

THE STAG LINE



Howdy ya'all,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas! Now as we look forward to the New Year, I have to ask myself, where did 2024 go?

In April we had the kids Easter Egg hunt along with the adult version with "Kegs and Eggs". Just after that was the 50th Anniversary of the Lodge and what a time that was! The Fishing Derby was a success, even though we needed to reschedule due to weather. The 4th of July was a great time at the Lodge with an epic fireworks display. We had a new bowling event to raise money for the Christmas Basket Program that was a huge success. The Memorial Golf Tournament at the Blue Springs Golf Club was lots of fun. We had a big Car Show event and who can forget the Fish Fry (all you can eat)? YUMMY! The Special Needs Dance was a hoot!!! We had the Elks Memorial Service on December 1st, recalling those that we lost to the years.

My main point is recapping some of the highlights of the year and to say thank you to all the volunteers, committees, committee chairs, and participants that were involved. It takes a lot of time and effort to make these events happen and you all deserve more recognition than you get. Keep up the good work and remember to keep having fun doing it.



Upcoming in the remaining Lodge year in 2025 we have Super Bowl festivities, Election of Officers for next year, the Gun Show, Wine Auction and the PERple Ball...then I will be signing off as your Exalted Ruler. This has been an amazing experience and I want to thank y'all for the opportunity to serve. To next year's Officers, remember to listen to the Members as you steer our ship into the future.

My shout-out this month is to our Leading Knight, Erik Grotenhuis. He has volunteered on so many committees and events and been my true "right-hand man" this year. I could always count on Erik when needed and I believe if elected, Erik will be an excellent Exalted Ruler.

Respectfully submitted, Kevin Etris, ER

KNIGHT'S CORNER



As Elks, we are committed to upholding four guiding virtues: Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. Each of these principles shapes our actions and defines our mission.

Among these virtues, Justice is the sacred duty entrusted to the Esteemed Loyal Knight. Justice, as understood by the Elks, is not merely the fair resolution of disputes or the impartial treatment of individuals. It is a profound commitment to doing what is right.

For Elks, the foundation of Justice lies in the teachings of the Bible, particularly the values of kindness, mercy and fairness that echo the lessons of Christ. The Christmas season, a time of reflection, generosity and goodwill, offers us a special opportunity to embody the virtue of Justice in our lives.

One of the most meaningful ways we bring Justice to life during this season is through our Christmas Basket Program. This cherished tradition allows us to provide food and presents to families in need, ensuring that no one in our community feels forgotten during the holidays. By sharing these gifts, we uphold the true spirit of Justice, extending fairness, compassion and dignity to those who need it most.

This program would not be possible without the tireless efforts and generosity of our volunteers and supporters. To everyone who helped organize, pack and deliver gifts and to those who contributed donations, thank you for your dedication and kindness. Your hard work and selflessness make this program a success year after year and your efforts bring hope and joy to so many in our community.

Justice is not only about fairness, but about ensuring that love and kindness are shared with everyone. This is the time to extend a helping hand, resolve conflicts with understanding and uplift those in need. By doing so, we create a community grounded in equality and care.

As we celebrate this sacred season, may the virtue of Justice guide our actions, inspiring us to treat others with fairness, serve our communities and honor the principles that unite us as Elks. In doing so, we not only strengthen the bonds of brotherhood, but also carry forward the true spirit of Christmas; peace, goodwill and justice for all.

Shane Stiles,
Esteemed Loyal Knight

Grand Lodge Convention Committee Meeting

January 22, 2025 5:00 P.M.

Anyone interested in helping with the convention are welcome to attend!

Debby Aliff, Chairman 816-456-7760

2025 Elks National Convention

Kansas City, MO June 29-July 2

MOUSE RACES AT THE LODGE

SATURDAY

JANUARY 18, 2025

7:00 P.M.

\$10.00 per person at the door

\$20 to sponsor and name your mouse (admits 2 people)

Contact Jennifer Redman to sponsor and name your mouse. 816-379-1918



National Blood Donor Month

Donate blood and be a lifesaver



BLOOD DRIVE

Blue Springs Elks #2509

Wednesday, January 29th

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Community Room

Blue Springs Elks #2509

100 NE Brizendine Road

Appointments are preferred.

Book your appointment today at

savealifenow.org/group, enter **Group Code:**

TP5U. For additional details contact Curtis Zollers at (816) 820-0342 or cezollers@gmail.com.

Medical eligibility questions?

