

Arizona Elks News

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

March 2024



"Thanks for Lending a Hand"

Brother and Sister Elks,

I hope you all had a Happy Valentine's Day and had the opportunity to spend a little special time with your Valentine.

This is such an "electric" time of year as the current Exalted Rulers put the icing on the cake of their current Lodge year and the incoming Exalted Rulers plan for the Installation of new Lodge Officers and the start of their own year of leading their Lodges. I trust that the information and guidance provided at the recently completed Leading Knights Clinics has been well-taken and will soon be implemented by our new Lodge leaders. I encourage the outgoing Exalted Rulers to document the successes of their administration:



1. Grand Lodge Contest A, All-American Lodge Application due to District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler by 4/1/24
2. Grand Lodge Contest B, Community Service and Image Brochure due to District Chair by 3/15/24
3. Grand Lodge Contest C, Memorial Service Brochure due to District Chair by 3/15/24
4. Grand Lodge Contest D, Lodge Bulletin Contest due to District Chair by 3/15/24
5. AEA Lodge of the Year Contest, Application due to District Chair by 4/1/24

We witnessed the successful completion of the Arizona Hoop Shoot Contest activities as the AEA Hoop Shoot Finals were conducted in Apache Junction on February 10. At the time of this writing, Brenda and I are readying to journey on the Junk Food Express with the six contest winners, their families and a troupe of Elks supporters as we travel to Boulder City, Nevada for the Area 7 Hoop Shoot Finals. The respective winners from the states of Nevada, Utah and California-Hawaii will square off against our capable winners for the opportunity to represent Area 7 at the Grand Lodge Hoop Shoot Contest in Chicago in April. Keep your fingers crossed! We owe a debt of gratitude to Jeannie and Gregg Boyce for handling this monstrous effort so capably year after year.

We are in the homestretch of the Lodge year. In terms of net membership, we are well on the way to another plus membership per the Grand Lodge Membership Report of 2/8/24, as follows:

Gains	3,704
Losses	(1,561)
Delinquents	(1,838)
<u>Awaiting Initiation</u>	<u>571</u>
Net	876

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Next AEA Newsletter submission deadline

19 March 2024

**aeanewsletter
@arizonaelks.org**



Continued on Page 2

**ARIZONA ELKS
ASSOCIATION
2023-2024
STATE OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:

Al Kayal

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

South: Susan Krausman

VICE PRESIDENTS

North: "Hersh" Eaton* R.I.P.

East: JeRay Bellon

West: Hank Thonnard

SECRETARY:

Cheryl Gillespie

TREASURER:

Alane Asp

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

North-1 Year:

Edward Leuer, PSP

South- 2 Year:

Joe Riley, PSP

South- 3 Year:

Richard "Rich" Botkin, PSP

East-4 Year:

Jimmy S. Davis, PSP

North- 5 Year:

James R. Cassacchia, PSP

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Alejandro "Alex" Arroyo

CHAPLAIN:

Brad Lucas

TILER:

Travis Napolitan

INNER GUARD:

Taleen Carpenter

ASST. SEC / TREASURER:

Roy Haddick

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Karen Koble

MUSICIAN:

Ira Cohen

"Thanks for Lending a Hand"

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We are having another extraordinary year, membership-wise, as the latest report shows we are number 5 in the nation. And, you know the routine: a) Let's contact our delinquent members and find out why they are not paying dues or what we can do to help, if needed, and encourage them to renew, b) Let's actively inspire our existing members to invite friends, family and acquaintances to join our great Order, c) Let's invite our membership, by specific and detailed invitation, to attend our fundraising events and to help with Hoop Shoot, Visiting the Sick, supporting our Veterans, etc., d) Let's review our Stray Elks lists, contact those potential members that have moved into the jurisdiction of our Lodges and invite them to come to a Lodge Meeting or an event, e) Let's welcome our winter visitors back and encourage them to renew their dues; and f) Initiate, Initiate, Initiate - Consider conducting a special Initiation in March to bring all possible applicants into the fold.

Brenda and I have been coordinating the many details of the May Convention with our life-savers, Janet and Ed Leuer of the Meetings Committee. We hope you will find this to be a fun and enjoyable convention. You will note that the Committee has arranged for a very special room rate, especially considering current market rates, and has held the line on Convention registration fees and meals. Brenda is planning another spectacular luncheon for the spouses/partners/guests. Grand Exalted Ruler Randy Shook and First Lady Wanda will be our guests of honor. State Sponsors and dear friends Jim Grillo (and Lucia) and Bob Duitsman (and Beth) will also be in attendance. You might get your registration forms in early ("just sayin"). Please let us know if you have any special requests with respect to the meeting or the facilities.

