



Puyallup Elks Lodge #1450

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Lodge History

Founding



- Elks Lodge #1450 in Puyallup was founded in 1922 by three Elks members who were living in the area.
- A committee of 13 members was chosen to organize the Lodge.
- In the first year, there were 353 members, who met at the Masonic Temple.
- Long before social services were ever heard of, it was the Elks who provided for community needs.

Meridian Building



- In 1924 the members decided to construct a lodge building on Meridian Avenue in Puyallup.
- On the third anniversary of the lodge, the new building was dedicated. The anniversary celebration was spread over five days and nights. At the end of the celebration the lodge had 600 members.
- The Great Depression brought challenges. The Lodge had no money and needed a loan. Volunteers were asked to co-sign the loan. The response was so great, there was not enough room for all the signatures on the loan document.

From War to New Beginnings



- During World War II, the Lodge arranged dances for US service members stationed at Fort Lewis, gave a piano to McChord Hospital, and entertained at Madigan Hospital.
- The Lodge was able to pay off the Meridian building loan in 1945.
- Our Christmas in July tradition began in 1949 with a complete carnival including pony rides, games, Ferris wheel, etc.
- In 1962 the lodge outgrew its building with membership growing to 1,351.
- The lodge constructed a new 34,000 square foot building in 1964 on 27th street.

A New Lodge



- In 1969, a baseball field was constructed behind the lodge.
- In 2019 the tennis court was converted to another ball field.
- In 2020 the Covid pandemic closed the lodge for 2 years. Afterwards, we revived our programs benefiting our community.
- In 2022 the lodge held a Centennial Ball celebrating 100 years of success.
- In 2024 the lodge experiences another closure due to flooding from frozen water pipes. After two years the majority of the lodge has been rebuilt and reopened.

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