Call 1.800.688.0900

Please remember to eat, drink and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Visit [savealifenow.org/coronavirus](https://www.savealifenow.org/coronavirus) for COVID-19 protocols



BLUE SPRINGS ELKS LODGE 2509

ANNUAL GUN SHOW

February 21-23, 2025

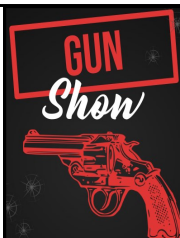
Friday the 21st: 4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

Saturday the 22nd: 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Sunday the 23rd: 10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

Please contact Judy Farnsworth for volunteer opportunities or to reserve your table.

judyf3082@yahoo.com



Elks State Bowling Tournament

February 22 & 23 and

March 1 & 2, 2025
Chillicothe, MO

Community Blood Center

877.468.6844 · [savealifenow.org](https://www.savealifenow.org) #cbckc



ENTERTAINMENT

January 17th: Kim Hayes Karaoke 8:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M.



DART TOURNAMENT

Saturday January 18, 2025

Sign up at 6:00 P.M.

Drawing of teams at 7:00 PM

\$15 Entry Fee

All games to be played will be picked out of the Grinch's chimney.

Wear your Christmas attire: T-shirts,

Ugly Sweaters, PJ's, etc.

Bring a dish to pass.

Boards will be covered.

December Winners:

Anthony Carlson & Shawn Rohwer

Contact Bob Arment @ gra6770@aol.com

Live Music

KIM OSBORNE LIVE

Saturday

January 25, 2025

7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.



ELKETTE NEWS...WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!
NEXT ELKETTE MEETING THURSDAY 1/9/2025 7:00 P.M.



Wine Auction
Saturday February 15, 2025
Tasting 6:00 P.M.
Auction 7:00 P.M.

COOKING TEAMS
1/3 Gina Lee
 Bone in Smoked Pork Chops
 Twice Baked Cheesy Potatoes
 Green Beans, Roll, Salad

1/8 Monica Padfield
 White Chicken Enchiladas
 Beans, Chips & Salsa

DECEMBER MEETING
WINNERS
Cash Drawing:
Tony Eckman
Gift Card:
Linda Gregory
50/50:
Janet Helmandollar

CONGRATULATIONS ELKETTE OF THE MONTH
Jeanne Schnieder

HAPPY JANUARY ELKETTE BIRTHDAYS!
 1/1 Sherri Haupt, 1/5 Karen Rinne,
 1/7 Lisa Townley, 1/10 Sheila Dziura,
 1/12 Patty Crawford, 1/15 Barbara House,
 1/15 Lesley Johnston, 1/15 Monica Padfield,
 1/15 Stacey Travis, 1/17 Helen Simpson,
 1/21 Janet Helmandollar, 1/23 Caroline Adamson,
 1/23 Kelsie Simpson, 1/30 Mackenzie Grube,
 1/31 Ashley Lyons

ELKETTE NEWS

SHOUT OUT TO STEVE SULLIVAN
for driving the Elkette Board Members around for five hours and taking care of them during the planning of the Elkette Christmas dinner.
THANK YOU!!!

Wine donations are needed. If you donate wine for the wine auction, please bring two bottles of the same wine... one for tasting and one for the auction. Thank you. Donation items are needed for baskets also.

On December 19th, Elkettes delivered Christmas bags to the children at Liggett Trail Education Center.

THANK YOU EVERYONE for all the winter gear donated. Two car loads were taken for those who needed extra winter warmth. Men's long underwear was a huge hit. More is welcome if you would like to donate :)

New Officer slate will be announced at the January meeting.

Elks in the Community
 Thanksgiving Meals being served to our friends at Woods Chapel Lodge and Friendship Manor Apartments



Quarterly Birthday Celebration
 at
St. Michael's Veteran Center



MY ELKS APP!
Available to download now.
Contact Tosha Grotenhuis
at tg066598@gmail.com
816-674-8831 with events/
notifications you want
added to the calendar.



To save expenses, monthly newsletters are now being sent by email to all members. If you require a printed or mailed copy of the newsletter, please contact the Lodge secretary.

NFL Playoff Bracket Game

Fundraiser for Lodge Youth activities will be conducted by Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight and Trustees



\$10 per entry for members, spouses and guests
 Multiple entries allowed
 50% of pot awarded to winner.
 50% of pot goes to Lodge Youth activities.