Special Deputy Jerry Grimes has requested that each Arizona Lodge take a picture of its "donations" banner at your Lodge or at a Special Event sponsored by your Lodge. Consider having a group of your officers in the photo as well. Send the photo to Jerry as soon as possible and he will have a poster made up displaying your Lodges' achievements. This will be prominently displayed during the convention for everyone to admire, especially our out-of-town guests.

Please remember that the Arizona Elks Association and its officers are here to lend a hand in most any facet of Lodge operation, without repercussion, if you desire. Please feel free to consult with any of us, regardless of the request.

Don't forget to supply evidence of our substantial and many accomplishments for publication to this AEA Newsletter, to the Grand Lodge Magazine and to local news.

Brenda and I are proud to be of service to all of you and to this great Association.

May God bless our troops, our first responders, our families and all of you.

Thanks for Lending a Hand!

Fraternally,
Al Kayal, President
Arizona Elks Association

“Casa Grande Valley #1957 Rides on Rose Parade Float In Spirit”



This year our lodge did not have anyone travel to Pasadena to help with the preparation of the Elks float, but we did get represented another way thanks to member, Jake Shetka!

Jake is a friend of Tom Kramin, VSO, retired U.S. Coast Guard, who was one of the veterans featured on the float New Year's Day. Jake asked him to carry the Casa Grande Lodge pin in his pocket so our lodge would be represented at the Rose Bowl Parade. We were quite surprised to get this beautiful picture! Among the roses on the float was our lodge pin!

Thank you to these two veterans for giving Casa Grande #1957 another reason to shine!

If you want to volunteer to decorate the float next year, watch on Facebook or the bulletin, starting in September.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson

“Apache Junction Lodge #2349 Involved in Lost Dutchman Days”

January ushered in the 60th annual Lost Dutchman Days (LDD) and the Elks are in full volunteer mode as always! The Kick-Off Dinner on January 18th at the Apache Junction Elks Lodge #2349 showcased a mouthwatering taco bar from Jentink's Kitchen, while 5 dedicated cowgirls were presented as the newly crowned LDD Royalty Court. Congratulations to loyal Elk, Vicki Petrosky, who received the esteemed Honorary Dutchman title for her extensive years of service and leadership. Circle C Stables also earned the Heritage Award for their enduring support of LDD.

The Lost Dutchman Days Committee partners up with various youth-serving organizations and sponsors in Apache Junction, AZ for a weekend of family fun. Profits from this event are donated back to these youth organizations and other youth-serving programs of the Apache Junction Community, ensuring the opportunity to reach the ultimate goal of "Putting Smiles on Kid's Faces."

On January 20th, Elks Lodge #2349 sponsored 3 teams and 2 holes while the Past Exalted Rulers sponsored an additional 2 holes. The Hux Russell Memorial Golf Tournament, which is named after the esteemed Past Exalted Ruler of Lodge #2349, was a showcase where 29 teams of four demonstrated their golf skills. After a day of swings, putts, bogeys, and eagles, participants returned to Elks Lodge #2349 for a generous taco bar, raffles, and prizes. Following the passing of the primary coordinator, Linda Rae, several Elks members stepped up to ensure the continuation of this vital event benefiting local youth.

Lost Dutchman Days continues into February, with Elks Lodge #2349 hosting the Bratwurst & Beer party on Thursday, February 22nd from 12 pm to 8 pm and the Rodeo Dance on Friday, February 23rd from 7 pm to 11 pm. These two events take place at the lodge, located at 2455 N. Apache Trail. Admission to the Bratwurst Party is free and features live music from Sylvia's AZ Polk Band and Just for Fun Band. The dance, open to the public aged 21 and older, has a \$10.00 admission fee and offers live music from the Canyon State Band. All proceeds from these events go to local youth charities.



Marketing Committee Member Holly Bender, House Committee Chair Greg Bender, and Exalted Ruler Rob Heywood

Submitted by: Holly Bender
Photo by: Gloria Leslie

“Buckeye Lodge #2686 Celebrates Buckeye Days With Car Show”



On Saturday, January 27, the Buckeye Elks Lodge #2686 had the honor of hosting the 3rd Annual Chief Bob Costello Car Show. This is a special event for our Lodge because Chief Costello was a long-time fellow Lodge member and friend, he served on our Board of Trustees, and January 27 would have been his birthday.

