

THE STAG LINE



Howdy ya'all,

Here we go, remembering the three words I stated earlier in the year as my focus: Unity, Compassion and Courtesy. These are the values I feel should be upheld in our Lodge as they contribute to a positive and family atmosphere.

Unity among Members gives us a sense of belonging and community. When Members come together and support each other, it creates a strong foundation for what we do. Unity can be seen with the events in the Lodge as the Members cooperate to achieve common goals.

Compassion is the ability to empathize with others, allowing Members to create relationships and resolve conflicts that will always arise. By demonstrating compassion to each other, Members create a supportive Lodge where everyone feels valued and respected.

Courtesy is another simple but very important value in the Lodge. By treating other Members with courteous words and actions, we can promote an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding. Just the basic actions of holding the door and saying "Please" and "Thank You" will go a long way in making anyone's day better. And the simple habit of saying "Hello" to fellow Members is the first step in creating a positive relationship with an Elk you may not have met.

In conclusion, I feel that Unity, Compassion and Courtesy are indispensable values that contribute to the overall success and well-being of the Lodge. This month new officers will be nominated and elected by the Members for the upcoming year and I hope these values continue to be remembered and practiced by our Lodge long past my year as ER.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Etris, ER



THANK YOU DEBBY ALIFF FOR ALL THE TIME AND ENERGY YOU HAVE PUT INTO THE CHRISTMAS BASKET PROGRAM THE LAST FEW YEARS TO MAKE IT A HUGE SUCCESS! LODGE #2509

CHRISTMAS BASKET THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who helped in making the 2025 Christmas Basket Program happen.

Suzy Stone, Frank Kerby, Jeff Walker, Chip Miller.

Callers: Christina Ward Porras, Delores Lyons, Daryl Lewis,

Seana Padfield

Set Up Crew:

Brandy and Phil Meisenheimer and Shoppers

Rick Rose, Jeff and Lori Mock

Spire Crew

Ron Lichte

Harrison Harkins and Belefonte

Price Chopper

Curt Zollers and Troop 362

Packers and Delivery People

Michelle Hightower and Rene McKay

Friday Crew and Ball Teams

Trailer Crew

SPS Fire Protection and Alan Moody

Justin Reece

Transport packages and bike volunteers

Dawn Sweeney

DONATIONS:

Lamar's Donuts

Doug and Rita Glasscock

J Butler Memorial Golf Tournament

Fish Fry and Auction

Bowling Tournament

Taco Night

Dart League

Butler Car Show

Memorial donations, mail in donations, meeting night donations, donations from those giving up their 50/50 winnings.

Apologies to anyone who did not get their name on this list... I have chaired this committee for several years and I am passing the torch to Avan Solomon who will chair it for the 2025 year. This is such a great thing that we do for our community and proud to be a part of it. Thank you all again for your time and efforts.

Debby Aliff, PER, Chairman 2024



Wine Auction

(Downstairs)

Saturday February 15, 2025

Tasting 6:00 P.M.

Auction 7:00 P.M.

Donations are needed...2 bottles of the same kind...one to taste and one for auction. Also needed...any single bottle liquor for baskets and gift cards welcome! Please contact Toni Eckman for more info.

★ Blue Springs Elks Lodge ★

#2509

FIREARM SHOW

100 NE BRIZENDINE RD, BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64014

VETERANS FUNDRAISER



\$8 ADMISSION PER DAY



HOURS
FEB 21ST 4PM TO 7PM
FEB 22ND 9AM TO 5PM
FEB 23RD 10AM TO 3PM

RAFFLE ITEMS
9MM KIMBER EVO SP
TISAS .45 CAL TANKER 1911
.22 CAL ROSSI LEVER ACTION RIFLE

FEBRUARY 21ST - 23RD



GUN RAFFLE 2PM ON 23RD

★ DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN ★

FIREARM SHOW

Vendors \$45 for 1st Table...\$25 for Additional Tables

Raffle Tickets:

\$5.00 Each OR 5 for \$20

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

judyf3082@yahoo.com



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

Saturday

February 15, 2025

Sign up at 6:00 P.M.

Drawing of teams at 7:00 PM

\$15 Entry Fee

Half of entry fee goes towards the Christmas Baskets.

Pay out: 1st, 2nd and 3rd

**Contact Bob Arment
gra6770@aol.com**



Elks State

Bowling Tournament

February 22 & 23

and

March 1 & 2, 2025

Chillicothe, MO

1st RESPONDERS TRASH BAG FUNDRAISER

Beginning soon...watch the bulletin board for order forms.



Notifications will be made on MyElks app and Facebook when we are ready to begin selling. Price of each roll TBD. Sales are open to friends and family.