Entry forms/brackets will be available in front hallway Monday January 6th thru Saturday January 11th at noon when first playoff game starts

1 point awarded for correct winning picks for wild-card games,
 2 points awarded for correct winning picks of divisional round games,
 3 points awarded for correct winning picks of conference championship games
 and
 4 points awarded for correct winning pick of Super Bowl game.

There will be tie breaker questions

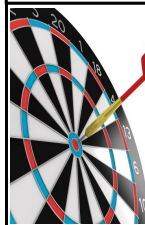
Questions can be directed towards Kevin Bris, Erik Grotenhuis or any trustee.



SUPER BOWL LIX

February 9, 2025
GAME BOARDS
ARRIVE
JANUARY 2025

\$5, \$10 & \$20 Boards
(Only \$20 pays neighbors; 100% payout)
See Curt Zollers or the Bartenders



DART TOURNAMENT MEETING

January 20, 2025
 6:30 P.M.

Contact Bob Arment @ gra6770@aol.com



Veterans Committee delivered a "Welcome Home Kit" to a Veteran to set up house keeping

House Committee Rule of the Month

Every month the House Committee will be highlighting a house rule. We feel this will help the members know what is expected and what the officers and House Committee will be enforcing on a daily basis.

This month we are highlighting

House Rule #3

The Club Room bars will be closed during all sessions of the Lodge.

Submitted by Steve McKay, PER

INVESTIGATION REPORT DECEMBER 19, 2024

7 TO BE READ FOR INITIATION

Donald Habermehl Karv Monroe
 Kurt Knudsen Jeffrey Coatney
 Eugene Webb Dalton Lynn
 Johnathan Geiger

7 TO BE INVESTIGATED/ INTERVIEWED

Michael Arnzen Paul Beckford
 Jennifer Cramer Kay Eagan
 Judy Engle Abrie Coetzee
 Nathan Manley

1 TO BE VOTED ON FOR INITIATION

Diane Bales

Submitted by Frank Kerby, Secretary

5 TO BE INDOCTRINATED

Kurt Swanson Jennifer Hoover
 Byron Phillips Chris Keeling
 Ricky Binder



Community Education Courses Taught by CJCFPD

Safe Sitter Class for Boys and Girls Ages 11-17

January 6, 2025 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

CJCFPD Training Center, 4715 S US 40 Hwy, Blue Springs

Fee of class is picked up by the 1st Responder Committee

Please register at classreg@cjcfpd.org or call 816-229-9118

Any questions, call 1st Responders Committee Chair

Virginia DeBoard 816-379-6472

FIRST RESPONDER COMMITTEE

Next Meeting Thursday January 9, 2025

5:30 P.M. (POTLUCK)

Virginia DeBoard firstresponder2509@gmail.com

VETERANS COMMITTEE-PLEASE JOIN US!

Next Meeting Wed January 8, 2025 5:00 P.M.

See Ed Rieck for questions

SPOTLIGHT GRANTS

Submitted by Toshia Grotenhuis, Grants Coordinator

Spotlight Grants of \$2000 are open to every lodge. Lodges **do not** need to meet the GER's per-member giving goal to apply. This grant can be merged with the Beacon Grant for larger projects.

The Spotlight Grant shines a light on three issues facing American communities: early childhood literacy, veteran homelessness, and hunger and essential needs assistance. Lodges must choose **one** of seven project plans: ^[1]

- **Warm Welcome to the Library** - This program connects families with their local library and provides libraries the opportunity to showcase their services and programs. By giving each child a brand-new coat when they attend the event, a Warm Welcome to the Library project fulfills an urgent need, while simultaneously encouraging literacy and learning at local libraries.
- **Suds & Stories** - Lodges can transform the local laundromat into a center for early childhood development and children's education. While guests do their laundry, children are safely engaged and entertained with supervised activities including music, reading, coloring, face painting, and more.
- **Community Baby Shower** - Having access to basic supplies like diapers and wipes prevent health issues and ensure babies can be enrolled in childcare, which determines their parents' ability to work or attend school. A Community Baby Shower with an early learning initiative establishes the foundation for parents to raise healthy, active readers.
- **Welcome Home** - Elks can help veterans establish their homes by building Welcome Home Kits. Generally, this kit should include some small furniture, kitchenware and cleaning supplies. Items can be new or gently used, donated or purchased.
- **Stand Down** - Stand Downs are one-to-three-day events coordinated by local V.A. Medical Centers and other organizations to offer various services and resources such as clothing, health screenings, dental care, and benefits counseling for veterans experiencing homelessness.
- **Adopt-A-Haven** - The grant must be used to provide support such as Elks-led landscaping/painting/maintenance projects, providing dinner service for at least one week, running a workshop to teach a skill at the facility, or holding regular social events for veterans, like game or movie nights.
- **Hunger and Essential Needs Assistance** - According to Feeding America, more than 34 million people, including 9 million children, are currently experiencing food insecurity in the United States. 41.2 million people receive SNAP benefits, which does not cover essential items such as hygiene products, cleaning supplies and winter clothing. Help lessen the need by providing food and essential items to food pantries, homeless shelters, or directly to individuals.