This event is held during Buckeye Days, which celebrates the City of Buckeye's history with a cattle drive parade, rodeo, and steak dinner. Lodge members served a delicious lunch of tri-tip for car show registrations, volunteers, and spectators. The following People's

Choice trophies were awarded: 1st to Sonny Favela with his 1967 Ford Mustang Fastback, 2nd to Brandon Melton with his 1963 Cadillac, and 3rd to Ray Vranas with his 1932 Ford Victoria. Fellow Lodge member Hondo Jimenez made the trophies. Proceeds benefit the Bob Costello Vocational Scholarship Fund, and we raised \$2,100 for this fund from this year's event. We will award the scholarship at our annual Flag Day ceremony in June.

Submitted by: Leatta McLaughlin

“Items Requested for Veterans Stand Down”

Hello Brother and Sister Elks. Again this year we are requesting from all Arizona lodges, goods that you can bring to our veteran table at the May convention for Veterans Stand Down. The request from Stand Down is for paper goods such as toilet paper, paper towels, and wipes. We appreciate anything you can do to help our veterans in need. Thank you so much.

Henry Brown and Karen Seaman
Phoenix Elks Lodge 335

“Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 Brings Christmas to 20 Children”

On December 10, 2023, Catalina Mountain Elks Lodge #2815 purchased clothing, toys and art supplies for 20 local children through Impact of Southern Arizona. Each child received at least 6 wrapped gifts. The bags were delivered to Impact of Southern Arizona helping families live better. We made many children a little merrier for Christmas. Way to go Elks!!

Submitted by: Jim Beregi

Pictured: “Elves” Lisa Hensley,
Jan Trudeau, and Betty Cook.



“Food for Kids Donation from Lake Havasu #2399 Elkettes”



The Elkettes of Elks Lodge # 2399 in Lake Havasu City were able to make a \$900 donation to the H.A.V.E.N. Centers Food for Kids Program with funds raised from their fashion show. The donation will provide pantry food for School aged children to take home after school for the weekend. They have approximately 2500 children per month who utilize this great program.

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured: H.A.V.E.N.Center Advocate Ashley Buckles
and Elkette Fashion Show Co-Chairperson Sheri Sanderson.

“Lake Havasu #2399 Elkettes Raise ‘Fashionable’ Donation”

The Elkettes of Elks Lodge # 2399 in Lake Havasu City were able to make \$900 Donation to the Meals on Wheels (MoW) Program with funds raised from their fashion show. The donation will provide delivery to 100 + meals to our local community. In

Submitted by: Eva Fox

Pictured: Elkette Fashion Show Chairperson Eva Fox, Elkette/MoW Coordinator Addie Angle , MoW Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Galbraith, and Exalted Ruler Paulette Nanteau.



“Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 Teams with ENF to Help Seniors”



On Friday February 2nd, 25 hardworking Elks from Catalina Mountain Elks #2815 picked up supplies and created 218 food bags. They contained pancake mix, syrup, bacon, Spam, soup and crackers. They were created for low income seniors in our area. This project was made possible through 2 grants from the Grand Lodge- a Beacon grant and a Spotlight grant totaling six thousand dollars. The bags will be distributed during the month of February through our local food bank- Impact of Southern Arizona.

Submitted by: Marie Starjinski

“Douglas Lodge #955 Veterans Celebration”

On January 13th, Douglas Lodge #955 celebrated the gratitude and respect of 25 Veterans with a Veterans appreciation dinner.

E.R. Gary Racel, a marine himself, orchestrated bringing this group together on the Veterans sacrifices, valor, and testament to the Elks support and commitment of our Veterans.

An official from the American Legion, Laurie Lewis, shared the challenges that were faced by the Korean and Vietnam Vets. she explained the nature of the conflicts and the limitations on the national powers.

Linda Seggie, the Southern District Veterans Service chair shared her role in supporting State Veterans home and the Elks' pledge to never forget our Veterans.

The Arizona Elks National Veterans Service chair, Mary Shaffer, explained to the audience the Elks roles in Veterans contributions including their role in establishing precursor to the V.A. Medical Center and influencing the creation of the G.I. Bill.

Submitted by Mary Shaffer and Ron Wilson



**Arizona Elks Association
Annual Meeting
May 9-11, 2024**

“Casa Grande Valley Lodge #1957 Happenings”

On Saturday, February 10, our Elk members enjoyed a tri-tip dinner and exchanged Valentines before dancing to the sounds of “Three Old Guys”. The decorations were great in the lodge, complete with rose petals scattered on the floor

Casa Grande Valley Elks Riders presented First Responders Pinal County Sheriff's Office a check for \$1400. This is 1 of the 5 donations the Elks Riders will make for First Responders in the Casa Grande area.