Contact Virginia DeBoard
firstresponder2509@gmail.com



**JOIN THE ELKETTES—
THEY MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!
NEXT ELKETTE MEETING
THURSDAY 2/13/2025
7:00 P.M.**

COOKING TEAMS

2/7 Fran Sousley
TBD
2/12 Nancy Mickelson
Fried Chicken Sandwich
Cheesy Potatoes
Broccoli Salad & Dessert

CONGRATULATIONS

**ELKETTE
OF
THE
MONTH
Jennifer Redmond**

HAPPY FEBRUARY ELKETTE BIRTHDAYS!

**2/1 Lissa Stark, 2/4 Seana Padfield, 2/4 Marcia Ronnebaum,
2/8 Victoria Cada, 2/11 Kimberly Kinsey,
2/14 Christy Eisenman, 2/14 Rosemary Piotrowski,
2/20 Renee White, 2/22 Kathleen Clements,
2/22 Connie French, 2/27 Rhonda Sullivan**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
ANNUAL CAR & BIKE SHOW 2025
September 13, 2025**

**First Car Show meeting April 7, 2025
We need volunteers for this huge event.
Please contact Jim McKay if you would
like to participate or call 816-506-7403**



**Elks
National
Foundation**

GRANTS

Submitted by Toshia Grotenhuis, Grants Coordinator

We are currently looking for a new project for the \$2000 Gratitude Grant. The Gratitude Grant can be used for projects that relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged, advance education and science, but not through scholarship, combat juvenile delinquency, eliminate prejudice and discrimination, lessen neighborhood tensions, lessen the burdens of government or combat community deterioration.

If you have an idea for the Gratitude Grant, please reach out to Toshia Grotenhuis at Tg066598@gmail.com or 816-674-8831 by March 1, 2025.

As always, grant projects *require* active Elk involvement. You must be able to identify individuals to assist you in your project. Submitting an idea and expecting others to implement the project is unacceptable.

If your idea is chosen, be prepared to assist with the grant application by providing the following information:

Describe the Lodge's charitable project(s). How is the Lodge serving the local community? Please identify specific populations that will benefit, like people experiencing homelessness, families facing food insecurity, or individuals dealing with other barriers.

How do you know this is a pressing need in your community? How will the Lodge identify and serve the intended audience(s)? Include relevant community statistics and details regarding partner organizations to support your assertion.

We encourage the Lodge to use the Gratitude Grant in an active way. Active projects increase visibility in the community and encourage more people to get involved. Are Lodge members able to be involved in the projects(s)? What are their duties and responsibilities?

How will the Lodge know it was successful? What is the measure of success?

You can review previous projects utilizing this grant in the December 2024 newsletter or review grant requirements at the following link- <https://www.elks.org/cip/GratitudeGrants.cfm>



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.

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 Eris, Erik Grotenhuis or any trustee.



BUDGET PLANNING

Trustees will be working
on next fiscal year
budget in February.

Meetings have been
scheduled on 2/10 and 2/24
at 4:30 P.M. for this purpose.

If you are chairman of a committee or in charge of an
activity that uses Lodge funds you should make
arrangements to attend one of these meetings to
present your budget requests. You can also provide in
writing budget requests to any trustee.

Dana Duckworth, Lodge Trustee

Soccer Shoot Program

The Grand Lodge is
reviving the Soccer Shoot
Program as a means of
outreach to the youth of
our community. If you
have an interest in
helping with this event in
our Lodge, please reach
out to the Youth



Committee members or any Lodge officer for more
details.

<https://elks.org/programs/soccer.cfm>

I AM AN ELK

I am an ELK because an ELK saw something in me that would allow me to be a good ELK
When asked I eagerly joined my local lodge and embraced it's greatness

We became ELKS because our organization is meaningful
powerful and important to our country, our community, our friends and our family
We remain ELKS because we embrace our mission, our duty and our members
We patronize our Lodge because brotherhood and fellowship are a cornerstone of who ELKS are

Working together we can accomplish great things

Being an ELK is not about self, we are a group of individuals with many ideas,
countless skills and inexhaustible desire to serve

ELKS are not about what an individual can extract from membership
it is what needs to be done to support it

We rejoice at being ELKS because we take pride in the successes of the children
our veterans and the communities we serve

We practice being ELKS by being there when needed, stepping up when asked
and volunteering our time and resources when necessary

I cannot be a good ELK without my fellow ELKS; we are a team

A.J. Matthews

Diane Gleason

INVESTIGATION REPORT JANUARY 16, 2024

4 TO BE READ FOR INITIATION

William Nesbit Mark Milligan
James Thomasee Walter Davis

6 TO BE INVESTIGATED/ INTERVIEWED

Eugene Webb Dalton Lynn
Amber Richards Chelsea Heath
Debra Cowan Garrett Schroeder