This year, the Veterans Committee used the Spotlight Grant to supplement the Freedom Grant money to provide backpacks full of personal essentials to homeless veterans.

Previously, the lodge has used this grant to supplement the Beacon Grant for the food pantry at our two local senior living centers, and to provide gas cards for Community Services League.

[1] <https://www.elks.org/cip/grants/spotlightGrants.cfm>

Sympathy

Rick Rose and Family
(Rick's wife Gloria passed away)

Thinking of You

Lisa Philpott



NEWS ARTICLES for the FEBRUARY newsletter are due






Friday January 17, 2025

Articles may be left in the newsletter mailbox in the Lodge Secretary's office or sent via email to

loueechee@sbcglobal.net

Thank you, Dawn Sweeney, Editor

JANUARY 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Upcoming Events: Community Safe Sitter Class (9-4)-February 4 Super Bowl LIX-February 9 Wine Auction-February 15 Community CPR Class @ Truman Library (10AM)-Feb 20 Gun Show-February 21-23 State Bowling Tournament-Feb 22 & 23, March 1 & 2			1 Dinner New Years Day 	2 Lodge Meeting 7PM	3 Dinner Gina Lee Smoked Pork Chops	4
5 Breakfast Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage or Bacon	6 Safesitter Class 9-4 CJCFPD Center	7	8 Dinner Monica Padfield White Chicken Enchiladas Veterans Committee Mtg 5PM	9 Elkette Meeting 7PM 1st Responder Mtg 5:30PM Potluck	10 Dinner	11
12 Breakfast Sandy's Crew Eggs, B&G or Toast, Bacon or Sausage, Hash Browns	13 	14	15 Dinner	16 Lodge Meeting 7PM	17 Dinner Kim Hayes Karaoke 8-11PM NEWS DUE	18 Mouse Races  Dart Tournament
19 Breakfast Omelet Team Omelets Cinnamon Rolls- \$2 Extra	20 MLK Birthday (Observed)  Dart Tournament Mtg 6:30PM	21	22 Dinner National Convention Mtg 5PM	23	24 Dinner	25 Kim Howard Live 7-10PM
26 Breakfast Classic	27 	28	29 Dinner Blood Drive 7PM	30	31 Dinner	31

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

to all who donated bikes and money.

Thanks also goes to Troop 362 getting 66 bikes ready.

This was a new record demand by 30 bikes!