Submitted by: Donna Johnson



“Prescott Lodge #330 Has a SUPER Time”

The Prescott Elks Lodge held a great Super Bowl party on February 11, 2014. Along with a great game, there was a potluck, drink specials and a 50-50 raffle. 5 baskets and 4 bottles of wine were raffled which made \$340 for the Veterans charity.

Thank you Mark Moreno, Beth Guidus, Robert & Robin Boykin, all of the volunteers and lastly all of the Prescott #330 Elks members for their contribution and participation. Without them there would have been no "SUPER" Bowl.

Submitted by: Bobbie Knorr

“Sierra Vista #2065 Has Great Time at Football-Themed Picnic”

On Saturday, 27 January 2024, we hosted our Annual Lodge Picnic. Our Annual picnic is a way for all of us to say thank you to our members for all that they do to keep our Lodge going. The picnic features raffles, a best dressed contest, beer, and burgers & sides for \$5.00. This year our theme was all things football, and our members did not disappoint as our Lodge was flooded with football themed regalia. A great time was had by all.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile



Pictured:

Top: A group of members having a great time

Bottom: Officer-of-the-Year Ben Granado manning the burger and brat station

“Old Timers’ Honored at Phoenix Lodge #335 Dinner”



At the annual Old Timers Dinner on February 1st, 120 Elks celebrated awards for eight Life Time members. AEA President Al Kayal was the Master of Ceremonies helping to make this Old Timers Night a success. Life Member Jim Karam won the prize for the oldest in attendance at 95 years young and a member for 75 years!

Submitted by: Linda Thompson

Pictured are: PER Jim Karam PER and AEA President Al Kayal.

“First Responders Honored by Sierra Vista Lodge #2065”



Sierra Vista Lodge #2065 held its annual Law and Fire Awards Dinner on January 22, 2024. We had a lovely evening with an awesome dinner being served by some of our Lodge Officers and Lodge members with Chef Dennis working tirelessly in the kitchen. Our lodge members are always there to assist when we need them the most and this Saturday was no different.

We had three police officers - - Daniel Brennan, Antonio Chavez and Kyle Dawson - - and fire fighter, Hannah Struce attend the dinner with numerous dignitary personnel. This included Commander Robert Watkins and Sheriff Dannels along with our guest speaker, Fire Chief Mark Savage. We had a wonderful time and awarded Daniel Brennan as the Police Officer of the Year and Hannah Struce as the Fire Fighter of the Year.

Fire Chief Mark Savage gave a very inspiring speech where he thanked both the Fire and Police Departments for all they do in this community. He also thanked the Elks Lodge for hosting this event and all that we do for not just the veterans, but for those who serve within the fire and police departments.

Submitted by: Gladys Carr

“Red Cross and Salvation Army Among Phoenix Lodge #335 Projects”

On January 10, Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 hosted a highly successful Red Cross Blood Drive. The event collected an impressive 29 units of blood, surpassing the initial goal of 24 units. The American Red Cross expressed their deep gratitude in an email commending Lodge #335 and their dedicated team for their crucial support in organizing the blood drive.

On February 6th, Major Keith Bottjen of The Salvation Army Phoenix Citadel wrote, Dear Ken Stewart: We want to take this opportunity to thank you for giving your time this season to help us raise needed funds through the Christmas Kettle program. Through your efforts, \$587.38 was raised. We truly appreciate the opportunity to partner with you.

Submitted by: Linda Thompson

CHARITY



JUSTICE



BROTHERLY
LOVE



FIDELITY



“This & That”



Yuma Lodge #476 Americanism Essay Contest
Winners: Karl Pope -2nd Place (Left),
Zoey Padilla-3rd Place (Center),
Kailey Sandoval-1st Place (Right),
with Exalted Ruler Mike Burnet



The **Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399** Elkettes donated \$1000 to the Dementia Connection of Havasu. In the photo from left to right are Dementia Connections Volunteers Joanne Jensen, Pam Berry and Libbe Gilbert with Elkettes' See's Candy Chairperson Teresa Bremenour and Elkettes President Gabriele Medley.



Ajo Elks Lodge #1576 essay winners received gift cards of various amounts to a local pizza restaurant.

Winners are (left to right):
Brianda Wright-1st Place, 5th Grade
Ilcen Asipuro-2nd Place, 5th Grade
Jaycee Koozer-3rd Place, 6th Grade
Bay Krznarich-2nd Place, 6th Grade
Caleb Turner-1st Place, 6th grade
Also pictured: Bridget Rendon,
Youth Activities Chair.
Photo by DJ Rendon



On February 7, **Phoenix Lodge #335** Member and VA Volunteer Mike Mazor, along with Penny Craft from the VA, accepted our Elk Donation of 24 pairs of soft leather gloves from the Elks National. This ongoing donation helps Veterans handle the wheels of their wheelchairs with less wear and tear on their hands.

