see it and be educated by it. As you can see by my pin, the flag of the greatest country on earth is something that Stacey and I cherish deeply. I hope you will feel the same sense of pride this Flag Day.

That being said, you should also honor fathers this month. I know that my father has taught me a great plenty in life and I am so proud to call him dad.

My father-in-law has also been a great influence on me. My wife may have been the one that got me into the Elks, but he was the one who set me on my path and mentored me to where I am today. I am proud of them both and I am so glad that they have both been an influence to me.

Make sure to come to Tampa and partake in all of the great convention seminars and meetings. There is so much to do and so much to learn. You will also have a chance to meet other great Elks throughout the nation and gain new ideas and develop new connections. Don't just rush out and join your own state in their hospitality room—go get introduced to others.

Stacey and I look forward to seeing you soon in Tampa. Remember to Create Momentum for the Future of Elkdom!

Patriotism has characterized the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America since the early days of the organization. Allegiance to the flag of our country is a requirement of every member. In 1907, the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks designated, by resolution, June 14 as Flag Day. The Grand Lodge of the Order adopted mandatory observance of the occasion by every Lodge in 1911, and that requirement continues. The Elks prompted President Woodrow Wilson to recognize the Order's observance of Flag Day for its patriotic expression. But it was not until **1949 when President Harry Truman, himself a member of the Elks**, made the proclamation that thereafter June 14 would be a day of national observance for the symbol of our country. It was through his Elks Lodge in Independence, Missouri, that President Truman got the idea for a national observance of Flag Day.

From the Red Skelton Hour, January 14, 1969 As remembered and performed by Red Skelton (1913-1997): I had this one teacher, he was the principal of the Harrison School, in Vincennes, Indiana. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time. He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance one day, and he walked over. This little old teacher - Mr. Lasswell was his name. He said: "I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word?"

I me, an individual, a committee of one. **Pledge** dedicate all my worldly goods to give without self-pity. **Allegiance** my love and my devotion. **To the Flag** our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job. **Of the United** that means that we have all come together. **States** individual communities that have united into 48 great states. 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common cause, and that's love of country. **Of America. And to the Republic** a republic - a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people. **For Which it Stands One Nation** meaning, so blessed by God. **Indivisible** incapable of being divided. **With Liberty** which is freedom and the right of power to live one's life without threats or fear or any sort of retaliation. **And Justice** the principle and quality of dealing fairly with others. **For All.** which means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

And now, boys and girls, let me hear you recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country, and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance - **"under God."** Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said, "That is a prayer," and that would be eliminated from our schools too?

©1969 Richard "Red" Skelton

Richard Bernard "Red" Skelton was born July 18, 1913, in Vincennes, Indiana Red Skelton died in Rancho Mirage, California. on Sept. 17, 1997 Red Skelton is a U.S. Army veteran of World War Two (1944-1945) **"Good night, and may God bless."**





BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

545 Riverside Road
MESQUITE, NEVADA 89027

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
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Bunkerville Nevada
Permit No. 2



Elks Care — Elks Share

Committees

Auditor.....Linda Josephson
Accounting & AuditingLinda Josephson
Community Activities Monty Dibble
Public Relations Yvonne Lum Kee
Youth (Hoop/Soccer Shoot)Scott Nassetta
Scholarships Jyll Okelberry
Drug Awareness Greg Sula
FraternalBill Oskin, PER
AmericanismBill Oskin, PER

ENF..... Kathy Devore
State Major Debi Olmstead
NEMPI..... Kris Weiland
Flag DayHarold Straley, PER
Elks MemorialJim Garner, PER
Membership Lola Pointer
Lodge Activities Deby Burton
Veterans' ServicesHarold Straley, PER
Accident Prevention.....Glen Burton

PER Association Jim Garner PER
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Lapsation..... Terry Taylor
House CommitteeNeil Watkins
Vets Vans Service..... Sam Latendresse
Government RelationsMartine Greene
Presiding Justice.....Debbie Oskin, PER
Mediator.....Bill Oskin, PER

Slogan of Grand Exalted Ruler Paul R. Ryan:

“Creating Momentum For The Future of Elkdom ”