Curt Zollers, PER



**Spring Convention
2025
Jefferson City, MO
March 14-16
Registrations due by
February 14th**



**1st Responders
Delivering
Snacks to the
VA and
Fisher House**

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

	5-Jeannie Harris	8-Kyle McLaughlin	15-Eddie Davis	21-Roger Campbell	27-Michelle Chick
	5-Thomas Jackson	8-Benjamin Meyer	15-Barbara House	21-Janet Helmandollar	27-Kerry Copenhaver
1-Steve Costigan Jr	5-James Shockley	10-Rick Gorham	15-Michael McIlwain	21-Andrew McCloud	27-Mark Largent
1-Noah Hardin	5-Anne Stiles	10-Shane Musgrave	15-Darin Penrod	21-Jack Palmer	27-Julie Walker
1-Sherri Haupt	6-Dwayne Burks	10-Paul Owen	16-John Kappelman	21-Jerry Peterson	27-Mark Wallace
1-David MacKay	6-Lewis Monteil	11-James Barnett	16-Terrie Richard	21-William Wilcutt	27-David Welsh
1-Henry McDaniel	6-John Moran	11-Robert Lewis	17-Helen Simpson	21-Keri Wills-Neering	27-Richard Wyatt
1-Adam Stiles	6-James Naylor	11-Jeff Oehlschlaeger	17-Kevin Sleyster	22-Bryce Kappelman	29-Stanton Brown
2-Joseph Haney	6-Joseph Rausch	11-Scot Sodano	17-James Todd	22-Todd Lindhoff	29-Louis Cox
2-Preston Hutcherson	6-Randall Roberts	11-James Weigel	18-Charles Eaton	23-Carolyn Adamson	29-Chris States
2-Deborah Rockers	6-Bruce Steele	12-Ricky Shalon	18-Richard Lalla	23-James Rowland	29-Dannie Stewart
2-Jeffrey Wilp	6-John Streator	13-Buddy Benedict	18-David McCune	24-Cecil Ellis	30-Bruce Austin
3-Johnny Dodge	7-Michael Deterding	13-Bruce Georgina	18-Mark Schabel	24-David Lajoe	30-Gayle Brackman
3-Robert Leidenheimer	8-David Cleary	13-Angela Jordan	18-Harley Sweeney	24-Frank Lewis	30-Mackenzie Grube
4-James Bertsch	8-James Cummings	13-Amber Langlotz	19-Rob Phillips	24-Julius Oswald	30-Randy Williams
4-Craig Minter	8-Joseph Henke	14-Carl Counti	20-Roger Parks	26-William Blanchard	31-Cheryl Lee
5-Roy Boyer	8-Jeff Lawhon	14-Michael Goodwin	20-Paul Westphal	26-Gailen Snyder	31-Beth McCloud

JANUARY SPOUSE BIRTHDAYS

1-Margaret Barrier	5-Karen Rinne		21-Staci McKay	26-Phyllis Hendrickson
2-Cynthia Smith	7-Megan Mercer		21-Jacqueline Smith	26-Raquel Stark
4-Dwenah Tomlin	8-Christine Haynes	12-Patricia Crawford	15-Monica Padfield	22-Susan Whetstone
5-Kathy Hilderbrand	9-Mark Barklage	12-Michael Griesbauer	17-Ashley Starr	23-Kari Gulotta
5-Shannon Lair	9-Kathy Shrout	12-Heather Smith	19-Deanne Meyer	23-Cheryl Weigel
5-Kelly Osborn	10-Sheila Dziura	13-Nancy Holtgrieve	20-Kathy Owen	24-Mandy Huff
5-Joyce Powers	10-Heather Lipari	14-Norman Jordan	20-Maria Williams	25-Cynthia Schlichting
				31-Delores Lyons

Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks
Blue Springs Lodge #2509
 100 NE Brizendine Road
 Blue Springs, MO 64014
 Telephone: 816-229-6081
 Fax: 816-229-2867

NOT FOR PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BLUE SPRINGS, MO
PERMIT #16

Instituted: March 11, 1974
 Lodge Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays Monthly at 7:00 p.m.
 Lodge Opens: 2:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m. Monday—Friday
 Lodge Opens: 11:30 a.m.—10:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2024-2025 Lodge Officers	
Exalted Ruler	Kevin Etris
Esteemed Leading Knight	Erik Grotenhuis
Esteemed Loyal Knight	Shane Stiles
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	James McKay
Secretary	Frank M. Kerby, PDDGER/PER
Treasurer	Jennifer Atkinson
Esquire	Eric Root
Chaplain	Nina Bosworth
Inner Guard	Ed Rieck
Tiler	Tim Sullivan
5 Year Trustee	Robert McCullough, PER
4 Year Trustee	Steve Solomon, PER
3 Year Trustee	Ken Billups, PER/PDDGER/PST
2 Year Trustee	Buzz Atkinson, PER/PDDGER
1 Year Trustee	Dana Duckworth

2024-2025 Elkettes Officers	
President	Gina Lee
Vice President	Lee Ann Nelson
Recording Secretary	Patty Dresser
Treasurer	Roxy Herman
Corresponding Secretary	Laurie Doult
Historian	Renee McKay
Sgt.-at-Arms	Rhonda Sullivan
2024-2025 House Committee	
House Committee Chair: Steve McKay	
House Committee: Kevin Doult, Alan Moody, Gregg Feightner, Todd Hardesty, David Bosworth, Chris States & Tony Guinn	
Bar Manager: Jeremy Nickell Meeting Room: Kevin Huff	
Kitchen Manager: Chip Miller	
Entertainment Committee: Julie Musgrove, Renee McKay, Laurie Doult, Karey Feightner, Gina Lee, Kylene Hefley, Lissa Stark, Tricia Sharp, Kim Osborne, Sherri Haupt, Janice Cunha, Sarah Nickell and Christina Miller	
Downstairs Elks Charities: Logan Sousley	