Pictured: Elk Mike Mazor and VA representative Penny Craft.



"More This & More That"



The **Elkettes of Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399** donated funds raised from the Craft fair to the Mohave County Sheriff K-9 Foundation. The check was for \$2400. In the photo from left to right are Elkette Craft Fair Chair Connie Jones, Deputy Shawn McCleary with Canine Grim, with Elkette President Gabriele Medley receiving a plaque for our continued support from MCS K-9 foundation Board Member Sandee Scherer.



On February 15th, **Bullhead City Lodge #2408** presented the Colorado River Food Bank with a check for \$6,000.00 from money our Lodge received from the Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant. Pictured from left to right: Colorado River Food Bank volunteers Vickie Hernandez, Trustee Margaret Lopez, and Pat Carter; Exalted Ruler Mike Swain, TJ Carmody and Chris Carmody.



Catalina Mountain Lodge #2815 delivered \$1,322 worth of tents, backpacks, sleeping bags, waterproof storage bags, food and warm clothing to local Veterans. Pictured: Elbert Gooch and Veterans Chairman Bob Kielsa.



The **Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399** Elkettes donated \$1000 to the Clothes Closet with proceeds from See's Candy Sales over the Holidays. In the photo from left to right are The Clothes Closet founder Christine Watson Buntemyer, See's Candy Chairperson/Elkette Teresa Bremenour and Elkette President Gabriele Medley.



AZ President Al Kayal gave an unofficial visit to **Ajo Elks #1576** on Saturday February 3, 2024 for a Luau Dinner. Pictured are Ed Ahlm, Ajo Elks Exalted Ruler Diana Ahlm, Brenda Kayal wife of Al, and AZ Elks State President Al Kayal.
Photo by Marlene Hinman

“Hoop Shoot News”

On February 10th at the Cactus Canyon Junior High School in Apache Junction the four District Hoop Shoot Champions met to compete against each other for a chance to represent the Arizona Elks Association in Las Vegas at the Region 7 Shoot. The sportsmanship and competition was top notch as always. I was overwhelmed by all the volunteers who showed up to help with this competition. My hats off to Apache Junction Lodge #2349 for not only cooking the food but also going out and purchasing all of it and suppling the means of getting it prepared.

The Bob Benson award for the top girl shooter went to Gabriella Gonzales, Green Valley Lodge #2592 with 22 out of 25. The LeRoy "Bugs" Lewis award for the top boy shooter went to Anakin Machado, also from Green Valley Lodge #2592. He also shot 22 out of 25.

Good Luck to our State Champions at the Regional Shoot on February 24th.

Also pictured are AEA State President Al Kayal and AEA Hoop Shoot Director Gregg Boyce.



8-9 Year Olds (left to right)

Boys:

- 4th Place-Liam Joe, Page #2498;
- 3rd Place-Ezekiel Mesa, Raceway #2852
- 2nd Place-Billy Bowler III, Chandler #2429
- 1st Place-Anakin Machado, Green Valley #2592

Girls:

- 1st Place-Hunter Robinson, Show Low #2090
- 2nd Place-Mila Sheppard, Raceway #2852
- 3rd Place-Cynthia Whitmer, Wilcox #2131
- 4th Place-Karrianna Ortega, Kearny #2478



10-11 Year Olds (left to right)

Boys:

- 4th Place-Arian Tapia, Green Valley #2592
- 3rd Place-Steven Lancaster, Raceway 2852
- 2nd place-Josiah Dew, Chandler #2429
- 1st place-Thells Baker, Winslow #536

Girls:

- 1st Place-Bianca Smith, Raceway #2852
- 2nd Place-Aubrey Lopez, Ajo #1576
- 3rd Place-Kolbi Rova, Show Low #2090
- 4th Place-Naleiah Bowler, Chandler #2429



12-13 Year Olds (left to right)

Boys:

- 4th Place-Bradley Nelson, Winslow #536
- 3rd Place-Declan Anderson, Raceway #2852
- 2nd Place-Alek Martinez, Green Valley #2592
- 1st Place-Caleb Skacy-Daw, Tempe #2251

Girls:

- 1st Place-Gabriella Gonzales, Green Valley #2592
- 2nd Place-Payton Orton, Holbrook #2450
- 3rd Place-Kaulia Bowler, Chandler #2429
- 4th Place-Erica McGlory, Raceway #2852

“More Hoop Shoot News”



The Bob Benson award for the top girl shooter went to Gabriella Gonzales, Green Valley Lodge #2592, with 22 out of 25.