1 TO BE READ FOR CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE

Curt Ledom Benton County #2783

15 TO BE INDOCTRINATED

Jennifer Hoover Byron Phillips
Diane Bales Michael Arnzen
Paul Beckford Abrie Coetzee
Nathan Manley Judy Engle
Harv Monroe Kurt Knudsen
Donald Habermehl Kay Eagan
Johnathan Geiger Jeffrey Coatney
Jennifer Cramer

1 TO BE INITIATED

Chis Keeling

Submitted by Frank Kerby, Secretary



**BLUE SPRINGS ELKS LODGE 2509 DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM
POSTER, ESSAY AND VIDEO CONTEST THEME
“THROW AWAY DRUGS-NOT YOUR FUTURE”**

Blue Springs Elks Lodge 2509 Winner Prizes:

Poster Contest	1st: \$75	2nd: \$50	3rd: \$25
Essay Contest	1st: \$75	2nd: \$50	3rd: \$25
Video Contest	1st: \$75	2nd: \$50	3rd: \$25

Deadline: All entries must be turned into the Lodge by Tuesday March 4, 2025

Rules: The Poster Contest is open to all 3rd, 4th & 5th grade students.
The Essay Contest is open to all 6th, 7th & 8th grade students.
The Video Contest is open to all 6th through 12th grade students.

Poster Contest: Poster paper-Ideally, posters should be submitted on 8 1/2" X 11" paper. However, posters submitted on paper up to 11" X 24" in size will be accepted.

Essay Contest: Participants must write their essay themselves, but they may get help from teachers, parents or friends in the form of ideas.

Length: No longer than 250 words. **Paper size:** 8 1/2" X 11". **Text:** Typed, computer generated text, hand written or hand printed.

Video Contest: Participants: May be an individual or group. **Length:** 2 to 5 minutes in length. **Format:** Flash Drive or similar "mobile" media in readable format

Judging for Posters, Essay's and Video's will be based on the following:

All Categories: Closeness to theme, neatness and originality.

Essay & Poster Category: Correct grammatical structure.

Video Category: Age and language appropriate, positive message and quality of video

Each entry must have the following information on the BACK of the poster or essay:

Student's full name, parent's full name and phone number, name of school, school location, grade, Elks Lodge name.

For Video's please provide all above information and include all student names...if students are minors, an additional release form is required.

All entries must be accompanied by: [Hold Harmless Agreement](#)

All video entries must be accompanied by: [Hold Harmless Agreement and Minor Video Contest Entry Parental Release Form](#)

All forms can be found at <https://www.elks.org/dap/resources/contests.cfm>

Copyrighted characters are prohibited.

Entries containing copyrighted material will be disqualified.

Winners: The Elks Lodge #2509 will select a winner using the criteria listed. The Lodge will notify all winners. Winning posters, essay's and video's will be forwarded to the District Competition...those winners of District will be forwarded to State. (State prizes are 1st: \$300, 2nd: \$200, 3rd: \$100) Each State will choose one overall winner which will be forwarded for National competition.

Questions may be directed to Bill Sweeney, District Drug Awareness Program (DAP) Chairperson, 816-982-6687 OR



Mongo2kool@sbcglobal.net


FEBRUARY 2025


S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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<p>Upcoming Events: State Bowling Tournament-March 1 & 2 DAP Poster, Essay & Video Contest Entries Due-March 4 Spring Convention-March 14-16</p>	<p>THANK YOU TACO CREW AND LOYAL PATRONS. TACO MONDAYS RAISED OVER \$6000 FOR CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUNDS IN 2024. CURT ZOLLERS, PER</p>	1
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2 Breakfast Officers Classic breakfast	3	4	5 Dinner Veterans Committee Mtg 5PM	6 Lodge Meeting 7PM	7 Dinner	8
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9 Breakfast Cooking Team Needed!!! SUPER BOWL	10 Trustees Budget Planning Mtg 4:30 	11	12 Dinner Nancy Mickelson Fried Chicken Sandwich 1st Responders Mtg 6PM Lincoln's Birthday	13 Elkette Meeting 7PM	14 Dinner Valentine's Day 	15 Wine Auction 6PM Downstairs Dart Tournament
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16 Breakfast Omelet Team Omelets Cinnamon Rolls- \$2 Extra Birthday of Order of the Elks Founded in 1868	17 President's Day 	18	19 Dinner	20 Lodge Meeting 7PM Community CPR Class @ Truman Library 10AM	21 Dinner Gun Show 4-7PM NEWS DUE!	22 Gun Show 9AM-5PM State Bowling Tournament Washington's Birthday
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23 Breakfast 8AM-11AM Classic Breakfast Gun Show 10AM-3PM State Bowling Tournament	24 Trustees Budget Planning Mtg 4:30 	25	26 Dinner	27	28 Dinner	
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**Spring Convention
2025**
Jefferson City, MO
March 14-16
**Registrations due by
February 14th**




W"ELK"OME NEW MEMBERS!!!

VETERANS COMMITTEE-PLEASE JOIN US!
Next Meeting Wed. February 5, 2025 5:00 P.M.
See Ed Rieck for questions

FIRST RESPONDER COMMITTEE
Next Meeting Thursday February 12, 2025 6:00 P.M.
Virginia DeBoard firstresponder2509@gmail.com

Thinking of You
Judy Oerhke
Debby Aliff
Jeff Lawhon
Clyde Akins



Sympathy
Family of Glenn Woods
Family of Eddie Davis
(Emmalee Keck and Mac-
kenzie Grube's father
passed away)

NEWS ARTICLES for the MARCH newsletter are due
Friday February 21, 2025
Articles may be left in the newsletter mailbox in the
Lodge Secretary's office or sent via email to
louechee@sbcglobal.net
Thank you, Dawn Sweeney, Editor

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

	3-Brian Reiter	8-Brian Neely	12-Steve Holtgrieve	17-Matthew Browning	22-Charles Turner
1-Tonya Alderson	3-Michael Spor	9-Derek Hileman	13-Christopher Bamman	17-David Randall	23-Douglas Glasscock
1-James Duell	3-John Townley	9-Phyllis Schaberg	13-Robert Bridgewater	17-Jason Walsh	23-James Williams
1-David Pike	4-Anthony Carlson	9-Kevin Schuller	13-Douglas Shrout	19-Justin Darnel	25-Michael Bramble
1-Bill Rector	4-Mikki Fairfield	9-Jim Westhoff	14-Ryan Greco	19-Scott Dozier	25-Don Ronnebaum
1-Martha Stark	5-Lawrence Bosworth	9-Randy Wood	14-John Short	19-Douglas Owen	26-Bud Hendrix
2-James Abbotte	5-Daryl Lewis	10-Ricky Binder	14-John Ward	20-Doug Buholzer	26-Richard Mendenhall
2-Paul Adams	5-Gregory Stegner	10-Marianne Bridgewater	15-Helen Easley	20-Kevin Etris	26-Dalton Rowlett
2-Bradley Benny	6-Donna Barnes	10-Darrell Delap	15-James Fries	20-James Hopper	27-Mat Apodaca
2-Gregg Brown	6-Gregg Morrison	10-Charles Van Tassel	15-Brian Smith	21-Calvin Fockler	27-George Burgard
2-Greg Filer	6-Phillip Rice	11-Michael Callahan	15-Avan Solomon	21-Leslie Hill	27-Rhonda Sullivan
2-Kale Krum	7-Gregg Feightner	11-DeLores Connors	15-Stephanie Tarantola	21-Barbara O'Neil	28-Jason Adams
2-John Ziefle	7-Greg Keith	11-Michael Feliciano	15-Shana Terry	22-Brett Coulson	28-Michael Amberson
2-Chuck Zuvers	7-Rance Prewett	11-Randy Lutjen	16-Kenneth Bernard	22-Dana McCue	28-Trevor Martin
3-Christopher Laddish	8-Mark Lee	11-Gregory Redford	16-Ethan Hughes	22-James Sullivan	29-Patrick Russell

FEBRUARY SPOUSE BIRTHDAYS

	2-Edith Smith	12-Becky Barnett	16-Stacy Smith	19-Ellen Jones	23-Carla Wilson
	4-Jennifer Bowen	13-Anita Little	17-Nichole Clarke	19-Sheila Sullivan	24-Shirley Eaton
	4-Heather Tucker	13-Boyd Nolen	17-Sonja Dicken	20-Patricia Bridgewater	24-Michelle Fry
	5-Anita Wenke	14-Christine Eisenmann	17-Jennifer Horn	21-Cara Adkison	25-Cindy Brown
	6-Kristy Knox	14-Jill Prewett	17-Kendra Lee	21-Karen Keck	25-Dawn Johnson
1-Marissa Caldron	7-Eleanor Welchert	15-Debra Alleman	17-Janet Ziefle	22-Kathleen Clements	27-Linda Campbell
1-Sandra Hay	8-Grace Kormendi	15-Jennifer Shockley	18-Paula Lombardo	22-Connie French	27-Marla Largent
1-Terre Kirk	10-Angie Sullivan	15-Debbie Walker	18-Tina Sandy	22-Mary Lawhon	28-Julie Brown

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	