The LeRoy "Bugs" Lewis award for the top boy shooter went to Anakin Machado, also from Green Valley Lodge #2592. He also shot 22 out of 25.

“Sierra Vista #2065 Ritual Team Funds Raised with Super Bowl Party”

On Sunday, 11 February 2024 our Ritual Team hosted our Annual Super Bowl Fundraiser and Potluck. We kicked things off at 2:30pm as our teammates, and members flooded our bistro with an excellent selection of food. PER Bear manned the Super Bowl Bingo, while Leo Baker kicked things off with our squares contest. We had a raffle with two baskets, a donated big screen TV and the team formerly known as the Redskins, collectable poster. A big thank you to all those that attended and made our event successful. Our team raised just over \$300 for our Ritual Team account. Funds raised are used to send our Ritual Team to the AEA Annual Competition in May 2024.

Submitted by: Shawnee Carlile



“Crossroads Mission Receives Golf Donation from Yuma Lodge #476”



The Yuma Elks Lodge 476 Golf Committee recently presented the Crossroads Mission with a \$1000.00 donation.

Pictured from left to right: Golf Committee Member and Past Exalted Ruler Gary Gist, Crossroads Mission Director of Men's Shelter Greg Culver, and Past Exalted Ruler Sheryl Christenson.

“Veterans News”



Information and Veterans News

Mary I Shaffer - Elks National Veterans Service

East Chair - Tracy Cabell 714 587-1070

North Chair - John Roush 719 313-0565

South Chair - Linda Seggie 520 401-3990

West Chair - Chad Arruda 480 338-7814

TUCSON VETERAN

Stand Down and Career Fair

Ramada Inn 777 W. Cushing St.



Veteran Stand Down March 13

from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

and Career Fair March 14

from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

* Please bring extra copies of your resume; business casual attire for the career fair

Open to ALL Veterans, National Guard and Reservists
in the local area in need of the following resources:

- Clothing/ hygiene items
- Substance abuse counseling
- Disability claims
- Haircuts
- Treatment referrals
- Benefits applications
- Housing options
- Legal matters
- Pet care
- Veterans Court
- Employment assistance and job training
- Service Organizations
- Mental Health and Religious counseling

Lunch will be served

For event Information contact
623-687-5552 or tucsonvetservingvets@gmail.com

NO ALCOHOL • NO DRUGS • NO WEAPONS



OVMAE and Phoenix College

Veteran Recreation Fair

Sat., Mar. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Phoenix College
1202 W. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85013

We are inviting you to a Veteran Recreation Fair co-hosted by the ASU Office for Veteran and Military Academic Engagement (OVMAE) and MCC Phoenix College.

Join us at the Recreation Fair—an event that's all about fun and well-being! Discover a range of activities aimed at boosting mental health, from art and equine pursuits to exercise, wilderness adventures, and more. Our focus is on creating an enjoyable and beneficial experience, especially for veterans. Most opportunities are free or offer scholarship/grant programs to support their mental health journey.



Breakout sessions include:

- Pickleball clinic
- Community gardening
- Heal Her Art
- Soldiers Best Friend dog training clinic
- MVP Community Workout



★ ★ ★ HOSTED BY THE FOLLOWING VSO'S

3RD ANNUAL VSO SOCIAL

CONNECT WITH AND LEARN ABOUT 12 VETERAN NON-PROFIT ORGS THAT SUPPORT OUR VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY, FIRST RESPONDERS AND GOLD STAR FAMILY COMMUNITY

KIWANIS PARK MARCH 24 10AM - 2PM
5711 S. ALL AMERICAN WAY TEMPE, AZ

FREE REGISTRATION MANDATORY TO ATTEND:
[HTTPS://DONATE.TRAVISMANION.ORG/EVENT/PHOENIX-CHAPTER-3RD-ANNUAL-VSO-SOCIAL/E553907](https://donate.travismanion.org/event/phoenix-chapter-3rd-annual-vso-social/e553907)

All three of these events are for the benefit of those who have served. Consider attending one. The Tucson Stand Down can connect you with resources and the Job Fair on the following day has employers ready to hire. The VSO Social is an opportunity to connect with service organizations in your area. The Veteran Recreation Fair has its focus on well-being and mental health.

“Grand Lodge News”

Previous Officers can assist the next generation

We did it. We finished.

The retiring Officers deserve the thanks of all the Members for the successful way in which they have handled their duties in the past year. The work that was accomplished is a tribute to their leadership and effort. It is our hope they will continue to assist the incoming Officers with the work in which our Order is engaged. The fact that each one was a member of the leadership team marks each of them as one of the Lodge's most valuable Members. The experience and knowledge each of you possess has been, and will always be, invaluable to your Lodge.

Congratulations to the new Officers of every Lodge throughout our great Order. The Members of your Lodge placed their confidence and trust in



**Message from
the Grand
Exalted Ruler
RANDY P.
SHOOK**

you and your abilities; you should be very proud. You should consider it an honor to be chosen to be a leader within your Lodge. As the new leader of your Lodge, it is extremely important to put together a dedicated group of people, to create a plan and set the necessary goals for each committee to achieve success. The committee members are the people who work to make your Lodge a success

in your community.

Never be afraid to ask questions. Your best source of information is the former Officers whose knowledge and experience is at your disposal, just for the asking. They have been there, done that, and can give you excellent advice.

March is also a time when many Lodges participate in St. Patrick's Day celebrations such as parties or community parades. Please be safe during these celebrations.

Wanda and I want to wish everyone Happy Easter.

Finally, check your calendar for awards, citations, and contest deadlines.

Remember *“Elks Care — Elks Share”* and *“We Are THE Elks.”*

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

“More News From Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399”



Elks **Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City** is sponsoring Elk member/Veteran, David Ira to join other veterans on the Honor Flight to Washington DC on April 23rd, 2024. In the photo on the left is David Ira who served as a Lt Col with the 2/1 F/O 11th Marines in Vietnam from March 1968-April 1969 and Bud Watts, Lodge Veterans Services Chair.

The Elkettes of Elks **Lodge #2399** donated \$500 to the Western Arizona Humane Society in **Lake Havasu City**. The funds came from evening pie sales during the dinner hour. In the photo (**Right**) are Elquette and Pie chair Lisa Nutt, WAHS Director of Operations, Steve Jenhins and Elkettes 1st Vice-President Karen Ford.



The **Lake Havasu City Lodge #2399** Elkettes donated \$1000 to the Dementia Connection of Havasu. In the photo from left to right are Dementia Connections Volunteers Joanne Jensen, Pam Berry and Libbe Gilbert with Elkettes' See's Candy Chairperson Teresa Bremenour and Elquette President Gabriele Medley.



“Arizona Red Vest Order Form”

Arizona Elks Red Vest Order Form



Flashover Graphics

2425 Hualapai Mtn Rd Ste C Kingman, AZ 86401

928-718-6892

info@flashovergraphicsaz.com

Name:
 Address:

Phone: Email:

Red Vest Bottom Pockets	S	M	L	XL	2XL	\$ 36.00	
Red Vest Bottom Pockets	3XL	4XL	5XL			\$ 40.00	
Name on Left Chest:						included	
Title/Lodge# on Right Chest:						included	

Red Vest Bottom Pockets	S	M	L	XL	2XL	\$ 36.00	
Red Vest Bottom Pockets	3XL	4XL	5XL			\$ 40.00	
Name on Left Chest:						included	
Title/Lodge# on Right Chest:						included	

Please Mark Delivery

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pick up - Jerry Grimes	Free	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ship to Customer - USPS Priority Mail	\$ 14.00	

Payment

Cash	\$	<input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>		
Make Checks Payable to: Flashover Graphics				
Check	\$	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>	/CK#	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
Credit Card#	<input style="width: 250px;" type="text"/>		Exp Date	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
			CVV Code	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
CC Total	\$	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	Signature	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>

“Grand Lodge Convention HOTEL Reservation Form”

Austin Texas Grand Lodge Convention HOTEL Reservation

“Everything is Awesome In Austin”

June 30, - July 3, 2024

Return This Form To Jerry Grimes By March 1, 2024

Please Print Legibly

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address: Please PRINT CLEARLY _____

Spouse / Significant Other Name _____

Number of Persons: _____ Room: King Bed _____ Two Double _____

Special Requirements: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date _____ Flying _____ Driving _____

Lodge Name _____ Lodge # _____ 2024 – 2025 Year Position _____

This is a Non-Smoking Hotel

~~~~~  
**Rooms Are limited.** Reservations will be on a first-come basis. Send reservation early.  
*All Rooms Require a Deposit - First Night's Stay \$158.00*

1. Room Deposit \$158.00 (includes tax) – Required \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. New Arizona Individual Trading Pin \$ 3.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Arizona Hospitality Room – (\$100.00) - Per Lodge - Exalted Ruler \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

**Arizona Elks Association**

Mail to: Jerry Grimes  
3397 Monte Moro Street  
Kingman, Arizona 86401  
928+692-5633 (H)  
nukid50@gmail.com

**Note:** You will not receive confirmation from the hotel. I will receive.  
a master list of confirmation numbers. Be assured if you send me  
your registration form by DEADLINE DATE (3/1/24) you will  
have a room reservation.

**Office Use Only - Please Leave  
Blank**

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Check # / Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Balance Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitality Room \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL FOR YOUR CONFIRMATION NUMBER**  
**ANY/ALL cancellations or changes in reservation MUST go through Housing Chairman**

**RETURN REGISTRATION FORM TO Ed Leuer, PSP BY April 15, 2024**



## “AEA Annual Meeting Registration—Page 2”

### ANNUAL MEETINGS REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Elk/Non-Elk Spouse or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration required to attend Meetings, Seminars, Social Events and Hospitality Room.

**NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 30th, 2024 NO TO GO BOXES AT MEALS**

Please indicate events you will attend by inserting the NUMBER OF TICKETS (#) and TOTAL DOLLARS.  
Cut-off date for these requests is April 15, 2024. NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.  
NOTE: The Hotel does not allow plate/meal sharing and to go boxes.

| DATE/DAY                                                                                                                      | SOCIAL EVENT                                                                                                                                                   | CHOICES                                                                                            | # | Price * (Ea.) | Total   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------|---------|
| May 08<br>Wednesday                                                                                                           | <b>WELCOME DINNER</b><br>No Host Cocktails 6:00 - 7:00 PM<br>Dinner 7:00 PM<br>All Elks and Guests<br>Dress - Casual                                           | <b>BUFFET</b><br>Chicken Boursin and Beef<br>Tips and Noodles, Salad,<br>Dessert,<br>Coffee or Tea |   | \$40.00       | \$ 0.00 |
| May 09<br>Thursday                                                                                                            | <b>WESTERN FUN NIGHT</b><br>No Host Cocktail 6:00 - 7:00 PM<br>Dinner 7:00 PM<br>All Elks and Guests<br>Dress - Western or Casual                              | Fried Fish                                                                                         |   | \$40.00       | \$ 0.00 |
|                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                | BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich                                                                           |   | \$40.00       | \$ 0.00 |
| May 10<br>Friday                                                                                                              | <b>SPOUSES LUNCHEON - 1:00 PM</b><br>No Host Cocktails 12:00 to 1:00 PM<br>Theme: "Spring is in the Air"<br>Dress - Casual                                     | Chef Salad                                                                                         |   | \$22.00       | \$ 0.00 |
|                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                | Turkey BLT on a Croissant                                                                          |   | \$22.00       | \$ 0.00 |
| May 10<br>Friday                                                                                                              | <b>A.E.A. BANQUET - FIESTA BALLROOM</b><br>No Host Cocktail, 6:00 - 7:00 PM<br>Dinner 7:00 pm - Assigned Tables<br>Dress: Summer Formal-Officers<br>Suit & Tie | Prime Rib                                                                                          |   | \$40.00       | \$ 0.00 |
|                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                | Salmon<br>w/ Bourbon Maple Sauce                                                                   |   | \$40.00       | \$ 0.00 |
| May 10 & 11<br>Thur & Friday                                                                                                  | <b>SPOUSES COFFEE</b><br>Hospitality Room , 9:00 - 10:30 AM                                                                                                    |                                                                                                    |   |               |         |
| <b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE FOR SOCIAL EVENTS (Automatically Transfers to Page 1)</b><br><b>(*Tax and Gratuity Included in Price)</b> |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                    |   |               | 0.00    |

BREAKFAST AND LUNCHESES are available in the Milagros Restaurant

A.E.A. MEETINGS begin at 8:00 AM, Fiesta "I" and "II" - May 09, 10, and 11  
STATE RITUAL FINALS Thursday & Friday mornings (Rooms & Times TBA)

#### A.E.A. REGISTRATION DESK HOURS

May 08 - NOON-5:00 PM    May 09 & 10 - 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM    May 11 - 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM  
CONVENTION CENTER LOBBY

#### A.E.A. HOSPITALITY ROOM HOURS

Wednesday, May 08  
12 noon – 5:00 PM  
After Dinner – 11:00 PM  
Host: Sue Krausman  
1st Vice President South

Thursday, May 09  
12 noon – 3:30 PM  
After Dinner – 11:00 PM  
Host: JeRay Bellon  
Vice President East

Friday, May 10  
12 noon – 4:00 PM  
After Banquet – 11:00 PM  
Host: Hank Thonnard  
Vice President West

Saturday, May 11  
12 noon – 1:30 PM  
Host: Meetings Committee